



SGA Meeting Minutes – November 4, 2025

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by President Sahil Tonk.

Officer Updates

- **President – Sahil Tonk**
 - Student Regent and THECB applications are now officially open and available.
 - An official email detailing these positions will be sent later this week.
 - Selections will be made to send to the Texas Tech system, which will then decide among the five universities.
- **Vice President of Communications – Bennett Schackmuth**
 - Reminded everyone to keep an eye on the SGA Instagram for more information and that Senators & Subs is on going on campuses.
- **Vice President of Operations – Bennett Schackmuth (in place of James McGowan)**
 - Vice President McGowan is currently OOO for paternity leave, and the remaining execs will be filling in for him.
 - Please remember to use the points and absence forms.
 - Senators should continue working with fellow senators on legislation; Discord channels are available for collaboration.
- **Vice President of Finance – Alexander Hayek**
 - The mentorship program is starting for student orgs; the committee met with Deidre to get the ball rolling.
 - The Scholarship committee has finalized the shirt design and is pending a quote on cost.
 - There has been an increase in Special Projects Fund (SPF) requests; members are encouraged to tell organizations in need of funding to apply.

Committee Updates

- **Community Service – Chair: Kayla Martinez**
 - Flyer is ready and pending approval
 - Still needing volunteers for Abilene and Dallas locations to put out boxes
 - More November volunteering opportunities are coming out via the Senate Discord
- **Operations – Chair: Amber Jones**
 - Still available to assist with legislation drafting and practice; senators can reach out to Amber directly.
 - Past legislation is available in the Google Drive for formatting reference.

- **Scholarship – Chair: Suha Garasia**
 - Shirts are looking good and proceeds will support the SGA scholarship fund.
 - "Finals give back week" is in preparation; the committee is contacting local restaurants to arrange proceeds for scholarships.
 - Phonathon has just started, and all students are encouraged to sign up.
- **Finance – Chair: Ryan McWilliams**
 - Training was completed with Deidre on how to work with organizations; slides and a Zoom link are in the Google Drive.
 - Another SPF request regarding burn/wound care for the homeless was denied, but the committee will guide them toward other funding directions.
 - Budget request training is scheduled for December.
- **Public Relations – Chair: Sarah Neal**
 - Links were shared in the chat for "Member Monday" and photo submissions.
 - The committee is looking for photo submissions of students' favorite study spaces on their respective campuses (or off-campus for distance students).
- **Social – Chair: Annaliese Schultz**
 - Many Senators and Subs events have already happened.
 - Upcoming dates: Lubbock on November 12th (12-1 PM), Dallas moved to November 12th (12-1 PM), and Midland is still TBD.

Legislation Overview

- **Senate Resolution 25.15: Congratulatory Legislation for Chancellor Mitchell**
 - A congratulatory piece thanking Chancellor Mitchell for his service to the TTU System and TTUHSC upon his retirement.
 - **Vote:** Passed with 100% of the vote.
- **Senate Resolution 25.16: Congratulatory Legislation for Dr. Ward**
 - A congratulatory piece for Dr. Jennifer Ward on her promotion to Assistant Dean for Clinical Skills Education in the School of Medicine.
 - **Vote:** Passed with 100% of the vote.

Open Forum – Legislative Proposals

- **Jennifer Martinez – Library 2nd Floor Renovation Concerns**
 - *Issue:* Students expressed concern regarding the conversion of the 2nd floor of the library into office spaces rather than individual study spaces.
 - *Discussion:* Keri Shiplet and Bennett Schackmuth clarified that while there will be offices, there will also be open study spaces, a mother's nursing room, and a "one-stop shop" for student services (financial aid, etc.) to allow for in-person visits. Senators were advised they can still draft legislation to voice discontent, but construction is already underway.
- **Brianna Harris – Odessa Campus Specific Issues**
 - *Issue:* Odessa students are requesting outdoor tables for lunch (similar to Lubbock) and have concerns regarding the dirt parking lot.

- *Discussion:* President Tonk and Keri Shiplet advised that while legislation is possible, speaking directly to campus contacts is often faster for facility requests like tables. Keri offered to provide contacts for the parking issue.

Post Open Forum

- None

Announcements

- **Keri Shiplet:**
 - **First @ TTUHSC (November 2025):** A series of workshops for first-generation students (open to all). Participating in 3 of 4 sessions earns a digital badge.
 - *Nov 6:* Navigating Higher Ed's Hidden Curriculum.
 - *Nov 10:* Smart Money Moves (Financial Wellness) with Deidre.
 - *Nov 12:* Managing Stress and Building Resilience.
 - *Nov 17:* Alumni Panel.
 - **Student Life Challenges:** Watch for "Fact or Fiction" and other challenges on Instagram for prizes.
 - **Spring Health Insurance Waiver:** The site opens Friday, October 31st. Approved Fall waivers automatically clone to Spring; changes require contacting Student Life. *Note: Date referenced from previous context, confirmed ongoing relevance.*
- **President Sahil Tonk:**
 - The next meeting is **November 18th**.
 - Dr. Randall will join as a speaker to highlight the university blueprint and future plans.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made by Steven Daley seconded by Jake Quintanilla. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM.