

SGA Meeting Minutes

Date: 10/06/2020

Call to order by Marcus Gonzales at 5:30 pm

Guest Speakers

1. Ben Montecillo, MPA, Associate Managing Director, TTUHSC Office of Student Aid:

- COVID-19 and CARES Act Legislation
 - i. Discussed Federal Loan Interest Rates for 2020-2021
 - 1. Fixed rates apply after July 1st, 2020
 - a. Undergrad subsidized and unsubsidized = 2.75%, grads = 4.30%, parents and grad/professional PLUS = 5.30%
 - b. Interest rates for scheduled student loans are the lowest that they've been. If people need financial help, this is the year to take advantage of that.
 - ii. CARES funding summary:
 - 1. Student portion
 - a. TTUHSC received \$897,316 in CARES act funding
 - b. Paid out to 978 students (2187 were eligible)
 - i. Also, Still Water Foundation paid \$300,000 to 216 Abilene Nursing students
 - ii. Throughout the election process, though, we probably won't receive more stimulus package or loan funding.
 - iii. Student Resources
 - 1. "Legacy Now"
 - a. Student led organization for emergency financial assistance for unanticipated hardship
 - i. Apply online: <https://www.ttusch.edu/our-legacy-now/default.aspx>
 - ii. Limited funding, but will help how they can
 - 1. \$500-1000 per student that reaches out. Comes from a lot of donations
 - 2. Works with their office.
 - a. Student that has an expense of 3K can get as much as they can from legacy now, and then they can talk to the office of Ben for emergency loan funding.
 - iv. Staff contacts:
 - 1. Mia Myers, M. Ed., Assistant Director
 - a. SOM, SOP
 - b. Scholarships, Interview Travel Revisions
 - 2. Lena Hooker, Senior Advisor
 - a. School of Health Professions
 - 3. Melissa Mullins, Senior Advisor
 - 4. Ashley Walker, Advisor
 - v. Get in touch with this office if peers need help.

Officer Updates:

1. Time Brown, VP of Finance

- a. Fall fundraiser
 - i. Still waiting on Finance committee to start operating. Fundraiser will be a coordinated effort.

2. Rachel Kortman, VP of Communications

- a. Senator polos have been ordered
- b. Senator headshots still TBD
- c. Reminder that legislations are due the Friday before meetings, submitted on HSC net.
- d. Reminder for upcoming events
 - i. Senate meeting on 11/03/2020 changed to 11/02/2020 to accommodate for voting day.
 - ii. Pumpkin Decorating Contest announced.

3. Daniel Payberah, VP of Operations

- a. Continuing to recruit senators from different programs (MAT, Nursing, OTD, PT, SLP, and regional)
 - i. Constitutional changes to student representation will change the recruiting process, but until those are effect, we are still recruiting based on current senator counts.
- b. Senator absences reminder
 - i. Senators are allowed two unexcused absences per year.
 - 1. Those who miss meetings will be emailed regarding it.
 - 2. Please list your full name on Zoom, for attendance purposes.

4. Marcus Gonzalez, President

- a. President's Advisory board meeting was previous Thursday.
 - i. Next meeting is in January
- b. Board of Regents Meeting is October 16th, and will be streamed online
 - i. Contact Marcus if there is anything to be included in the update.
- c. Senators will be able to nominate candidates for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Representative
 - i. The form will be made available on HSC net soon – start thinking of nominees.

Senate Resolutions:

Senate Resolution 20.21

- Congratulation – congratulating Dr. Berk for achieving the Grover E. Murray Professorship over the previous summer.
- Motion – Neil Jain
- Second – Stephen Rosetti
- Outcome – Motion passed with 100% support from student senate

Senate Resolution 20.22

- Congratulation – Congratulating Dr. Vadivel Ganapathy - listed as one of top 4000 cited researchers in history on Google Scholars database
- Motion – Neil Jain
- Second – Stanley Eboh
- Outcome – Motion passed with 100% support from student senate

Senate Resolution 20.23

- Congratulation – congratulating TTUHSC Office of Communication and Marketing
- Motion – Alex Sutter
- Second – Josh Willms
- Outcome – Motion passed with 100% support from student senate

Committee Updates:

- 1. Community Service – Josh Wilms, Chair**
 - Committee members were announced.
- 2. Finance – Emma Brackett, Chair**
 - Committee members were announced.
- 3. Operations – Marilyn Mathew, Chair**
 - Committee members were announced.
- 4. Public Relations – Clair Parker, Chair**
 - Committee members were announced.
- 5. Scholarship – Neil Jain, Chair**
 - Committee members were announced.
- 6. Social – Bernardo Gonzalez, Chair**
 - Committee members were announced.

Motion to Adjourn:

- Motion: Sheida Doraji
- Second: Jacob Tauferner
- Meeting Adjourned at 5:58 pm
- Senators moved to Zoom breakout rooms to be introduced to committee members and learn about the responsibilities of their committees.