The University of Mississippi

Campus Senate

Minutes for [11/27/18]

1. Call to Order at 7:07pm
2. Invocation by Chief of Staff Kies
3. Pledge of Allegiance by Cossar
4. Roll Call
   1. Members absent:
5. Treasury Report by Jonathan Cox
   1. Presentation for the Fall 2018 semester.
   2. Jonathan Cox, Dean Sutton Noss, Junae Johnson, Jordan Zarzaur, Gianna Schuetz, Lauren Eickholz, Tommy Steis, Reynolds Spencer, Caroline McLeod, Tyler England all meet weekly to discuss RSO funding. RSOs submit requests through OrgSync.
   3. Semester deposit is about $80,000-90,000. Review requests through SAF Manual and Procurement rules. There is an initial review, then comptroller review, meeting at 8am Tuesday, Secondary review, decision based on meeting, decision review, and funds distributed. SAF Account (665A) only fund registered student organizations. 80 different RSOs were funded this semester with $165,524.58 requested and $74,292.12 approved. Amount pending is $18,088.72. Percentage of funds approved is 64% (dollar amount), while Spring 2018 saw 75% approved. 155 requests were received. 115 approved requests and 21 denied requests. 19 pending requests. 74.19% approval percentage. Since there was an increase in requests, there has been a decrease in approved requests.
   4. ASB Internal Account (630A) funds ASB Exec salaries, graduate assistant stipend, travel for ASB, food for ASB events, ASB uniforms, ASB promotional materials, ASB expenses. Deposit is on fiscal year basis (YE June 30th). $98,040 deposit. Deposit is made after 6/30, internal spending request reviewed by ASB Treasurer, ASB President has final decision, same funding rules apply to this account as and RSO except the supplemental rule does not apply. Person to contact to submit a request: ASB Vice President or ASB Cabinet Member or the ASB President. 42 requests this semester (starting July 1). Budgeted $94,350.00 for the fall 2018. Amount spent in Fall 2018 was $83,393.30. Raised $29,950.00 in the fall. Currently under budget by $10,956.70, which is good so we can spend in the Spring. In the Spring, OrgSync will be replaced by Engage. Will be working with this new system so it is easier for students to submit requests. Wants to add a summer funding period and first week of school period since a lot of events occur during the first two weeks of school. We have a limited amount of funds for the internal budget, so we want to use those funds the best way we can. We are looking at raising the students activities fee. We cannot fund any organization 100%. Right now we have a max level of $4,000 per semester, but some organizations need more. We have the lowest fee to students in the SEC right now. Want to increase funding and make fund more accessible, as well as make a video that directly shows how to apply for funding.
      1. Benson asks for clarification of where the internal budget comes from. Internal budget comes from the university, state funds.
      2. Can we increase the internal budget? ASB can fundraise to increase amount of money in the internal account.
      3. How much cheaper is Engage compared to OrgSync? We do not know this as we do not pay for it.
      4. Will be a new funding orientation in the spring so RSOs can understand the new system.
      5. What steps can we take to raise the student activity fee? We need data. Cabinet members are working on this and have met with Dean Sutton Noss. A presentation or video would be pitched to students and then there will be a student vote. Then, we can go to IHL with student and administration support.
      6. When is the soonest the student vote can take place? In the spring. Will likely happen during the spring and may be incorporated in the elections.
      7. Can we fundraise for the Student Activities Fee? Yes we can fundraise, but this money could not go into the student activities fee deposit. Would go to foundation account or maybe even the internal account. Only way to increase the Student Activities Fee account would be to have that fee raised.
      8. Student Activities Fee is lowest in the SEC. How does it compare? It is $10 a year here. Many other schools have $30 a semester. Some even have $300.
      9. Engage will be implemented in the spring, and how will it affect requests made in that period? It should be implemented over January. Funding requests should be able to be made the same way. Elam believes it is starting Spring 2020.
6. Report from Standing Committees
   1. Committee on Rules
      1. Approved Resolutions 18-20,21,22 and Bill 18-16 to come to the floor. Approved Gianna Schuetz and Jonathan Cox to speak on the floor
   2. Committee on Government Operations
      1. Bill 18-16 coming to the floor
   3. Committee on Academics and Administration
      1. Approved Resolution 18-21 to come to the floor
   4. Committee on Athletics
      1. No report
   5. Committee on Student Life
      1. Resolution 18-22 and 18-21 coming to the floor.
   6. Committee on Infrastructure
      1. Resolution 18-20 coming to the floor
   7. Committee on External Affairs
      1. No reports
   8. Committee on Inclusion and Cross Cultural Engagement
      1. No reports
7. Reports from Legislative Council
   1. Legislation Monitor
      1. Resolutions 18-20 and 18-21 being brought to the floor
   2. Executive Liaison
      1. Not present
   3. Campus Liaisons
      1. No reports
8. Nominations
   1. Gianna Schuetz called to the senate floor.
   2. Gianna Schuetz is a double major in accounting and theatre arts. She is candidate to be Jonathan’s replacement. She has taken control doing the treasurer’s duties under Jonathan. She has been able to work with comptrollers as well. He is going to New York next semester for his accounting internship. She is very excited with the things she would be able to do with this position especially within the student activities fee and internal account.
      1. Weaver: What would you say is the biggest change you would like to implement?
         1. Communication is important. The ASB website has a lot of new documents about funding. Increasing this and making it clear is important, like making the video. Documentation is very important and is required. Still sometimes organizations don’t submit this information, and she will hold them accountable.
      2. Gianna approved with unanimous consent.
9. Legislation

Bill 18-16

* Introduction
  + Senator Winston Taylor s a veteran and ran for senate for veterans to gain more representation and a voice on campus. Wants a cabinet position to facilitate more involvement between ASB and veterans. Wants veterans to be more involved with ASB despite more people wanting to be involved.
* Questions
  + Weaver: How have you seen the disconnect between veterans and ASB?
    - Disconnect between the school administration and veterans. Former Chancellor Vitter did not come to things that veterans wished he would come to. With this, will be harder to dismiss veterans. A lot of other schools have more of a connect.
  + How will this help with the disconnect?
    - Involvement is a big thing. Veterans feel they are not seen and heard. Having someone who regularly meets with the ASB President to ensure this relationship is strong and stays would help take care of veterans on this campus.
* Debate
  + Shackelford stands in proposition of this bill. Wanted to create a seat in senate first, but this isn’t feasible in the code. This could increase representation and help veterans feel more welcome on campus and involved.
* Summation
* Vote: Passed with unanimous consent

Resolution 18-20

* Introduction
  + Central residential parking currently holds 11 separate buildings. Parking has proposed to split this parking along rebel drive to separate Alpha Phi, ADPi, Stockard, and Martin to create a new parking area. Wants to do this to clear up confusion, but will not add any extra spaces. It is redistricting to help people not having to walk at night too far. Would add a new color and new signs to the one parking lot. Wants some student input.
* Questions
  + Parking reached out to you?
    - This came out of the chancellor’s standing committee on parking. They bring up different proposals and we were supposed to vote on it. Sarah Doty wanted to bring it to senate. And if it passes or fails, it will show if the students approve or disprove.
  + Downs: Have you talked to anyone who lived in these residential areas? If this fails it m
    - No.
  + Hoang: Will sororities be in this one spot, and will it be able to fit everyone?
  + Mike Harrison seems to think it will fit the general number of students in that area, and it can go into the overflow garage.
  + this came directly from parking and overflow would be in the residential garage.
  + Gallegos: Would this likely happen without senates approval?
    - They were going to pass it in committee, so cannot say how likely but it is very likely.
  + Downs: General consensus in the committee of who would vote on it?
    - Administration and two students. Everyone was ready to pass it, but Doty wanted to get more input.
  + Would this increase amount of parking tickets?
    - Yes because anytime anything changes there is a learning curve. In the long run, this will help people stay near to where they leave so those on one side of rebel drive will be able to stay on their side. Could make it easier to keep where you live.
  + Why hasn’t the committee considered passing out parking passes by buildings and not by zone? Crosby would have x amount of spaces, then rest goes to the garage.
    - This is because a lot of buildings share parking, like some sororities sharing parking with Martin and Stockard. This is the reason they don’t do it, but can bring it to the committee.
  + Do you know other schools who park by building?
    - Does not know any other schools in Mississippi. Thinks most schools in SEC does parking the way we do currently.
* Debate
  + A. Hall says they haven’t talked to constituents. Talked to some people who lived in sororities on east side of rebel drive. Parallel parking is already taken away. Now they would have to fight for more parking and enjoy being able to park at the Martin parking lot. It would be unfair for the houses on the east side of rebel drive wouldn’t be able to use the Martin lot and may have to walk farther. A lot of backdoors lock, so they would have to walk all the way around to the other side of the house. Thinks this is another way to get more money. Requesting an approval would be a fine for people who don’t know where to park, especially girls parking for chapter. Thinks this is the administration not listening to students.
  + Downs agrees. Talked to many people who live in this area. Overwhelming majority is not in favor of this. It would force many on rebel drive to walk even further. The road is not well lit and parking is already a nuisance on campus. Should not let this continue to be parking having us have frustrations.
  + Doty works with parking. There are a lot of issues with parking and they don’t have to do with this resolution. The main issue is that students who are living in Martin and Stockard or sororities on that side are being forced to park farther away because someone else who lives across the street is in their spot. It will simplify things, but thinks this is a good alternative.
  + Hull agrees about this resolution receiving significant backlash. Believes it will cut down on confusion and will lead to more opening of spots. Urges everyone to support this resolution.
  + Downs: Doesn’t believe it will open up more spots because they will move people to other lots that are already full. Not into the rezoning and doesn’t believe it was done well.
  + Riojas: Doesn’t understand why this is necessary. Without the number of how many people live in these areas compared to spots is hard to understand the rezoning.
  + A. Hall: This feels more like a bandaid on the parking issue. This is a good way to show we don’t like what they’re doing in terms of parking.
  + Doty: Parking funds itself and that comes from stickers and tickets. It is better for them to not have funding from the university. Understands the issues and will bring all of this back and everyone is being heard, but still urges everyone to vote yes.
  + A. Hall: This feels more like a bandaid on the parking issue. This is a good way to show we don’t like what they’re doing in terms of parking.
* Summation
* Vote: 14-30-1, this resolution does fail.

Resolution 18-21

* Introduction
  + Given the fact that we don't have full power over supplemental instruction program as the student body, we want to encourage the university to expand something that is such an asset. Met with head of SI program.
* Questions
  + Riojas: What do you do to follow up?
    - Met with Dr. Wiggers about a month ago and saw that certain courses would benefit. Said she would contact heads of certain departments and will follow up on that
  + Weaver: What data that this will increase grades?
    - It will help GPA wise. It shows a difference of 0.25 GPA, and data is there. Individual teachers have had multitude amount of data about the grades of those who go to SI rather than those who do not. There are a lot of statistics that back it. More information is on the website about this.
  + Shackelford: What courses do you think SI courses should be added?
    - Economics, political science, finance, marketing, legal studies, and all modern languages.
  + Weaver: Why do we need this resolution?
    - It is something that is not currently addressed properly. Dr. Wiggers does not get a lot of feedback on the overall idea of SI, just within microcosm of certain course. Currently the teacher has to reach out, and she didn’t realize that students wanted more. Some students feel it is unfair that some majors have more SI sessions.
  + Hudson: Sees that in memo that because the budget come from Center of Teaching and Excellence, how will it be determined which will be expanded to first?
    - It all depends on factors. It is a question for the future because funding needs to be expanded.
  + Shackelford: Do you plan on conducting polls to see what students what SI sessions for?
    - Yes after talking to these department heads. If they want to know if students want this, there can be further polls. Also depends on class size and fail rate.
* Debate
  + Weaver stands in firm support. The committee on academics have been working closely to have this address what it needs to address. It has been proven that people who go to SI sessions do better on tests. There is no reason why expanding SI wouldn’t increase grades across courses. They are planning on doing it and it is a great way for the student body to endorse what they’re doing.
* Summation
* Vote: Passed with unanimous consent.

Resolution 18-22

* Introduction
  + Panhellenic senators for ASB. Resolution is to support Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. Thetas asked if they write this resolution to clear the air and show the university supports the women of Kappa Alpha Theta and that this is something their nationals called for and not the university. Kappa Alpha Theta is in good standing with the university. Wants to address the untrue and degrading rumors and shed a positive light on the women of Theta. Wants to show support of how they raised over $87,000 for their philanthropy CASA through Theta Encore and wants to honor what they’ve done on this campus and for this community.
* Questions
  + None.
* Debate
  + None.
* Summation
* Vote: Passed with unanimous consent

Senatorial Comments: Eleanor is the Sergeant-at-Arms and tells everyone they are so happy Resolution 18-22 passed with unanimous consent.

Dames wants to comment on how great attendance has been throughout the semester.

Announcements: West wants to see the same attendance at Senate After Dark.

Elam Miller says thank you for a great semester. This semester went really great and appreciates all the hard work everyone has done this semester. The resolution with parking, the university has Chancellor Standing Committees where recommendations are made to the chancellor which is then taken to IHL. There is hardly any student representation, and it is usually just the student body president. When student body president can’t make it, they won’t let anyone go in his place. In these committees, they are composed of faculty staff and students. When these committees meet when students are in class or give last minutes notice, it makes it hard for students to be represented in. Looking into this more next semester so that there is adequate student representation. A lot of resolutions go to these committees. Many times, our voice of one voice to the faculty’s ten and staff’s seven gets pushed to the side. Wants to push for more of senate’s input on behalf of the student body is what we should look more for.

Wells said there was a liberal arts forum at senate. Wants to see a bias training for the freshmen and have this maybe implemented at orientation. Any ideas, please see a liberal arts senator.

Benson said tomorrow Black Student Union has an event in the gallery tomorrow.

Elam says with us picking a new chancellor, there is an IHL policy with two ways. Either they put together a committee involving students or they just vote on it as a board. Wants to urge that IHL knows that students want to be involved in selecting a new chancellor. Wants senate to be really involved to tell IHL we want to be involved in this. Reach out to Elam if wanting to help the process.

Walker says: Tomorrow in Lamar 129 at 6 PM is the semester’s final leadership forum.

This has been a great semester. Everyone has worked hard. Proud of everyone and looking forward to next semester.

Concluded at 8:22 PM

Cady Cooper

Secretary

Associated Student Body

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