



The University of Mississippi

Campus Senate
Minutes for [10/10/17]

- I. Call to Order at pm, Moment of Silence, Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Invocation by: Katherine Levingston, President of Hillel
- III. Roll Call
 - a. Members absent:
- IV. Report from Standing Committees
 - a. Committee on Rules
 - i. No reports
 - b. Committee on Government Operations
 - i. No reports
 - c. Committee on Academics and Administration
 - i. No reports
 - d. Committee on Athletics
 - i. Bill 17-17
 - e. Committee on Student Life
 - i. Resolution 17-18
 - f. Committee on Infrastructure
 - i. No Reports
 - g. Committee on External Affairs
 - i. Resolution
 - h. Committee on Inclusion and Cross Cultural Engagement
 - i. No reports
- V. Reports from Legislative Council
 - a. Legislation Monitor : Mascot change
 - b. Executive Liaison: Everyone's formal this friday, committee chairs have emails
 - c. Campus Liaisons: student remarks on upcoming legislation on mascot
 - i. many students like the mascot, since the black bear never picked up in popularity. Landshark has created a positive feeling on



campus. Landshark represents Ole Miss culture. Some students want to bring back a mascot that was divisive, which does not represent our creed, so we should support the landshark. Young americans for freedom do not support the landshark bill. They feel like the mascot should not be a second choice or a third. They feel that the student body was not heard. 41-35.

VI. Nominations

VII. Legislation

Resolution 17-14

- Introduction: Author: Julia Grant- safe ride announcing new stops. External Affairs committee want to expand the stops for students. Administration was contacted to make improvements. They want to get the word out about the new stops for this weekend.
- Questions:
 - No questions
- Debate
 - No debate
- Summation
 - This is a great service for students. It begins this weekend.
- Vote: unanimous vote to pass

Resolution 17-16

- introduction: Authors: Coco McDonnell and Ty Deemer- asking that ASB pass out scantrons to students and making them more available to students.
- Questions
 - No questions
- Debate
 - No debate
- no summation
- Vote: unanimous vote to pass



Resolution 17-17

- Introduction: Author Julia Grant/Zacchaeus Mcewen/Griffin Neal-4100 students responded in poll, and 81% were in support of the landshark. The fins up movement has been embraced by most students. Most are upset about the executive decision, but we should be supportive of the decision. We need to show that we are the voice of the people. We need to show that the mascot is for the students, by the students

- Questions

- Estrada, You agree that Chancellor did not represent the voices of the people? Why would you not ask the chancellor when he was here.

- R- Grant, I knew I would be speaking on it tonight.

Kies, Do you think all in opposition of the landshark support colonel reb?

Who conducted the poll? Would you support legislation for more

research to be done?

R- We do not know exactly who the people want instead of the landshark.

Executive branch conducted the poll. There was an overwhelming amount of support for the landshark. No further research should be done.

Story, Was the legislative branch thought of during this process? Why were members of the senate ridiculed for not supporting the poll? Why did the personality elections get more votes than the poll for the landshark? Why was the poll put on a platform that people do not use.

R- Terrius Harris The legislative branch was thought of in the process. They were not CC, so they did not know that was being done.

some were ridiculed for supporting as well. There are organizations that allowed candidates to reach more people and they had more time to campaign. The votes were on orgsync, so that we could clearly see the data. It is the duty of the senators to inform those they represent

Story, Do you believe in the separation of branches?

R Julia Grant- I believe in the separation in powers.



Story- why did the attorney general not sign the letters sent out? Why were the grad students not represent? Do you believe that we can continue when there are groups are discriminated against? Was this decision a student led decision to make the poll and carry it out? If it is student lead why are people who do not go to school here have a say?

R- Terrius Harris, They were not represented because they have their own governing body and the ASB mainly represents the undergraduate student body.

R-McEwen, they were asked their opinion on the landshark.

R- Harris, the students and voted and carried out the poll.

R-Harris, the polling and campaign came from the students. Input from those outside the university made suggestions.

Perry-Have you all received any word since the decision on Friday?

R- Grant, The chancellor issued the decision, but it did not come through the governing body, which is an essential step.

Estrada- By putting the poll in orgsync put students at a disadvantage?

R-All, putting the poll in orgsync did not put people at an advantage.

Hale- Did you take account all the research?

R- Harris, the chancellor was getting input from multiple committees.

R-McEwen- this was student led.

Deemer- Who paid for the pictures and and stickers? Who was in control of the social media campaigns?

R-Harris, ASB funded the stickers and pictures. The social media campaigns were not endorsed by ASB

- Debate

- o R-Story, I am not against the landshark, just the way that it was decided. We were not allowed to do our part. Why show up, if no one is interested in carrying out their duty to the students?
- o R- Orellano, moving towards orgsync is more organization friendly.(In response to a question earlier.)
- o R-Story, I think we should move away from the bear, but I feel like it should have been senate led and should have been consulted before the decision was made.
- o R-Estrada, I am guilty of putting up the fins up. Leadership is not a position, it is a choice and a process. We did not do this in a “leadership”



way. The leaders in administration will do what they want in spite of what the students want.

- o R-Patrick, we need to support the administrative position to make the Ole Miss mascot the landshark. Amendment was made: the ASB should officially change the onfield mascot to landshark.
 - Debate for amendment:
 - R-Grant, we are doing this for the students we serve
 - R-Fowlkes, the decision was already made. We are not doing anything through this resolution, which is not Senator Grants fault. It is clear that the administration makes the decisions.
 - R-Patrick, we need to work with the administration. It is not true that we changed the mascot, but we need to support the decision.
 - R-Demotts, the resolution would make the response more accurate.
 - R-story, we might as well
 - R-Watt, I am not against the landshark, but I am against the process and the drama that was involved in the process. I am voting no, because of the process.
 - R-Davis, I am disappointed that the chancellor overstepped the senate. The senate should be on a united front about the lanshark.
 - R- ostrovsky, no one was excluded in the polled. Regardless of what branch issued out the poll, the students were given the chance to vote in the poll. If students were genuinely not in favor of the landshark would have been represented in the poll.
 - R-Todd, senators are voting no, because the they felt that they were not included.
 - R-Bowie, I am upset with the process and the polling process. The polls should have been up for a longer period of time. Less students voted in 2010, but the undergraduate population was a lot smaller. It is a problem that we were



circumvented in the process.

- R-Fowler, I do not appreciate the administration overstepping. We would have created the same pole and had the same results.
- R-Hale, I do not support the bill, I agree that we should the landshark, but there is a lack of research. In 2010, suggestions were made from the community and more polls were done. If we continue with this bill it shows that we did not do our research.
- R-Kantar, I am very happy that we have the landshark. I do not like the way that this process was done. It was false that the majority voted in support.
- R-Neil, many are saying that the chancellor circumvented the senate. Regardless of the process, the data from the poll shows that the students want the landshark to be their mascot.
- R- McEwen, I support this resolution. The people want the landshark. You cannot compare the personality elections with this poll. Marketing was done for this, students were not being harassed.
- Summation: Grant, those we represent want the landshark
 - Harris, I applaud you all for making an amendment in a time of division. I was once a senator who took the same oath that you took to represent the students. 81% voted yes for the land shark. Do not punish the students that voted on this. Set aside your personal beliefs and vote on be
- Vote: 41-3 ammendment
 - 29-15-1

Resolution 17-18

- Introduction: Author: Katie Davis- recommends an ice cream or froyo machine added to the rebel market. Ice cream is a good idea in times of
- Questions



- o Demotts-How much will it cost?
 - Davis Response: the costs are not known yet, but will needed to be done within the next year.
- Debate
 - o No debate
- Summation
 - o no summation
- Vote: unanimous consent

Chancellor Vittor: proud of leadership. Appreciate them leading trying to get a new mascot. Rebel the bear never caught on, but the landshark represents the spirit of Ole Miss. He wants to thank students for actively being involved in the transition. The choice to get the landshark is an institutional choice. Many committees on campus support the transition to the landshark as the mascot. Decision was made with the university and its students in mind. We do not want a mascot that divides, we want a mascot that unifies. We want some positive and fun.

R- Estrada, wants to know if chancellor believes that the majority of the students want to have the landshark as the mascot? Chancellor

R-Perry, wants to know why the board passed before it came through the senate?

Chancellor: many committees want to go ahead and change it while we had momentum.

R-Kies, want to know if dropping announcement on Friday before going through the proper procedure? Could they have waited to pass it tonight?

Vice Chancellor: No other groups had a formal way of passing that legislation. They felt that the poll spoke for itself. The opposing mascots did not follow proper procedure in wanting the other mascots to be on the ballot.

R-Estrada, administration never pushed the bear, if the bear was pushed and supported, would students be more willing to support?

Chancellor: the alumni never accepted the bear, it was something that never caught on

Vice chancellor: rebel black bear was marketed to kids initially, the landshark can be marketed to everyone

R-Kantor, has the mascot's appearance been decided yet?

Chancellor: athletic department will help create and launch the landshark

R-Fowlkes, What do you all think the role of ASB should be in times like these?



Chancellor: we value the input of those across the campus. We wanted something inclusive.

R-Story, what role do you think the grads and law school students in making this decision? Why were they not included in the voting process?

Chancellor: It was assumed that they were able to give their vote through the graduate student council, the the vote was yielded towards undergraduates

R-Kies, How will they make sure that the landshark does not become the laughing stalk of the SEC?

Vice Chancellor: it will take time, for it to catch on with the rest of the SEC. Social Media plays an important role in how the landshark is perceived. We have to be positive.

R-Demotts, The senators were not able to voice concern of students they represent. What students were represented?

R-McDonnell, Have you all failed by not having the design for the mascot drawn up, so that people could know what it would be like

Chancellor: People knew exactly what the landshark was initially. There was no time to draw up an image

R-Hale, How is a couple of weeks compared to months taken to come up with the bear, more efficient?

Chancellor: the landshark is commonly accepted on campus.

R-Estrada, Could you all extend the time to do more polls?

chancellor: the executive committees on most boards wanted the landshark. It was very clear that it was a landslide that the landshark won the vote.

V. Chancellor: everyone we go, people ask to get rid of the bear.

R-Guy, why were the colonel reb supporters not given a chance, when they got the amount of signatures needed? What is a landshark?

Chancellor: colonel reb was not inclusive and was offensive to those in the Ole Miss community. It was not appropriate. We want the campus to move forward and bring people together. Colonel Reb could not be the mascot, it violates the creed

V. Chancellor: landshark is a spirit and an attitude.

Closing statements: we appreciate your concerns.

Senatorial Comments:



Senate Announcement:

- Sigma Nu Worship this Sunday
- BSU Week this week, Mental Health Table on Thursday, Saturday Tailgate
- Student Alumni Council Oct. 27, follow social media for details
- NPHC Step show on Friday.
- Hispanic Heritage Months- check their social media for event times
- Everybody's Formal this Friday

VII. Adjourned at 9:05

Alex Bowens
Undersecretary Legislative Branch
Associated Student Body
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