

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

September 26, 2021 6:30 P.M.

Zoom Conference Call

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/91235083226>

Passcode: 04729484

Call to Order: 7:01 pm

Approval of the Minutes: Senator Norris (112), seconded by Senator Gray (97)

Officer Reports:

- Chair:
 - Remember to join the engage page. I resent invitations this weekend. Joining this will help us keep track of committees and members, as well as let you use our forms like proxy form. Next meeting, we may have someone from sooner card. They are going to talk about mobile IDs. OU has a mobile option where you can use your phone or apple watch for your OU ID card to scan into buildings.
- Vice-Chair:
 - Nothing to report.
- Secretary:
 - Submit your committee attendance forms!

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs:
 - Senator Nabhan (123), and Senator Stout (25) are GC appointees
- Development & Philanthropy:
 - Looking at philanthropy around OU and Norman. Will talk with Claire more on Thursday.
- External Affairs:
 - Senators Ulrich von Barga (11) and Mattingly (57) are GC reps
- Human Diversity:
 - Talked about different workshops we would go to as a group to get our ducks in a row. We want to develop a step wise plan to present
- Internal Affairs:
 - Senator Weaver (22) is GC rep
- International Student Affairs:
 - Wanting to learn more about how to get jobs for international students. We talked about how many resources are available to international students. We could not do nominations yet because our chair Emmanuel was not here.
 - GSS Chair: We need the names tonight so we can meet after the meeting tonight to figure that out.
- Public Relations:
 - Discussed how we could expand our social media presence.
- Sustainability:
 - Talked about how to get some ideas such as looking at other universities initiatives. One member will attend the student environmental council meetings from now on!
- Ways and Means:

- Applications are up for funding this year! We are planning to record and post videos walking students through completing the applications. This should be much more accessible. These should be posted sometime tomorrow and we hope Claire can share all of that information with you all through email. If anyone in your department has questions tell them to email gsswam email. We are making an FAQ as well. We also can now start funding travel again so be on the lookout for more information about that!

Special Orders:

- GSS Secretary Election
 - Senator Hamilton (82): Motion to move GF21-05 to floor
 - Senator Marcolina (63) seconds
 - Senator Creason (17) moves to confirm Cooper Delafield as GSS Secretary,
 - Senator Barnett (38) seconds
 - No objections
 - Motion passes

- Senator Hamilton (82): motion to move bills GF21-07 and GF21-08 to new business
 - Senator Marcolina (63) seconds
 - No objections
 - Motion passes

Old Business:

New Business:

- Motion to move the two auxiliary funding bills to the floor at once and vote on them as a block by Senator Nsude (54), seconded by Senator Monaghan (94)
 - No objections
 - Motion passes

- GF21-04 Auxiliary Allocation 2 Act of 2021-2022 & GF21-07 Auxiliary Allocation 3 Act of 2021-2022
 - Author Lauren Patton, Chair, SGA Budget Committee: The purpose of this act is to appropriate the funds of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association to the organizations mentioned within.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Hamilton (82): Motion to approve the bills with unanimous consent
 - No objections
 - Motion passes

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- GF21-08 SGA General Counsel Appointment Act of 2021
 - Motion to move GF21-08 to floor by Senator Marcolina (63), seconded by Senator Stout (25)
 - Author Tavana Farzaneh, SGA President; Alex Gray SGA VP: The purpose of this act shall be to appoint the SGA General Counsel
 - Nick Hazelrigg: I worked for the daily and am now in law school. I started to turn my attention toward SGA which I never could be a part of due to conflict of interest. I am very excited to work with SGA and help use what I learned in law school about rules and laws. I also am excited to help students at large by assisting with appeals processes

- Yields time for question
 - Senator Doornbos (53): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator Stout (25)
 - No objections
 - Motion passes
- GF21-05 Community Oriented Virus Impediment and Deterrence Policy Recommendation
Resolution of 2021
 - Motion to move GF21-05 to floor by Senator Stout (25), seconded by Senator Dorman (19)
 - Author Crispin T. South, Chair of the Undergraduate Student Congress: A Concurrent Resolution urging revision of existing University policy and adoption of new University policy for the purpose of combatting the COVID-19 pandemic; and providing for distribution.
 - Crispin: This bill is the product of a lot of discussion between the members of congress. It is just a resolutions which is a policy recommendation to President Harroz. I namely would like to protect people on this campus such as my brother who has asthma. Everyone deserves to participate in a safe learning environment. My grandmother became sick with the delta variant and is okay now, but it broke my heart to see her go through that. OU can shape policy of Norman, and OU has a responsibility to speak up about this.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Mattingly (57): On the second whereas I believe there is a typo. Does this need to be fixed?
 - Author: This should be a scrivener’s error for which no amendment would be needed.
 - Senator Stout (25): this says you want vaccination requirements for students and faculty, are there any religious exemptions, or exceptions for having recovered from covered, or for those who received monoclonal treatment?
 - Author: as far as the rules in this resolution, this says the mask rules should be the same as in the past so any exemptions that were in place previously would apply. This is the same for vaccinations, any exemptions that normally apply would apply. This is just a broad recommendation in favor of vaccines. When OU would make a vaccine required, there would be normal exemptions.
 - Senator Stout (25): What about the people I mentioned?—Will they be required to get the COVID vaccine?
 - Author: The university would develop exemptions based on medical recommendations from medical professionals. Those specific cases are not included because I am not a medical professional and those
 - Motion to extend time by 5 minutes by Senator Hamilton (82)
 - Senator Hamilton (82): Not a question but one of the whereas clauses is from a professor at the college of law, however it has been said that if this loophole is used to make mask policy, the loophole would be immediately closed. Additionally, the Bloomington case is different because the governor has empowered institutions in their state where as Oklahoma state gov has not allowed institutions to do this.
 - Senator Woodford (59): how will the amount of hazard pay determined?
 - Author: when we say all OU employees, our intention was to include undergraduate TA and work study as well as grad students in similar activities. I do not think any of the authors felt qualified to lay out a detailed plan about hours or salary, however the OUAAUP recommended this part of the resolution. The goal was also to compensate people for extra utility costs incurred from online school such as electricity from hosting zoom classes from home.
 - Senator Nabhan (123): a lot of this seems unlikely to be accepted, but some of these things could be accepted, why draw away attention from the things that might be accepted by

included things that are unlikely? Could we produce two bills, one realistic and one with the other things?

- Author: we wanted only one bill with everything we felt was right. We wanted to put it all on one resolution to be sent to the public and state government. The current OU mask policy only came after an OU professor wrote an article embarrassing the university quite frankly. We felt that one bill encompassing all our principles and what we think is right would be best so that no one could completely discount a separate “wish list” resolution.
 - Senator Nabhan (123): I just worried about them ignoring the practical things
 - Author: I think the people making decisions can and will draw that distinction on their own.
- Motion to exhaust the speaker’s list by Senator Singleton (5), seconded by Senator Rayfield (6)
- Senator Singleton (5): you talk about making ease of vaccination better, but what about ease of testing?
 - Author: something we discussed in section 5 mentions regular testing. I have spoken with student affairs and they said there are increasing efforts to make testing easier. They discussed vending machines as well as not needing appointments anymore. These combined with immy labs ramping up their free testing again, we felt that testing was covered.
- Senator Rayfield (6): for people who have already been vaccinated, would they not get any of the perks for getting vaccinated like the new people? Would these perks apply to existing vaccinated people?
 - Author: OU has actually been rewarded already vaccinated people so we did focus on the efforts to get more unvaccinated people vaccinated. There were drawings/raffles as well as a social media challenge. We did want to focus on the unvaccinated population efforts
- Senator Milburn (64): this refers to an earlier comment about adding the covid vaccine onto another list of other vaccines the university mandates
 - Author: now anyone who attends OU are required to submit their vaccination records, there are certain exemptions allowed for these and other public schools have not had many people take these exemptions, our policy we are recommending is aimed at getting unvaccinated people vaccinated
- Chair: we are now in a period of debate where you can state why you plan to vote whichever way you intend
- Senator Milburn (64): I will be voting for this bill as a way to make a statement that we care about protecting our most vulnerable. I feel
- Senator Stout (25): I appreciate the authors attention and care to other students, that being said I will be voting no because peoples health is their own responsibility. The vaccine and masks are available, and you can always do those things. There is monoclonal treatment. People have gotten covid and recovered. There is not data on the long-term effects of the covid vaccine. It is one thing to support it is another thing to mandate it. I encourage everyone considering getting the COVID vaccine to do their research, and to actually do it. People shouldn’t have to be told or handheld on what they need to do. I want to again say that I appreciate the author.
- Senator Barnett (38): I wanted to bridge the last two comments. Speaking for the immunocompromised students on campus. I am privileged to be in collings hall that promotes masking. I have yet to see less than 100% masking in my classes. Therefore, I felt safe in my classes and that I did not have to choose between my health and my education. I recognize rights to not mask and not vaccinate, but at the end of the day those rights can conflict with the rights of others to attend school and feel safe. I feel that having the language for mandates in this resolution is a good thing because in politics you always ask for more so you can get what you need.

- Senator Marcolina (63): some of the recipients of this policy may not be immunocompromised but live or see those who are, family members etc. there may be an opportunity with this document to balance the personal rights of students with the needs of those who might need more protection. I would like to encourage folks to think about people who may not be themselves at risk but wish to have people in their lives who are at risk. Supporting people in this does not have to be a vaccine mandate but could be a masking mandate.
- Senator Singleton (5): I agree with the previous senator. My grandparents and best friend are in the highest risk group. Anecdotally I and everyone I know has seen less than 50% masking in their classes. The Pfizer vaccine has been FDA approved and we have done research on these types of vaccines and we know they are safe so fast
- GSS Chair: Crispin you may now give a 5 minute summation
- Crispin: thank you for your thoughts and opinions on implementation of these points. I think the comments that have been said speak for themselves and I welcome any comments and debate on this as it is a large recommendation. I believe it is self evident that the undergraduate student body is not wearing masks at a good rate. I feel with the winter coming up there may be a dramatic increase in cases. This is a community issue, in order to solve this and beat the virus we have to come together as a community and this resolution is a way we can do that.
- Chair: I will now entertain a motion for a roll call vote
- Motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote by Senator Creason (17), seconded by Senator Milburn (64)
 - Yay 52
 - Nay 7
 - Abstain 3
 - Motion Passes

Announcements:

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Senator (17), seconded by Senator (6).

Adjournment:

Time: 8:18 PM