

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

April 11th, 7:00 P.M.

Zoom Conference Call

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/99964949655?pwd=MVZMSTJwRnNrNmNDTVpMQTVMc0pzUT09>

Call to Order

Mission Statement: Graduate Students at the University of Oklahoma have a number of unique concerns and interests requiring a voice separate from the usual instruments that express the will of the faculty and of undergraduates. For this reason, the Graduate Student Senate of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association was established in 1987 to represent all Graduate Students and to serve their needs.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes (minutes from previous meeting:

<https://www.ou.edu/content/dam/sga/common/GSS/minutes/2024/GSS-Minutes-3-28-2024.pdf>)

Officer Reports:

- Chair:
- Vice-Chair:
- Secretary:

Committee Reports: (submit your meeting minutes [here](#))

- Academic Affairs:
- Development & Philanthropy:
- External Affairs:
- Internal Affairs:
- International Student Affairs:
- Public Relations:
- Sustainability:
- Ways and Means:

Student Concerns:

Special Orders:

- Elections:
 - Chair Candidate Personal Statement
 - Jordan Norris: I am a 4th year Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Psychology. I have served in various capacities on the Senate for 3 years. In those years, I have witnessed a lot of growth and positive change for graduate students, and it is my hope that I can continue leveraging the Senate's potential to make OU a more supportive place for graduate students. First, my goal is to support the vision of the Senate body and the goals of our committees to ensure the Senate remains a body that is representative of our campus. I will also continue to capitalize on the potential of the Senate to raise awareness for resources available to help address the needs of graduate students both on campus and in larger efforts. Namely, I will work to advance our efforts to engage with state, and eventually federal, legislators and with legislation that impacts graduate students. In conclusion, I would love and appreciate the opportunity to represent and support you all in this role.
 - Vice Chair Candidate Personal Statement

- Rin Ferraro: I'm a 5th year Ph.D. Candidate in Sociology and I've been the Vice Chair of GSS since 2021, and served as Secretary before that. I've been on GSS since 2018 and in that time, I've seen it change enormously, especially under Claire's leadership. We've strengthened our communication with the Grad College, and we've laid the foundation for a lot of our initiatives to actually take shape. It's been a great honor to help graduate students find their voice in campus affairs and I hope to continue that this upcoming academic year. I think Jordan is going to do a tremendous job continuing what Claire has started and I can't wait to help support her however I can.
 - Secretary Candidate Personal Statement
 - Cooper Delafield: I am a 5th year Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Psychology. I have been a senator in GSS for four years and served as chair of the IA committee for two years and GSS Secretary for one year. I plan to serve GSS next year in the Secretary role by using my experience as IA chair and as GSS Secretary to advance our organization's many worthwhile long-term projects, such as the restructuring of the committees in response to the changing needs of our graduate students, providing consistency in Senate policies, and improving the experiences of senators and other graduate students interacting with GSS. I care deeply about advocating for graduate students at our university and believe the efforts of the Senate to be the best opportunities for doing so. If confirmed as Secretary, I will work diligently to execute the responsibilities of the office and to grow our effectiveness as an organization. I would be honored by your support.

Old Business:

New Business:

- GS24-18 Get OK to Vote Resolution
- GS24-19 Appointing Parking Appeals Judges Act of Spring 2024
- GS24-20 Red River Holiday Act of 2024
- GS24-21 The Protection of Student Voting Rights Resolution

Announcements:

Adjournment

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXI

April 9, 2024

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS24

April 11, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-111-10
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS24-18

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recommending the University implement a polling location on campus for local, state, and federal elections; and providing for distribution.

Whereas: According to the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement’s (NSLVE) University of Oklahoma report in 2022, the campus voter turn out was 63.5% in the 2020 election;¹ and

Whereas: The national voting rate for students was 66% in the 2020 election; and

Whereas: The voting barriers for students include “Young people are much more likely than older people to say they couldn’t get off work to vote, [they] didn’t receive their ballot in time, [they] missed the registration deadline, or [they] had trouble finding or accessing their polling place”;² and

Whereas: In the United States, 54% of American college students, amounting to 6.6 million students, did not have any voting option on their college campus in 2020;³ and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

Section 1: Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “Get OK to Vote Resolution.”

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association urges the University of Oklahoma, the Cleveland County Election Board, and the Oklahoma State Election Board to allow polling sites on campus for students, faculty, and staff to easily access voting on local, state, and federal voting days.

Section 3: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association believes hosting a polling site on campus would increase voter turnout on campus due to the accessible nature of the polling location as students, faculty, and staff would no longer leave campus to place their vote in elections.

¹ <https://allinchallenge.org/wp-content/uploads/University-of-Oklahoma-Action-Plan-2022-June.pdf>

² <https://civictionation.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/College-Student-Voting-Fact-Sheet-1.pdf>

³ <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/post/a-study-on-campus-voting-access>

Section 4: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association recommends the University of Oklahoma collaborate with SGA and OK Votes when implementing such measures.

Section 5: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- President Joseph Harroz, The University of Oklahoma
- Dr. David Surratt, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Faith Martin, Director of N.E.W. Leadership and Civic Engagement
- Michael Stoyak, OK Votes Civic Engagement Fellow
- Annie Mullins, OK Votes Civic Engagement Fellow
- OU Daily

Author: Chair Abby Halsey-Kraus, Undergraduate Student Congress

Co-Authors: President Caden Glasscock, Student Government Association
Vice President Cyrus Mortizavi, Student Government Association
Chair Claire Burch, Graduation Student Senate
Chair Katie Tramel, Campus Activities Council

Submitted on a motion by:
Action taken by Congress:
Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:
Action taken by Senate:
Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXI

April 16, 2024

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS24

April 11, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-111-XX
SENATE BILL GS24-19

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Legislation appointing judges to the Student
Parking Appeals Board; providing for short title, providing
for codification, and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION:

Section 1: Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Appointing Parking Appeals Judges Act of Spring 2024.”

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to name and appoint judges for the Student Parking Appeals Board.

Section 3: In accordance with SGACA Title IV, Chapter 4, section 2, “Judges of the Student Parking Appeals Board shall be appointed by the SGA President.

The following shall be Judges on the Parking Appeals Board:

- Brianna Cisneros
- Kyle Martin

Section 4: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Caden Glasscock, SGA President

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Senate

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXI

April 9, 2024

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS24

April 11, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CR-111-08
SENATE BILL GS24-20

AS INTRODUCED

An Act submitting the Fall 2024 Unscheduled Holiday;
providing for short title, providing for codification, and
providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION:

Section 1: Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Red River Holiday Act of 2024.”

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to officially submit an unscheduled holiday to the University of Oklahoma President, Joseph Harroz Jr., for approval pursuant to Section 5.15 of the Board of Regents policy manual.

Section 3: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association officially submits Friday, October 11, 2024, as the Fall 2024 Student Holiday.

Section 4: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): President Caden Glasscock, Student Government Association
Vice President Cyrus Mortazavi, Student Government Association
Chair Abby Halsey-Kraus, Undergraduate Student Congress
Chair Claire Burch, Graduate Student Senate
Chair Catherine Tramel, Campus Activities Council

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Senate

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXI

April 9, 2024

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS24

April 11, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-111-09
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS24-21

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution encouraging the implementation of the day off from school on Election Day; and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: The 2020 student voting rate at The University of Oklahoma was 63.5%; and,
- Whereas: The University of Oklahoma saw a 33% voter turnout increase for the 18-21 age group from the 2018 election to the 2020 election; and,
- Whereas: At 34%, the state of Oklahoma had the lowest youth voter turnout; and,
- Whereas: Between 2016 and 2020, universities saw an average voter turnout increase of 13%; and,
- Whereas: Universities such as the University of Cincinnati, Columbia University, the University of Kentucky, the University of South Carolina, and Clemson University recognize the importance of Election Day by allowing the day off school⁴; and,
- Whereas: The Regent's Policy Manual for The University of Oklahoma, 12.3.1.1 Unscheduled Holidays currently states, "Undergraduate Student Congress and Graduate Student Senate shall have authority to recommend to the President one unscheduled school holiday in the Fall semester of each academic year with the understanding the recommendation of a holiday must be made to the President at least two weeks before the recommended date in order to allow time for adjusting teaching schedules and the like."⁵
- Whereas: As it stands there are no known current policies that allow students an excused absence from classes to go vote.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

Section 1: Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "The Protection of Student Voting Rights Resolution."

⁴ "Map." *Day On Democracy*, www.dayondemocracy.org/map. Accessed 29 Mar. 2024.

⁵ "Policy and Procedure Manual." *12.3.1.1 Unscheduled Holidays v.1*, universityok.navexone.com/content/dotNet/documents/?docid=271&public=true. Accessed 4 Apr. 2024.

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages the Board of Regents to allow Election Day to be an additional unscheduled holiday every four years on Election Day, scheduled in concurrence with the federal general election.

Section 3: If passed, The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association also recommends a change to the Regents' Unscheduled Holiday Policy.

Section 4: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Chairman Eric Stevenson, OU Board of Regents
- Vice Chairwoman Anita L. Holloway, OU Board of Regents
- Regent Natalie Shirley, OU Board of Regents
- Regent Rick Nagel, OU Board of Regents
- Regent Robert J. Ross, OU Board of Regents
- Regent John R. Braught, OU Board of Regents
- President Joseph Harroz Jr., University of Oklahoma
- Sean Burrage, OU Executive Vice President & Chief of Staff
- David A. Surratt, OU Vice President for Student Affairs
- Faith Martin, Oklahoma Votes

Author(s): Ellie Wolthuis, Chief of Staff to SGA President

Co-Author(s): President Caden Glasscock, Student Government Association
Vice President Cyrus Mortazavi, Student Government Association
Chair Claire Burch, SGA Graduate Student Senate
Chair Abby Halsey-Kraus, SGA Undergraduate Student Congress
Chair Katie Tramel, Campus Activities Council

Co-Sponsor(s): Carter B. Strickland, SGA Director of the Interior
Avery Dunlap, SGA Director of the Exterior
Zoe Nguyen, SGA Director of Inclusivity
Natalie Armour, SGA Director of Communications

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____