



DIVISION OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
LAMAR UNIVERSITY
Student Government Association

April 5, 2021 – SGA Senate Session

Neches 120

Start Time: 5:30 PM

Facilitator: Jasmine Patin, Vice President of the Student Government Association

- I. Call to order**
 - a. 5:38 PM**
- II. Roll call**
 - a. Quorum has been met**
- III. Approval of the minutes from Last Meeting**
 - a. Last meeting minutes have been approved**
- IV. Officer reports**
 - a. President Trevion Wilson**
 - i. SGA Safety Walk**
 - 1. Went very well, received lots of good feedback/suggestions**
 - 2. Identified many safety hazards and issues on campus and is currently working with the other Execs to create a single report to send to upper administration**
 - ii. Currently working on Transition Report**
 - iii. Transition Ceremony**
 - 1. Has been discussing ideas with Mr. Shaver**
 - 2. When: May 3rd at 5:00 PM on the 8th floor of the Library**

iv. Project: LUPD for Student Org Consistent Pricing

- 1. Sent resolution to Mr. Shaver**
- 2. Next Step: A committee will be formed and they will meet over the summer to discuss possible implementation**

v. Project: Campus Sustainability (Partnered with Taliah)

- 1. Visited the Parking Office and will be reaching out to Dr. Wagner soon to schedule a meeting**

b. Vice President Jasmine Patin

i. Project: Inclusive Palettes

- 1. Met with Mr. Boyd and he has approved the resolution — if passed by the Senate, it will be implemented this semester**
- 2. Currently finalizing meal options and these will be sent to Mr. Boyd**
- 3. Mr. Boyd will be the speaker at the next Joint Session**
- 4. Resolution has been finalized and will be presented by Senator Mya Lincoln today**

ii. Currently working with the other Execs to create a report from the feedback received at the SGA Safety Walk

iii. Project: Increase Visual Representation of Diversity in the Setzer Center

- 1. Spoke with Ms. Rodriguez and she directed her to Ms. Cynthia Hicks**

- a. Sent an email and waiting on a response to schedule a meeting — planning to visit her office soon

iv. Flying Cardinals Mentorship Program

1. Met with Ms. Drakeford and decided to host the program through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion to ensure its sustainability
2. Will be presenting resolution in the next Senate Session

v. Currently working on Transition Report

c. Sec.-Treasurer Taliah Belcher

i. Project: Campus Sustainability (Partnered with Trevion)

1. Still hasn't heard back from the Parking Office
2. Met with Professor Flosi and for now the plan is to focus on preparing for Earth Day

ii. University Sustainability Committee

1. Currently planning events for Earth Day

- a. Working with Ms. Jennifer Ravey to publish a Sustainability Pledge that students can sign and express their want for increased sustainable practices on campus

iii. Currently finalizing Transition Report — will be completed soon

V. Senator reports

a. Senator Tiffany Tran

i. Project: College of Arts and Sciences Student Advisory Committee

- 1. Gave each Dean a deadline of April 2nd but many have not yet chosen a representative**
- 2. Hoping to have committee filled by the end of the semester and officially begin in the Fall**

ii. Project: SGA Suggestion Box Beautification

- 1. Received interest from a student and she submitted three designs**
 - a. Will post the designs in the Slack**

iii. Project: Science and Technology Building Hours Extension

- 1. Emailed Dr. Lin and waiting on a response — planning to visit his office soon**

b. Senator Caleb Love

i. Project: Greek Plaque Proposal

- 1. Met with Ms. Jeanes and discussed potential display options — decided on including a picture collage of all of the Greek organizations on campus in the awards cabinet on the 2nd floor of the Setzer Center**
 - a. Currently compiling pictures of every organization — planning to have them all by Thursday**
 - b. Will still have a 1st floor display showing a timeline of when each organization was started**

ii. Project: PPR Test

- 1. Issue: Because there is such a low number of African American students in the Education program, it is easier for success rates to be misleading, especially if only a small number of students did not pass the test**
- 2. Talked with Dr. Titus about starting an organization to increase the retention of African American populations in the Education program**
 - a. Discussed this idea with Ms. Lisa Weber and will be looking into the possibility of beginning a TABSE (Texas Alliance of Black School Educators) undergraduate chapter at Lamar**
- iii. Recently learned about the death of a fellow Lamar Student — Bryson Davis**
 - 1. Currently looking into ways Lamar can help accommodate his family and commemorate his life**
- c. Senator Mya Lincoln**
 - i. Project: Customizable Meal Plan**
 - 1. Resolution has been finalized and will be presented today**
 - 2. Met with Mr. Boyd and he has approved the resolution — if passed by the Senate, it will be implemented in Fall 2022**
 - a. This is because it needs to be voted on, personalized, finalized, and then a contractual adjustment needs to be made**

d. Senator Caroline LeBlanc

- i. Not Present**

e. Senator Katelynn Haynes

- i. Not Present**

f. Senator Jasmine Martin

- i. Not Present**

g. Senator Cade Pellerin

- i. Project: Increase Disaster Preparedness**

1. Emailed the Finance Department and received a response from

Dr. Wagner

- a. He confirmed that Lamar does keep a stockpile of water and, that if need be, has access to 10 palettes of water at the Pepsi Distribution Center**

- b. Also discussed ways to better the communication between administration and students during times of uncertainty**

2. Will continue to look into getting an SGA officer on the

University Emergency Committee

h. Senator Kaylee Goodspeed

- i. Project: Course Cost Survey**

1. Met with Dr. Kang and he continued to express concerns —

has decided to not pursue this approach

2. Met with Dr. Nichols and discussed a new approach

a. She suggested compiling a list of textbook prices from the bookstore and getting a 100 student sample from the Undergraduate Advising Center and determining an average semester cost based on the textbooks they will be needing for their classes

3. Will be meeting with Mr. Shaver to discuss other possible solutions

ii. Project: Sensory Safe Space

1. Has been meeting with Dr. Mutz and his committee frequently

2. They recently submitted a proposal to the chairs of the Accessibility Task Force and the Vice President

a. This proposal outlines a 5-year plan, with a new space being established each year — the starting budget needed will be \$15,000

b. The first space is set to be implemented in one of the dorm buildings

c. Currently finalizing the survey and considering more potential locations while waiting for approval

i. Senator Maurio Stevens

i. Project: Co-sponsorship Funds

1. Found that the organizations can use the funds for whatever they want but not many orgs utilize this opportunity

ii. New Project: Alumni Directory

1. **Purpose: To create a directory of networks for those students who are eager to connect with professionals in their field**

2. **Will be reaching out to Ms. Shannon Figueroa soon**

j. Senator Alexia Morgan

- i. **Project: Increase Course Consistency (Partnered with Caroline)**

1. **Will be working with Cardinal Communities to start a program that informs students about drop dates and advising**

2. **Will also be working with the Undergraduate Advising Center to implement a program called 15 to Finish — this program will have Freshman taking at least 15 hours every semester so they have a better chance of graduating in 4 years**

- ii. **Project: Guest Passes in the Rec Center**

1. **Resolution has been completed and will be presented today**

k. Senator Mykayla Johnson

- i. **Not Present**

l. Senator Tyler Martin

- i. **Mental Health Task Force Committee**

1. **Planning to pursue the TalkSpace idea along with other general mental health projects**

2. **Would like to get access to the National College Health Assessment survey results and use this as reinforcement and as supporting data for projects**

3. **Planning to create a survey to gauge student interest**

4. Will lead the creation of the proposal and resolution
 - a. The proposal/resolution will include details about the project and possible alternative solutions
5. Will be a long-term project — planning to include in Transition Report so the next SGA group can continue the project

VI. Old business

- a. None

VII. New business

- a. Presentation of The Project: Customizable Meal Plan by Senator Mya Lincoln

- i. Suggestions:

1. Include something about how the current meal plan options can discourage students from wanting to buy a meal plan
2. Include that facility already has a customizable meal plan

- ii. Q. Will this project allow dining swipes to roll over if they are not used that week?

1. A. No, but this plan gives students the option to create their own unique plan based on how many dining swipes they think they will use or how many they can afford

- iii. Q. Will this project allow you to add additional dining dollars if you run out?

1. A. You can currently do this by contacting Dining Services

iv. Q. What information was used to create the plans?

- 1. A. The meal options are based on the already established faculty customizable meal plan and plans from other Universities**

b. Presentation of The Project: Inclusive Palettes by Senator Mya Lincoln

i. Suggestions:

- 1. Include more supporting information (i.e. links to data)**
- 2. Correct grammatical errors**
- 3. Include the number of students and faculty that currently have a meal plan and mention how potential students eat at Dhall when they tour Lamar**
- 4. Include more options for Middle Eastern demographics**

ii. Please reach out to Vice President Jasmine Patin if you would like to see any specific meals added, especially if you have suggestions for Pescetarian, Vegetarian, or African food options

c. Presentation of The Project: Guest Passes in the Rec Center my Senator Alexia Morgan

i. Suggestions:

- 1. Correct grammatical errors**

ii. Q. Just to confirm, will residents only be allowed to purchase a guest pass three times throughout the semester?

- 1. A. Yes, this is for safety reasons so outside guests are not visiting too frequently**

VIII. Open forum

a. Bryson Davis Memorial

i. Q. Would you all like to see a Memorial Service held for Bryson?

1. A. FCS is holding a candle lighting and balloon release service

for him on Thursday, April 8th at 8:00 PM at Cardinal Park

2. A. We could plant a tree on campus to commemorate him

ii. Would need to talk to Academic Affairs (Dr. Nichols) and the Office of the Registrar to determine the policies/procedure of requesting an honorary degree

iii. The Execs will get in touch with the PR committee and look into making a social media post/statement

b. Q. Will the Rec hours ever be extended to open earlier?

i. Probably not, based upon the fact that not many people were utilizing the Rec during those times anyway and resultantly the Rec would lose more money than it would bring in by being open during those times — these are just a couple of the reasons why the hours were reduced in the first place

IX. Advisor Comments

a. The Guest Pass resolution is great — will be working to get it implemented in the Fall

b. Would like to have a memorable Transition Ceremony for the SGA officers

i. Invitees: Senate, new and old officers (and their guests), and President Evans

ii. Tentative Itinerary: SGA officers will be presented with certificates/plaques; Recognition of President Evans; Outgoing President speech; Swearing in of new officers; Incoming President speech; Closing/Reception

iii. When: May 3rd at 5 PM on the 8th floor of the Library

c. Will be sending out a breakdown of the different student populations that voted in the SGA Elections

X. Announcements

a. Walk A Mile In Her Shoes: April 6th at 12:30 PM at the Setzer Center Circle Drive

b. SGA Joint Session: April 12th at 5:30 PM in Maes 106

c. If you are available, please come and show your support at Bryson's memorial service

i. April 8th at 8:00 PM at Cardinal Park

d. Make sure to work on Transition Reports as these are very important in helping the next SGA group get acclimated

XI. Adjournment

a. Adjourned at 7:24 PM