

**Minutes for SMU Student Senate  
October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008**



- I. Call to Order 3:36pm**
- II. Moment of Silence**
- III. Roll Call**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	
Student Body President	Rob Hayden	
Student Body Vice President	Patrick Kobler	
Student Body Secretary	Erika Briceno	
Student Senate Speaker	Alisson Reyes	
Student Senate Chief of Staff	Jeff Ordner	
Student Senate Parliamentarian	Kyle Bennett	
First Year Senator	Katie Perkins	
First Year Senator	Derek Hubbard	
First Year Senator	Austin Poynter	
First Year Senator	Jack Benage	
First Year Senator	Michael Sizemore	
Dedman I Senator	Alex Holland	
Dedman I Senator	John Steitz	
Dedman II Senator	Jakin Vela	
Dedman II Senator	Robbie Krupp	
Dedman II Senator	Ryan Pitts	
Dedman II Senator	Derek Sangston	
Cox Senator	Megan Altman	
Cox Senator	Marc Bullock	
Cox Senator	Ryan Meyer	
Cox Senator	Alex Linn	
Cox Senator	Eric Park	
Cox Senator	Andrew Robinson	
Meadows Senator	Lacy Radcliff	
Meadows Senator	Jonathan Moon	
Meadows Senator	Whitney Stenger	
Meadows Senator	Brenda Gonzalez	
Engineering Senator	Mia Krueger	
Engineering Senator	Joseph Esau	
Engineering Senator	Barrett Matthews	
Law Senator	Stephen Davis	
Law Senator	Casey Ragan	A
Law Senator	Aaron Martinez	
Education Senator	Brittney Titus	
African-American Senator	Jay Johnson	
Asian-American Senator	Shakeel Mehdi	
Hispanic-American Senator	Sarah Acosta	
International Senator	Yousuf Alkhan	
Communications Committee Chair	Kellyn Curtis	A
Finance Committee Chair	Regan Owen	
Membership Committee Chair	Peter Goldschmidt	
Scholarship Committee	Abby Hoak	
Organizations Committee Chair	Paul Sharpe	E
Student Concerns Chair	Steven Aitkenhead	

- IV. Approval of Minutes. Minutes approved unanimously.**
- V. Speaker's Podium**

- Brent Paxton & Jakin Vela: I am the president of SPECTRUM and we are having an event called Masquerade Ball. This is to support the national coming out day. We would

like to ask you to suspend the rules and pass the finance request. If you could please support SPECTRUM we would greatly appreciate it.

- Chuck Lingo: Today I want to talk to you about the Genesis Women's Shelter. This helps women at no cost to them to strengthen children's bonds to their parent and to give them confidence. At my physiology studies at SMU I have learned that child and parent bonding is very important and I think this is a great organization. If you are interested in donating to the Women's Shelter please drop your donation at the Women's center by this weekend
- KPNI SMU Radio: We put in another budget request. We need \$600 to set up the computer in Dedman Center. The rest of the request is about more computers so that we continue spreading ourselves around campus. Questions: Johnson: could you go over what is going towards the installation of the computer at Dedman? The first three items on the request are for Dedman. We feel there is a problem on campus and that is that we are too exclusive. We are asking funds to expand our radio and become less exclusive. Pitts: Do you need additional funding for Umphree Lee? No. Bennet: What you are asking for is that we change the recommendation and approve your request? Yes. Bullock: The only two areas you could go into are Umphrey Lee and Dedman:
- John Steitz: If you are interested in being in the Sophomore housing committee please contact me. We need to start researching this topic in the next couple of weeks so we can compose a report. We need around 3-4 more people. We meet thursdays sometime around 12-3pm.

## VI. Officer Reports

### *President Hayden*

- Go to School Events/ Office Hours: *We have been seeing some faces a lot and some not at all. We have given you the opportunity to fulfill the hour in many ways. We are offering you another option and that is attending a campus event. This is a great way to get out in the community and show that Student Government cares. Please take advantage of this!*
- Compliment: I have been hearing great things. People from Student Affairs came to our office and told us they are proud that we are making things happen eventhough we have not passed any legislation. However, I want to encourage you to write legislation to have concrete
- Op- Ed Piece: I would like to write something on behalf of Senate in order to talk about the Alcohol Recommendations.
- Health Center!!! Pat Hyte e-mailed the students saying that the SMU health center is open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays 7pm -7am. They will also have an ambulance outside if someone needs to be transported to the hospital. It will be available whenever school is in session during fall and spring.
- Graduate Center for Dedman Center Committee: Some of the law senators
- EPIC students: Give me names of students that would like to go on the committee. Please e-mail me if you have anyone interested.
- Advising: Pamela Chiu has contacted me requesting feedback about Academic Advising. If you have anything please e-mail me and send me information.
- Inauguration of Joseph Esau! Congrats!

### *Vice President Kobler*

- CREW Update: CREW is a meeting that happens every Monday with people from RLSH, Greek, Student Affairs... We get together and talk about issues going on around campus.
- Shout Out to SMU Rides: I went to the SMU office to pick up the concerns box and I saw several people waiting for calls
- New Senator One-on One's
- Bailout Bill
- Light the Night: If anyone is available tonight from 7-9:30 we are walking around SMU to make the campus safer. They are serving food! Please join in.

### *Secretary Briceno*

- Polo Money
- Email to administrators
- Code of Conduct Online
- Introduction to Code of Conduct Committee
- Update on Giddy Up
- Sorority Crossing Guard
- Senators of the Month/ Senator Stars

*Speaker Reyes*

- No report.

*Parliamentarian Bennett*

- No report.

*Chief of Staff Ordner*

- Legislation Workshop Thursday 3:30pm
- I would really like to get together and have a Legislation Fiesta! This is a great opportunity especially for new senators. With that being said I need some old senators to come and help! Thanks.

*Assistant Dean Jones*

- Announcing Rosie McSweeney's Departure ☹️ She is the conduct officer for the institution and she will be having her going away party on Thursday at 4pm. She is moving to Maryland. Come and represent!

**VII. Committee Reports**

*Organizations – Chair Sharpe*

- Plans for MOM
- Charter Review Meetings

*Student Concerns- Chair Aitkenhead*

- HT Table went well- 93 complaints (parking, social life, police)
- Thank Secretary Briceno for the Gummies.
- I would also like to thank my committee for sitting outside of HT for two days listening to student concerns.
- The biggest concern was parking. Boys were complaining about how they cannot park outside of the dorms. The second concern was the social registration process. They were concerned about Thursday bus parties, away weekends and the boulevard. The third was about the police and how they should be more concerned with actual crimes instead of alcohol violations. The last concern was the sorority crosswalk and giddy up.
- I think we should have this table outside of HT more often maybe twice a semester. Also if you can continue passing around surveys in your classes it is an easy way to receive feedback.

*Membership – Chair Goldschmidt*

- Old Business
  - Positive Recommendations:
    - Brian Crouch (4-0-0) Engineering Senator.
    - Motion to approve the recommendation. Second. Passes unanimously.
- New Business
  - Positive Recommendations;
    - Chris Campbell (4-0-0) Dedman II Senator.

*Scholarship – Chair Hoak*

- Applications and Recommendation Forms are out!!! Please tell people to apply.

*Communications - Chair Curtis*

- We are getting the flyers and stake signs open by next week.
- Food donations and promotional items for tailgate: the finance request has been sent in. We are also looking into food donations. Please e-mail me if you have any ideas. I looked into the Shutter Shades to order them but no one got back. Don't worry, President Hayden has it under control.
- I am meeting with SMU Rides about promotional items.

- We make 8x10 flyers for each senator which we will put in the schools.

*Finance - Chair Owen*

- We had an extra long meeting last night!
- Old Business. Motion to see in block. Passes. Motion to approve. Passes unanimously.
  - Voices of Inspiration- \$400
  - KPNI- \$1361
  - International Relations Club- \$0
  - PC- \$0
  - Women's Interest Network: \$238. They have "take back the night" and need funding. Motion to suspend the rules and see as old business. Passes. Motion to approve the committees recommendation. Passes unanimously.
  - Spectrum: \$599. They had received funding in the Spring but we decided to fund them some. This is time sensitive. Motion to suspend the rules and see as old business. Motion passes. Motion to approve the committee's recommendation. Passes unanimously.
- New Business
  - Leadershape: \$3700. This is an event that is put on every year for SMU students. However, every year they request money but tell us that they are looking for sponsors but have not done so. The \$3700 recommended amount is to send 10 students instead of 30. In order to pass this at our next meeting, we are going to need 2/3 vote because they have received funding from us for over four years
  - PC (Speakers): \$0. They want to bring a second speaker to SMU however we recommended that one was enough.
  - KPNI SMU Radio: \$704. They need extra funds

**VII. Old Business**

- No Submission

**IX. New Business**

- Bill to Honor Rosie McSweeney
- Kobler: This is to honor Rosie McSweeney. We feel that she has been an integral part of the SMU community and she really goes above and beyond her job requirement. It is a tradition that the Student Senate give a plaque to administrators and we feel this would be great. Pitts: Motion to suspend the rules and see as old business. Passes. Pitts: Motion to approve the resolution. Passes unanimously.

**X. Senatorial Forum**

- Code Revisions: I wanted to bring up something in the code in section 5.02 d. This states that if you have below a 2.5 or on disciplinary probation you are not allowed to go through recruitment. However, I feel that this is discriminatory because it should either apply to all student organizations or none. I feel this is a good requirement but I don't agree that it is exclusively towards greek organizations.
- Stenger: I feel that though this is a great point, Greek organizations are social and that is why this section is addressed to them.
- Perkins: If this does change I recommend that you let freshman know during AARO.
- Matthews: I feel that even if you do poorly or you are struggling in grades you should not be shut out of every organization on campus.
- Moon: I feel that this would be very difficult to enforce especially because it would be hard for every organization to check grades.
- Kobler: My big thing here is to make sure that it is fair. Again, I am not saying to get rid of this but it should apply to everyone or no one.
- Acosta: I agree but I also think that since there is a lack of involvement outside of Greek life, it would discourage students from getting more involved.
- Vela: I understand where you are coming from but I think maybe it could be changed to 2.0 and it would be more compromising.
- Johnson: I do think the piece is very discriminatory but I was wondering if there is any historical background to this piece.

- Kobler: I know that this was pushed a few years back but it did not get pushed to pass.
- Robinson: I would like to agree with VP Kobler that there has been a division between Greek and non-Greek organization but I feel that they should have the same standards.
- Stenger: Maybe it is a good idea to get rid of that clause entirely because internally, Greek chapters can put a minimum grade point average for their own.
- Pitts: point of information, how long has the requirement been in the code?
- Kobler: Very long
- Alkhan: can IFC set their own grade requirement besides the one in the code?
- Kobler: Yes IFC has set it to 2.25 I believe.
- Bullock: I feel that there are good points however, fraternities and sororities are not chartered organizations therefore they are not the same as the rest of the organizations on campus.
- Robinson: Would you rather get rid of it or make it apply to everyone?
- Kobler: They both have their benefits.
- Pitts: Motion to end debate. Second. Passes Unanimously.

**XI. Announcements**

- CHAS is having a salsa night on Thursday!
- United Way Charity is having a fundraising campaign so look up for it
- Honors council is having a forum tomorrow afternoon at 4pm in the ballrooms

**XII. Adjournment**