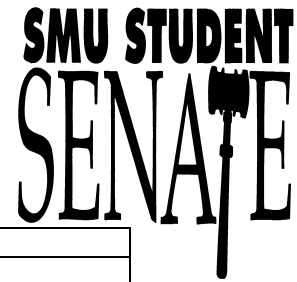


**Order of Business for SMU Student Senate
February 17th, 2009**



- I. Call to Order: 3:31pm**
- II. Moment of Silence**
- III. Roll Call**

	Position	Name	
1	Student Body President	Rob Hayden	
2	Student Body Vice President	Patrick Kobler	
3	Student Body Secretary	Erika Briceno	
4	Student Senate Speaker	Alisson Reyes	
5	Student Senate Chief of Staff	Jeff Ordner	
6	Student Senate Parliamentarian	Kyle Bennett	
7	First Year Senator	Katie Perkins	
8	First Year Senator	Derek Hubbard	
9	First Year Senator	Austin Poynter	
10	First Year Senator	Jack Benage	
11	First Year Senator	Michael Sizemore	
12	Dedman I Senator	Alex Holland	
13	Dedman I Senator	John Steitz	
14	Dedman II Senator	Alex Ehmke	
15	Dedman II Senator	Robbie Krupp	A
16	Dedman II Senator	Drew Washington	
17	Dedman II Senator	Jonathan Lane	
18	Cox Senator	Megan Altman	A
19	Cox Senator	Marc Bullock	
20	Cox Senator	Ryan Meyer	
21	Cox Senator	Alex Linn	A
22	Cox Senator	Eric Park	A
23	Cox Senator	John Jose	
24	Cox Senator	Dominique Oulette	
25	Meadows Senator	Lacy Radcliff	
26	Meadows Senator	Jonathan Moon	
27	Meadows Senator	Whitney Stenger	A
28	Meadows Senator	Brenda Gonzalez	
29	Engineering Senator	Joseph Esau	
30	Engineering Senators	Brian Crouch	A
31	Engineering Senator	Barrett Matthews	
32	Law Senator	Stephen Davis	
33	Law Senator	Casey Ragan	
34	Law Senator	Aaron Martinez	
35	Education Senator	Laura Schur	
36	Education Senator	Jake Torres	
37	Education Senator	Brittney Titus	A
38	African-American Senator	Jay Johnson	
39	International Senator	Yousuf Alkhan	
	Communications Committee Chair	Kellyn Curtis	
	Finance Committee Chair	Regan Owen	
	Membership Committee Chair	Peter Goldschmidt	
	Scholarship Committee	Abby Hoak	
	Organizations Committee Chair	Paul Sharpe	

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

- Dr. Lori White
 - I come to present a check for President Hayden. This was given by previous student body presidents to start a scholarship fund.

- When I asked to come speak to the senate, it was because of your role in approved amendments in the Student Code of Conduct. However, there are a number of important events involving our fraternities that I want to address. I was asked why I kicked out KA off campus and I wanted to make sure that we all had the same facts. I wanted to start talking about the Student Code of Conduct. We see students as full members in the university and students have a say into what goes into it. There are two principles in the Code: Integrity, accountability, by students and approved by students, responsibility. In the preamble it talks about the fact that students are voluntary members of the university. If students don't agree with what is in the code, you can decide that you don't want to be at SMU if you don't agree with the student code. Secondly, our student code is dominated by an educational philosophy.
- KA: What did KA do to get suspended from SMU for three years? From 2006 to 2008 this fraternity continued to have code violations. These initially put them on probation and they continued to extend this probation. In August 2008, they were put on deferred suspension. They had to take Alcohol Edu, got TIPS trained and took other things every time they violated the terms of their probation. Once they were on deferred suspension, they violated the code once again and at that point they were placed on extended deferred suspension and social probation. They asked for extra consideration, it went to a hearing board and they asked for a reconsideration and it was granted. Dr. Webb met with them three times and agreed to uphold the terms to the deferred suspension. They were told to have no social activities. On January 19th they held a social activity held off campus. In conversation with their national organization we decided on three years suspension. They said it was better to have a longer suspension so that the current members of the organization can graduate and come back with a clean slate. Several fraternities have been suspended before and we believe in the Greek experience and our goal is not to throw fraternities off campus.
- Kappa Sigma: Individuals in the organization had 50 violations in the Student Code of Conduct either in the Fraternity house or in one of their functions. There are also allegations that caused us great concerns. Because of all of this, they are on temporary deferred suspension. They will have its hearing with me before Spring Break. We have asked they talk to us about their organizational leadership and we want to make sure we look into the allegations.
- SAE: The death of Jake Stiles was a tragedy for SMU and his family. This happened before my arrival to SMU but the investigation is still ongoing. I cannot comment on the specifics but my role is to talk about their violations on the Student Code. One comment made about this fraternity is that they have one of their advisors on the board of trustees and that they could get special treatment. I want to clarify that this has no influence on the investigation. Governor Clements is responsible for funding the SMU in Taos campus and he is a KA and they didn't get special treatment. Another concern brought up was about the common knowledge about SAE having drugs in their house; however, since it has not been reported on campus, we are not able to act on rumor. The fundamental question raised in that article, is if somebody dies in a fraternity house, will they hold the fraternity responsible? I personally think that if you are a member of an organization they do hold some responsibility.
- Questions: Jose: In the Feb 10th issue of the Daily Campus, there is a quote of yours in regards to Kappa Sig. How is Kappa Sig on probation and SAE is not? I can only respond to anything that has happened while I have been here. Mr. Caswell was the one that handled this and I believe that at the time given the knowledge he had he made the appropriate decision. Since I've been here I've done my best to try to treat every organization fairly and treat each one with respect. Our code of conduct tells me I can act whenever I receive a report. Where our code is silent, which is why I want to talk about the group

responsibility proposal. We have found that this is a challenge in our code which is why I am coming here to present this. Meyer: Do the discipline actions of KA and Kappa Sig coming so close together represent a change in policy or is it a one time action? My philosophy is that I expect the best from all of you. If infractions occur I will do my best to understand why but at the end of the day if there are not improvements then I will move forward to the consequences. I wouldn't say it was a change of philosophy because I don't know what it was before you got here. Bennett: My concern with this document it is black check for the office of Student Affairs to do what they please because there is not standard or clear outline on how this would be handled. Can you explain? This is adapted from University of Southern California, and it was proposed before the situation with these organizations occurred. This is to set a higher standard within your organization. In our system it is extremely rare to go from violations to suspension, and there is always a hearing and based on that hearing sanctions are issued. For example if somebody is selling drugs in a fraternity house, this is saying that you have an obligation to tell them to stop, kick them out of the organization and you have a duty to inform the police or somebody else on campus. This can be anonymously through the TIPS hotline. A second example would be that the hockey team gets together to celebrate a birthday. They decide to invite a stripper, things get out of hand and it looks like a sexual assault is going to occur. What this is saying is that the act of sexual assault was set up by the fraternity because they authorized it to happen and did not stop it. Thirdly, if there is an event on campus and things got out of hand and people started throwing chairs and broke a lot of stuff. If the organization invited the people who acted up and they didn't try and stop it and they didn't go to talk to an administrator about what happened, then they would be responsible. In regards to the death in SAE, if you believe they should be partly responsible this would help facilitate this. Bennett: Sexual assault in several houses have been reported, how would these organizations be held responsible? If the organization facilitated this to happen then the organization is responsible. If this is an isolated incident then organizations would not be held responsible if they did not facilitate it. Holland: You talked about the role of the Board of Trustees in regards to the Judicial process, do they have any say? It is a conversation and it goes to a board that is made up of students, faculty and staff and it is the board's decision. Our conduct process operates independently of me unless there is a recommendation of a student or organization be suspended or expelled. Up until that point the process is independent of me. Holland: What steps and course of action and what were the allegations of the Beta fraternity to get them kicked off? I was not here but I know that their nationals preferred that the organization be suspended for three years. Steitz: It seems that this proposal is directed to fraternities, how long do you see this culture to holding each other accountable? This will depend on the students and organizations living up to their values and ideals and be clear about what will and will not be tolerated. Steitz: Was your course of action with KA and Kappa Sig tied to the Texas Monthly article? No they are no way in response to the article. This is about me trusting the students to uphold the ideals of SMU. I view what happened to KA as a failure on my leadership because I would have preferred not have gotten to that point. Johnson: Are there any additional changes or specific policy amendments that we should look forward in the future? Not that I know of. This was proposed in the fall based on my experience at USC and this is a draft and if you believe in the principle but you are not happy with the language please gives me suggestions. If you firmly believe that we don't need something like this then that is fine as well.

- Chief information officer
 - We are trying to improve our services positive or negative. We are trying to form a committee to oversee IT on campus. We need an undergraduate and

graduate member on the committee. One thing that bothers me is that there are several networks and some services are not as consistent around campus. We are located in Blanton. I would like to hear what services you are interested in obtaining.

- Questions: Washington: does SMU ITS have capability to offer live chat support? There is a feature that Microsoft offers that is the office communication server and it will allow for this. Essau: How is ITS trying to improve network stability and security? There is a number of wireless networks on campus and that is a big frustration. We would like to get down to two and then hopefully one. A lot of students introduce virus' to the network and that is why we like to see if you have anti viruses to log on. Our first priority to have a secure network and this does impose a problem.
- Senator Jose:
 - I am ashamed to be an SMU student. I am appalled at what has occurred on our campus and the inaction of our administration. I have spent 5 semesters on Senate and one thing has remained the same, when the administration chooses to ignore a problem, they get away with it. KA violated the terms of their agreement with the administration and they deserve their punishment. However, they have no voice to protect them in the board of trustees as opposed to SAE and Kappa Sigma. This is not to attack Greek life but the effects of money and the administration. In response to Dr. White, I am wondering why she didn't know anything about what occurs in the police department. Washington: have you gotten a straightforward answer in regards to undercover officers in the department? I have called the police department twice and they have not contacted me again. I have also called Paul Ward and have yet to get a call back. Hayden: What do you see all of us accomplishing along with the faculty senate in regards to the SAE issue? This is not about just SAE but throughout the university as a whole. The first thing I would like to do with members of the faculty senate is to pressure the administration to involve the drug enforcement agency. Torres: Would you be willing to apologize for saying that you are ashamed to go to SMU? No because I am ashamed, I say I go to UNT or the Cox School. Lane: You say you are frustrated by the inaction of the university but what sparked this is that they took action by kicking KA off campus, can you explain your position? Jose: Yes they are taking action but it is not the right action. By kicking an organization off campus they don't solve the problem, but I believe that the problem lies with the abuse of alcohol and drugs and that they should involve the DEA. I want to save lives. Bennett: Are you aware that you are pointing at fraternities now because the recent events have happened but do you think that you are also ignoring two other deaths that happened in the same year? In the Texas Monthly article they focused on the ties to other brothers within the fraternity but I think that we need to involve outside authority to uncover other sources to these cases. We need agencies like the DEA on campus to tackle the problem holistically.

VI. Officer Reports

President Hayden

- Nominate SMU alumni for SMU Ring
 - The development office is trying to push the SMU Ring. We bring alumni to bring the ring to the students. Next week we will be taking names and they will be at the ceremony. It can be anyone but they prefer alumni.
- Vote on members for faculty/senate joint committee
 - Nominations: Jose, Johnson, Meyer, Lane, Hayden, Kobler, Washington
 - Vote: Johnson, Lane, Hayden, Kobler, Washington
 - Chair: Kobler

Vice President Kobler

- Sign up for one on ones

Secretary Briceno

- Group responsibility proposal
- The Student Code of Conduct Committee will be meeting on Monday.

Speaker Reyes

- No report.

Parliamentarian Bennett

- No report

Chief of Staff Ordner

- I am continuing committee evaluations and last week I went to the Communications committee. Only one of the six senators was present. Senators, you need to show up to your committee meeting. I will present to Exec the withdrawal of these senators if they constantly continue to miss.

Assistant Dean Jones

- The social event registration committee is looking for students to sit on that committee. They meet on Tuesdays at 3:30pm

VII. Committee Reports

Organizations – Chair Sharpe

- MOM/ Finance Training Dates
- New Business
 - Extend temporary charter
 - Democracy matters (11-0-0) They are coming in next week. They are a non-profit organization and they are under a national organization. They also don't have enough members.
- Old Business: Approved. (21-0-0)
 - Probationary Charter:
 - Students 4 Justice (7-0-0) This is an all freshman group. The problem with them is they are very similar to Amnesty International.
 - Fellowship of Christian Athletes (7-0-0) They have been around for 5+ years and they are a ministry for all the athletes on campus.
 - Extend Temporary Charter
 - Cycling Club (7-0-0) with stipulations. We decided to extend their temporary charter. This is because there are only 5-9 people coming regularly every weekend. This will be extended for eight weeks.

Student Concerns- Chair Aitkenhead

- No report.

Membership – Chair Goldschmidt

- Old Business: Passes (21-0-0)
 - Positive recommendations:
 - Cullen Pabody- student concerns chair (4-0)
 - He was already of the student concerns committee and he is very interested.
 -
- new Business:
 - Negative
 - Monica Garcia- Hispanic Senator (0-4)
 - She wasn't sure on her answers. Her application was unprofessional and we felt she wasn't highly qualified.
- 2009 Elections: We are setting up a table by the flagpole on march 26th. We want to have 5 senators outside with laptops in order to increase voter turnouts. We are trying to find a sponsor to attract people to the tables.

Scholarship – Chair Hoak

- We are working with Arlene Manthey and the development office to see where we can take it in the future.
- If you know anyone to serve on the committee it would be great because we only have one senator. Meetings are Wednesdays at 5:00pm in the Senate office.
- We lost a lot of money with the economic crisis so we might bring the number down to where they were two years ago.

Communications - Chair Curtis

- No Committee Meeting tomorrow
- Advertisements for open senator positions
- Things to do in Dallas booklet for freshman

Finance - Chair Owen

- New Budget: We will be having finance MOM meetings in a couple of weeks. This will be for all organizations to attend and learn about the new budget. This will be Tuesday 24th at 5:00pm & Thursday 26th & Friday 27th. 4 officers or general members and their advisor.
- Senator Holland and Senator Gonzalez are now in Finance committee not communications.
- The Finance chair position is open.
- Budgets are due on March 15th at 5:00pm
- Old business: Approved (20-0-1)
 - International relations council- \$3203
- New Business
 - SMU Habitat Charter- \$6000: They have not received charter yet
 - Chaplain's office-tabled

VII. Old Business

- **S- 09- 02- 12** A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE FACULTY SENATE TO REINSTATE TWO READING DAYS PER SEMESTER DURING THE 2009- 2010 UNIVERSITY CALENDAR YEAR Approved (15 -3-3)
 - I think this is a great proposal that should be taken into consideration since students are very interested in this.

XI. **Announcements**

XII. **Adjournment: 5:10pm**