

**Order of Business for SMU Student Senate
February 24th, 2009**



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

	Position	Name	
1	Student Body President	Rob Hayden	A
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	
	Cox Senator	Megan Altman	
18	Cox Senator	Marc Bullock	
19	Cox Senator	Ryan Meyer	
20	Cox Senator	Alex Linn	
21	Cox Senator	Eric Park	
22	Cox Senator	John Jose	
23	Cox Senator	Dominique Oulette	A
24	Meadows Senator	Lacy Radcliff	
25	Meadows Senator	Jonathan Moon	
26	Meadows Senator	Whitney Stenger	
27	Meadows Senator	Brenda Gonzalez	
28	Engineering Senator	Joseph Esau	
29	Engineering Senators	Brian Crouch	A
30	Engineering Senator	Barrett Matthews	
31	Law Senator	Stephen Davis	
32	Law Senator	Casey Ragan	A
33	Law Senator	Aaron Martinez	
34	Education Senator	Laura Schur	
35	Education Senator	Jake Torres	
36	Education Senator	Brittney Titus	A
37	African-American Senator	Jay Johnson	
38	International Senator	Yousuf Alkhan	
	Student Concerns Chair	Cullen Pabody	
	Communications Committee Chair	Kellyn Curtis	
	Finance Committee Chair	Regan Owen	
	Membership Committee Chair	Peter Goldschmidt	
	Scholarship Committee	Abby Hoak	A
	Organizations Committee Chair	Paul Sharpe	

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

Democracy Matters:

- Professor Simon, I wanted to start with a story that goes back to August 2007. A transfer student comes into my office and announces that she wants to start an organization called democracy matters. Cody has organized a group of student and made something happen as fast as possible. They have built an organization and have become a presence on campus. They have been above the bar and their programming takes the classroom into the public and has brought a series of interesting topics to campus.
- Dr. David Doyle: I teach in the history department and run the Honors program. I am here to support Democracy matters. There are three critical reasons why it should be supported. It is an organization of intellectual content. It also brings students to the political process in a way that this country desperately needs. I think it is a quintessential student organization on campus and I hope that there is a way that SMU can support them and the history department as well. Questions: Lane: What is a difference between Democracy Matters and the Political Science Symposium? The symposium is more about issues and Democracy Matters is about immediate issues. The Symposium's activities are more geared towards a career way. However, this group is more into participation in the political process. Kobler: Are you asking for a full charter? Yes.
- Cody: We have been recommended for an extended temporary charter and we want to get a full charter. We deal with many issues on the influence of political donations in politics, health care, education, tuition rates... We do basic political activism. What I want to tell you that we have been doing this for three semesters and we really thought we had built the best organization in order to get a full charter. Our nationals expect us to get some support from our organization through a full charter. We identify many ways to resolve the issues that we face.
- Ashley Olson: In the last three semesters we have done several things. First semester we brought an Arizona state representative and a judge and had 75 people attend. Last spring we did a voter registration and voter education table. We also hosted a Missouri state Senator, Jeff Smith. We had a panel discussion where we had professors around the university and the president of Democracy Matters. Last year during elections we had a debate watching party where we had over 100 people. We also drove people to election sites. This spring we had a movie night, we had a valentine table. In order to continue what we do and how we affect the student body we need the support of the school. Jose: Is this the same group of people that attend the meetings? Yes but we also have very well attended events and our focus is to educate students. Bullock: have you been told why they have offered a temporary charter over a full charter? We haven't had a clear response.
- Amy Lee: Democracy Matters has shown great involvement and has been very active on campus. I fully support this organization for a full chartership.
- Cody: I made an effort to gather statements of support from people around campus. We have people from the women's center, from political science department, from CCPA, Women's study, Human Rights... The president of the Association of Black Students, Eliot Collins who wrote a letter of support that was read out loud in the meeting.
- Senator Gonzalez: I'm writing a response piece for the new police website and if any of you have any thoughts or feelings about it.
www.smu.edu/policedepartment
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- Chair Goldsmit: The college prowler is rewriting the portion for SMU and they want as many people as possible to fill out their survey.

www.collegeprowler.com/survey

VI. Officer Reports

President Hayden

- The board of trustees are meeting this Thursday and they are discussing a lot of community service things and Greek life stuff. If you have anything that you would like to be brought up, please let me know by tonight.

Vice President Kobler

- One on ones suspended: I have to leave Friday but I will be back after Spring Break.
- I wanted to remind everyone that we represent the student body and remember to keep it tactful and polite.
- We are looking at calling a student senate/faculty senate meeting after spring break

Secretary Briceno

Code of Conduct Revision

Speaker Reyes

- No report.

Parliamentarian Bennett

- No report

Chief of Staff Ordner

- No report.

Assistant Dean Jones

- No report.

Committee Reports

Organizations – Chair Sharpe

- MOM/ Finance Training Dates
- New Business
 - Extend probationary charter
 - Hip-hop Dance Club (11-0-0)
 - We decided to extend their charter for them to promote their meetings and extend membership.
 - Temporary Charter
 - American Society of Civil Engineers (11-0-0)
- Old Business: Approved. (26-0-0)
 - Full Charter:
 - Democracy matters (11-0-0) They came in seeking full charter and they have 9-10 members that regularly come to the meetings. We have a twelve member rule and that is why we cannot grant full charter. Jose: How many members to they have listed on access? 15. Bullock: How long is the temporary charter? It is 8 weeks. Senator Perkins: As soon as you get twelve members you can come back and we will review your charter. Linn: If they have fifteen. Cody: our e-mail list has over 100 members. We have a difficult meeting time but we are always communicating as a meeting.
 - Kobler: Motion to suspend the rules and move into debate.
 - Lane: We don't oppose this organization but this has been a general rule that we have at least 12 members. This is why we extended the temporary charter to make sure that they were fully prepared for the status.
 - Briceno: I think this is a wonderful organization. I have attended many of their events and you would never know that they only have 5-10 members. I feel that this organization should become fully chartered.
 - Cody: We have two freshman officers and two officers who are juniors.
 - Meyer: Motion to amend the recommendation to a full charter. Passes.

Student Concerns- Chair Aitkenhead

- No report.

Membership – Chair Goldschmidt

- Old Business: Passes (21-0-0)
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- 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.
 - Cullen Pabody – Student Concerns Chair

Scholarship – Chair Hoak

Communications - Chair Curtis

Finance - Chair Owen

- The MOM finance meetings are today at 5:00pm
- New Business
 - EASA- Tabled
 - They wanted to increase the number of tents but we asked them to look into the EPIC fund.
 - One28- \$950
 - They are going on a spring break trip and they need visa-processing fees since it is in Brazil.
- Old Business
 - ISA: \$1988- For their spring event. (Approved 27-0-1)
 - Habitat Charter- \$6000: They have not received charter yet. (Tabled 23-2-3)
 - They are going on a build in Costa Rica.
 - There was a formal complaint filed for the Habitat Charter because we have large amounts requested in the next
 - Motion to table the committee's recommendation.
 - Chaplain's office-tabled.

VII. New Business

- S-09-02-13 A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY TO HAND OUT OFFICIAL DIPLOMAS AT GRADUATION FOR DEDMAN COLLEGE STUDENTS.
 - Kobler: This was brought up last semester and we thought we could solve it through conversations with administrators, however it hasn't worked. For the past three decades, Dedman College has given their students their diplomas personally. This year this has been changed where they plan on mailing them after graduation. This breaks a big tradition first of all. Secondly, the Latin honors will be based on 7 semesters instead of 8 and this hurts many students that are on the edge. The third issue is that on December 5th roughly 75 faculty members in Dedman voted to keep the diplomas. The reason this was changed was because of the time issue and that graduation was moved earlier. There are still four days between final exams and graduation which leaves professors 2 days to grade and submit final grades and 2 days for the registrar's office. Finally, our school wants to become a higher academic university and I think that keeping a tradition like this especially in the oldest college on campus it should be kept the way it has been for the past three decades.
 - Meyer: friendly amendment for *bearing* on line 23.
 - Bullock: How long have they had to get all the information compiled and printed? There was a week between finals and graduation, meaning 5 days.

- Lane: So the Office of the Provost made this decision but Dedman College decided to reverse with this decision? Yes.
- Hayden: (POI) One of the justifications was that other universities don't do it, it is more costly and they don't do it for December graduation.
- Bennett: Friendly amendment on line 30 to remove by or with? Also, is there any reason why seniors take tests earlier than the rest of the Student Body? Yes.
- Holland: Do you know if there is enough time to get the diplomas in time? They will have a four-day period to prepare the diplomas.
- Jose: Does the Provosts' decision to delay diplomas affect other schools? It does but Dedman is the only one that has a diploma ceremony. I know that Cox would not be as affected because they already mail their diplomas I think.
- Hayden: Would you agree that the key to getting this going would be for students to know that they used to get a diploma and now they do not? Yes I agree. This is the only issue I've ever heard of that students from all areas agree on.
- Holland: If this legislation gets passed, would you continue fighting for other schools aside from Dedman? Yes but I started with Dedman because
- Gonzalez: Do these affect double majors? It still affects it because of the diploma's ceremony in the Dedman School.
- Jose: When you meet with the Provosts would you consider divorcing the issue of getting diplomas at graduation from getting a final grade for Latin Honors? I would be willing to take anything but I think that they are both important.
- Perkins: Have you considered getting alumni from Dedman to support this? Yes I'm willing to make sure that this is done if it can put the tradition to be put back in place.

XI. Announcements

XII. Adjournment: 4:45pm