

**Order of Business for SMU Student Senate  
October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008**



- I. Call to Order**
- 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	A
Dedman II Senator	Robbie Krupp	
Dedman II Senator	Ryan Pitts	
Dedman II Senator	Derek Sangston	A
Cox Senator	Megan Altman	A
Cox Senator	Marc Bullock	
Cox Senator	Ryan Meyer	
Cox Senator	Alex Linn	
Cox Senator	Eric Park	
Cox Senator	Andrew Robinson	
Meadows Senator	Lacy Radcliff	A
Meadows Senator	Jonathan Moon	
Meadows Senator	Whitney Stenger	
Meadows Senator	Brenda Gonzalez	
Engineering Senator	Mia Krueger	
Engineering Senator	Joseph Esau	
Engineering Senators	Brian Crouch	
Engineering Senator	Barrett Matthews	
Law Senator	Stephen Davis	
Law Senator	Casey Ragan	
Law Senator	Aaron Martinez	
Education Senator	Brittney Titus	
African-American Senator	Jay Johnson	
Asian-American Senator	Shakeel Mehdi	A
Hispanic-American Senator	Sarah Acosta	
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	
Student Concerns Chair	Steven Aitkenhead	

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

- Hellen Lo: I am here from USA Today. I will be back two weeks from today to present what it is all about. This is a program that can enhance your living and learning

environment on campus. Ultimately is to create civic engagement and participation. I wanted to come today and hand out buttons to get all students to get out and vote. With the 2008 elections heating up, I feel it is very important to stay informed and engaged. Thank you.

- Heather Graham: I am here on behalf of the Leadershape Institute. Basically this is a week long institute for leaders from campuses across the nation. I want to encourage you to continue to support this program in any possible way. It helped me grow and I feel more confident as a leader because of this program. It encourages each individual to be a leader and to be the best leader you can be.
- Italian Club: Brandy Alvarez; I am here to ask that you not withdraw our charter. One of our professors is on maternity leave and the other is on the process of retirement. This is why we have had issues maintaining the club this semester. We want to try to keep this club open for students and I feel responsible for the longevity of the club and I hope to see it grow. We have had great success in the past even before we were chartered. We have an agenda but we need a little more time to pull something together. Matthews: How many students study Italian? Ms. Alvarez: 160 but we have around 25 students attend events with a core group of about 6 members.
- Elliot Collins: I am here on behalf of Carol Clyde and leadershape. I have noticed it is a unknown prerequisite to be a high ranking leader on campus. I made countless friends and connections in this program. It emphasizes the importance of leadership and especially integrity. This funding helps pay for every student to attend for free and I want to keep this program going.
- Carol Clyde: I am the campus coordinator for our regional Leadershape institute. We send around 35 students every year from SMU. There are 6 students who have participated that are in senate. I want to encourage senate to pass the funding for this program. We wanted to program to be open for everyone without financial concerns. Senate has been supportive of this program for years. Bullock: Have you had the same popularity from moving it from May to December? Dr. Clyde: We have a higher interest because of this change in the date. Sizemore: Are you asking for more funding or for awareness? Dr. Clyde: I am asking both. We did request funding and the recommendation was reduced from what we asked for but also to encourage students. We hope that senate will fund for half of the curriculum fee which should be around \$7250. Hayden: If the recommendation stays the same what other sources will you use? Dr. Clyde: We would find money somewhere or cut back money somewhere but it wouldn't be as easy.
- Indian Student Association: We are having our Diwali Show this Saturday in HT. We have music, a show, dinner and it is filled with Indian culture and fun! It costs \$6 for pre-sale and \$8 at the door. Also, tomorrow we have a teaser from 12:30-2pm.
- Dr. White- Vice President of Student Affairs: I just got back from New York. I have been going around city to city getting people excited about the second century campaign. I am here to introduce myself and answer your questions. What I do is the oversight of everything that goes on in student activities, RLSH, Hughes-Trigg, Dedman center, the career center. People ask me what the priorities from my office are and I always say I have three. The first is student success. This means that every student is able to achieve his/her hopes and dreams as well as high GPA's and graduating in four years. The second goal is facilitating student learning. I find that learning in and out of the classroom are tied to one another therefore my job also includes student learning. We know that the focus of the students is their achievement inside the classroom but it wouldn't be so great if it weren't for their achievements outside the classroom. Our third goal is that we want to be an exemplary office in student affairs. I want people to look at SMU and make their models after our programs. There are the three overarching goals of Student Affairs. In terms of more tangible, immediate programs, I am working on several things. The first major program that I am currently working on is sophomore housing. Secondly, I am focused on implementing the task force recommendations. Thirdly, we want to invest on some of our facilities. Examples of this are the health center, Hughes-Trigg or the Band

Hall. We have a whole list of facilities that we would like to renovate and we hope that during the campaign we can get people to invest. Finally, we want to make sure that we work with all students to create a closer relationship. I think that we can do a better job of making sure that people connect with one another besides from the organizations that people are a part of. QUESTIONS: Matthews: Was the engineering name tied to the Unbridled Campaign? Dr. White: It is probably partly for the campaign but he has always been tied . Sizemore: I have heard it through the grapevine that SMU is going towards the tuitionless program like Stanford. Dr. White: This depends on how the campaign goes because we need to lower our dependence on our tuition and grow our endowment. Meyer: What other buildings are being renovated/built? Dr. White: HT, Band Hall, Health Center, Interfaith Worship Center, Dormitories. Hayden: Would you share with everyone some of the things we have or have not done in regards of the task force recommendations? Dr. White: We have moved on most if not all of the recommendations. The biggest ones we have worked on are the health center, the medical amnesty and good Samaritan policies, the social registration policy, extending the hours of Dedman and HT, fund for late night programming including off-campus excursions. Some of the academic requirements, we have encouraged faculty to take attendance, report any concerns about students, and many more! Bennett: What is the status on the Friday class issue? Dr. White: We identified a number of larger courses that we thought could be offered on Fridays and many actually are but it is not every single class. This is for two reasons, the task force but also a space issue in order to maximize our classroom usage. Holland: What is your vision in regards to the sophomore housing and could you compare it to any existing dorms? Dr. White: We are just taking the first steps. It will take four years from deciding what it will be like to opening the doors. We are currently looking at different firms who are presenting different models. I suspect we will end up building suite style housing. We are also exploring the option of residential colleges. Bullock: Have you found a proactive response from faculty about the task force recommendations? Dr. White: overall we got a lot of positive feedback from faculty and the public in general. But I think the implementation phase is always a little rocky but we are working and molding all programs to be the most efficient. Sizemore: In regards to grades, is there any way to hold teachers accountable for putting them up? Dr. White: That would have to be redirected to Dr. Foster. Thank You!

## VI. Officer Reports

### *President Hayden*

- EPIC Committee- 1 more person
- The USA Today lady has been in contact with me for a while. They want to bring USA Today to campus. If you are interested in learning more about it please let me know.
- The leadershape program is a great program and I went. Kuddos to the program but make your own decisions.
- New Student Programs are looking for mustang corral directors and AARO directors. I was a mustang corral leader and it was fun!
- I had a meeting with faculty senate and we discussed faculty evaluations. They are looking into the electronic process that the Meadows school does. I would like to have our own student evaluations that would be available for the students. I don't know how easy it is to make our own pickaprof.com. I presented this in a better note to celebrate the teachers with some sort of teacher honor roll. This way you realize which are the best professors according to the students. If you have any interest or are very tech savy I want to work on this with you!
- As far as the subcommittees: Second-year housing, advising... Administrators are asking for reports from each of the committees. I told them I would have a mini report in two weeks or so.

### *Vice President Kobler*

- I sent out an e-mail about the liaison program today. They finalized the spreadsheet with all the updated contact information for all organizations. Also, about two weeks ago I

sent out a letter template for you to send to your organizations and I will send it to you again so you can send it out.

- I want to encourage you to write legislation. I know many of you are working hard but we need something in writing that we can take to administrators.

*Secretary Briceno*

- Tuesday October 28<sup>th</sup>: What Scares you about SMU- You've seen our office, it is decorated amazingly. I have a little box in the office only received a few notes so far from people from SAMSA. We are going to have a table at the crosswalk so dress up and come pass out candy. And I've got candy for you!
- Student Code of Conduct- The calendar is on the website and I am hoping that the form will go up on the website by tomorrow. I am sending an email out o all the faculty to remind them of all the changes to the code and tell anyone else to send in their requests.
- Dean Reception- Every year we have a dean's reception and this year we are going to invite president turner. It is a meet and greet type of thing, we are thinking of having it around the flagpole and having bbq to get more student involvement. Dates are possibly Nov. 13 or 20<sup>th</sup>.
- President Leadership Summit- Wednesday October 29<sup>th</sup> – Ray Hunt is speaking, he is a great person and has done a lot for this university. I hope that all will attend, president turner and Mr. Hunt will be so excited. Rob: They are really down to earth and love SMU.
- Senate Star- This week, no one emailed me saying they did anything amazing so anyways, JJ is this weeks senate star.
- Polos should be in soon, Im going to keep looking into that.

*Speaker Reyes*

- No report.

*Parliamentarian Bennett*

- No report.

*Chief of Staff Ordner*

- Thanks to Senators Perkins, Esau, Alkhan
- Park N' Pony: I feel that parking is a big problem around campus and that there is a lack of communications between that office and the students. I am going to make a subcommittee of my own with Chair Aitkenhead. Linn: I think it is excessive that new student ID's cost \$25. Matthews: Who is the head of Parking? Ordner: Mark Rhoads. Stenger: I think it would be a good idea if they could e-mail students if they have a ticket and also a direct site to pay for them. Aitkenhead: The concerns committee is dividing into smaller subcommittees and one of them is parking. Steitz: If you want a new student ID do you have to go across 75? JJ: No, they will have a satellite office.
- Please let students know about student senate scholarships because it is an awesome opportunity.

*Assistant Dean Jones*

- Thank you for everything!
- Monday we are having a candidate on campus and there is a time to have the Interview for Coordinator

## **VII. Committee Reports**

*Organizations – Chair Sharpe*

- Recommendations
  - Revoke Charter: (4-0-0) These groups were given an extra week to comply with the MOM's recommendation. We are taking Italian Club out of the list and bring it back next week.
    - Campus Conservatives
    - Cox Entrepreneur
    - Italian Club
    - Chess Club
    - Eta Kappa Nu
    - Chinese Club

- Hindu Student Organization
  - Probationary Status: (4-0-0)
    - Institute of Transportation Engineers: *this group is not only for engineers.*
  - Chartered Status: (4-0-0)
    - Baseball Club: we don't have one at SMU. They are competing and already held tryouts.

- Charter Review Meetings

*Student Concerns- Chair Aitkenhead*

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*Membership – Chair Goldschmidt*

- Old Business
  - Positive Recommendations: We received a complain about his integrity and what he would do to student senate. It came from someone within senate. Motion to table: Passes.
    - Christopher Campbell (5-0-0) Dedman II Senator

*Scholarship – Chair Hoak*

- Choose interviewee's
- Banner out on Monday

*Communications - Chair Curtis*

- Promote Senate Scholarships- we made flyers, stake signs and a banner.
- Tailgate Update: We got funded for the shutter shades, tent and coozies. 300 shutter shades and 200 coozies. We got donations from Vitamin Water to hand out but we still have no donations. If anyone has any ideas please let me know.

*Finance - Chair Owen*

- Old Business ( all recommendations approved)
  - PC (speakers)- \$0: They wanted to bring in a second speaker but we thought this was not essential.
  - LeaderShape- \$3700\*\*: this is funding for 10 participants. They do heavily rely financially on student senate and we really encourage groups to become self-sustaining. Kobler: Could they come back and ask for money again if they can't find any more funding? Owen: No. Motion to fund the committee recommendation. Passes.
  - KPNI SMU Radio- \$194: This is the funding for one of the mini computers.
  - Student Senate \$1066: This is to fund coozies and shutter shades. Motion to see as old business. Motion approved. Passes.
- New Business
  - Asian Council \$200: This is to fund the Great Wall Street Journal.
  - MENC \$696: Undergraduate group that is going to the largest music conference in the world. They are asking for the registration and hotel for 10 people.
  - Health Law Assoc. \$1180: Send people to the TX state bar convention. They are carpooling 8 students who have never been.
- Look over requests each week

**VII. Old Business**

- No Submission

**IX. New Business**

**X. Senatorial Forum**

- Faculty Senate- evaluations. I touched on this earlier but I am interested in hearing about what each of your schools do. The Forbes magazine ranking came out and it put us as #13 which was highly influenced by teacher evaluations. I have brought this up to faculty senate and to the provost but this is a sensitive subject. They feel that things can become malicious and might cause negativity. What I am looking into is having an "honor roll" for teachers. I would like to have all evaluations to be online, where you are forced to complete it before receiving your grade. This would be great to turn a positive spin and it

would allow students to have a legitimate source on whether or not the teacher is very highly sought.

- Bennet: If you pitch this to the students as pick-a-prof whereas it will help them pick their teachers. But I don't get the honor roll system. Hayden: The point of this is to make it mandatory and have everyone complete it and get the most results. The honor roll system would be who would have the highest rating. Meyer: How is the university going to publish this? Hayden: I don't know but I am looking into the most general way we could do this. Meyer: if we could get the university to publish the average grade of teachers from the evaluations. Bullock: Do you think making them public would force teachers to change? Hayden: I think that their focus is tenure and that is already looked at partly through student evaluations. Linn: I would recommend that we require students to fill them out online before getting their grades. Also it would be great if we could put them on the senate website to draw more attention. Park: What do you think if we could have the teacher's name be a link so you could read his review. Kobler: I wanted to echo how this would become an honor system that would encourage teachers to excel. Hayden: My thought is that if we want the information from faculty we will need to spin it in a positive way. However, if we want to do this on our own we can but we need someone much harder. Holland: I think we should also demonstrate the drop rate of the class because I feel that this is very important for gagging the classes. Johnson: what would be valuable for me would be knowing how successful students were in the class. Gonzalez: I have had several students come up to me concerned that these online surveys are not being done anonymously as they were told they were going to be.

**XI. Announcements**

- Gamma Chi's for IFC Recruitment
- Chi-O Fashion with a Passion

**XII. Adjournment**