



UNT SGA 44<sup>th</sup> Student Senate Fall 2016 Session  
Hale & Cole Administration  
*Wednesday, November 9, 2016*

- I. Call to Order [5:30 p.m.]**
- II. Opening Ceremonies**
  - a. Pledge of Allegiance**
  - b. Texas Pledge**
- III. Roll Call**
- IV. Guest Speaker**
  - a. Tyler Hicks, Graduate Assistant, The Mary Jo and V. Lane Rawlins Fine Arts Series**
    - i.** [5:32 p.m.] We are the longest running program at UNT; this is our 113<sup>th</sup> year. We brought in Humans of New York and other events. Sometimes we bring speakers, sometimes it is comedy shows or other events. We have proposals currently out for next year. This is a really easy Google Form that I will send to you that takes approximately a minute. If you know of an artist, group, musician, or speaker, you can recommend them and we will try to get them here. We may not be able to bring huge names, but we have brought some pretty big names in years past.
    - ii.** Q, Sen. Talati: So the form is for getting people to come in the spring?
      - 1.** A: Next fall.
    - iii.** Q, Sen. Muric: Do you have a committee who decides who we accept into the series?
      - 1.** A: Yes; it is students, staff, and faculty, and we take suggestions then make a proposal. Through a voting process, we decide who comes.
  - b. Hannah Horick and Adam Miller, TSGC Presentation**



- i. The Texas Student Government Coalition is designed to bring together Student Governments from across the state in order to advocate for the legislative interests of Texas College Students.
- ii. Q, Sen. C. Johnson: How are we discussing working with the coalition if we aren't a part of the coalition yet?
  1. A, Sen. Horick: We're working as an interested group right now and can join at any time that UNT's SGA wants to.
- iii. Q, Sen. Fraser: Is there a way for us to leave the coalition if we want to?
  1. A: This is something that we could discuss within a committee regarding the Coalition. One possibility is that it might be able clarified within the Coalition bylaws, but given our relationship with the existing leadership, I don't see why we wouldn't be able to leave at anytime.
- iv. Q, Chris Lee: Isn't this effectively a lobbying agency?
  1. A: Essentially, yes. I agree that we still need to talk to the UNT Governmental Relations Office before making a decision to join.
- v. Q, Chris Lee: What would be the benefits joining this organization over having some sort of legislative activism day like UNT has held in the past?
  1. A: We have the opportunity to steer the direction of the coalition and its bylaws in the beginning. There are benefits to joining but it isn't detrimental if we don't. The Coalition gives us a louder lobbying voice that would allow for us to discuss some issues that UNT may be passionate about and have more voices lobbying for that same issue.
- vi. Q, Sen. C. Johnson: Are we doing too much as students by joining this coalition? Clearly there are departments that are designed to advocate for us.



1. A: The Coalition is designed to let us advocate for students in a way that perhaps the Governmental Relations office can't. Sometimes the University has different ideas about what students want, and this is a chance for us to represent those views.
- vii. Q, Sen. Muric: I would like to see this brought to the students before we make any decisions.
  1. A: I absolutely understand. I'd propose instead that we bring the legislative goals to the students. I think that we are qualified to decide whether or not SGA should join the coalition, but I would love to have student input on the particular issues. I don't think that we can advocate for students without consulting them on the legislative goals.

## **V. New Business**

### **a. Discuss and Vote**

#### **i. F2016-R1 – Pets on Campus Resolution**

1. Sen. Talati: Motion for 10-minute period of discussion.
2. Q, Sen. Talati: How would we deal with allergies?
  - a. A: There would be research done before implementation. Currently, furniture is covered for cats and cleaning services are used between residents.
3. Sen. Sennet: I think this is a great idea. Obviously it won't be implemented right away. They will have time to adjust policies. This gives students who can't afford an apartment, an opportunity to have a pet.
4. Q, Sen. T. Miller: Are there any fees?
  - a. A: Yes
5. Sen. Alattray: Is it possible that Housing would kill this legislation?



- a.** A: Yes, but I will advocate for it in order to prevent that.
- 6.** Q, Sen. Fraser: Is there a timeline for implementation?
  - a.** A: No; that would fall to Housing.
- 7.** Sen. Muric: I am completely in support of this. It would be cool if we could test it out and do trial dorms.
- 8.** Sen. M. Mercado: I called Stephens College and when they started their program, which is the longest standing policy, and they started with two students. I agree that a trial like that would be beneficial.
- 9.** Q, Sen. Hearn: This is just for cats and dogs?
  - a.** A: Yes, I left it ambiguous, but that's what I had in mind.
- 10.** Q, Sen. Sobocinski: Are the pets only allowed to be in the rooms?
  - a.** A: Yes. As far as the building goes, they are in the room or outside.
- 11.** Q, Sen. T. Miller: Is there a weight limit for animals? And how strict would they be on that?
  - a.** A: There is a weight limit, but the current policy doesn't disallow any specific breeds.
- 12.** Q, Sen. Lotze: What about students are fearful of animals?
  - a.** A: The policy would be specifically in an area of a specific hall.
- 13.** Sen. T. Miller: The students that I have spoken with are in support.
- 14.** Sen. Muric: Some of the students that I have spoken to are concerned about whether it's humane to keep an animal in a small space.
- 15.** Sen. Corpus: Motion to vote on F2016-R1 by clicker.



**a.** Vote: Resolution passes

**ii. F2016-R2 – On-Campus Childcare Facility Resolution**

- 1.** Sen. Horick: Motion to open the floor for discussion
- 2.** Q, Sen. Belokin: Who does this get proposed to?
  - a.** A: Everyone.
- 3.** Sen. Sennet: I also like this resolution. For non-traditional students especially, it's just such a good idea.
- 4.** Q, Sen. C. Johnson: Do you have ideas for childcare spaces until Kerr would be remodeled?
  - a.** A: I was thinking of adapting existing programs like Nest Watchers.
  - b.** Q: Do you think that any of the rooms on campus are suitable for that? I like the idea, but I just worry about the details of that clause.
  - c.** A: I think there are some, but the administration would need to select them.
- 5.** Q, Sen. M. Mercado: Do you know if there are already ideas for Kerr Cafeteria?
  - a.** A: Last I spoke to this office, there wasn't a plan
- 6.** Sen. Sobocinski: I am worried about Kerr as a location because of traffic and the number of people coming in and out of that area.
- 7.** Sen. E. Mercado: Are the financials of this to be determined?
  - a.** A: Yes
- 8.** Sen. Nathan: Perhaps there could be a designated entrance for the parents and children.
- 9.** Sen. Muric: Would this be free for parents?
  - a.** A: I would love to be on the committee to decide that. Some universities charge very low hourly rates, but I



would love for it to be free or similar to those

\$2.25/hour fees

- 10.** Sen. T. Miller: In the spring, I worked on setting up an Academic Success Center. That is already in the works, but many of those offices are moving from Sage to the Union. Sage might be a good location.
- 11.** Q, Sen. Fraser: What age range are you considering?

  - a.** A: I did not have a range in mind
- 12.** John Carr: During either Winter Break or Spring Break, there will be construction zones in one of the areas you mentioned. Also Sage will be under renovation.
- 13.** Sen. M. Mercado: As far as traffic, the CDL is in a terrible location and there aren't huge issues there. We already have small humans in congested areas.
- 14.** Sen. T. Miller: I think we are all in support of this, but for those of you with logistical concerns, much of it is indeterminate until the plans are under way. We can't really dictate things like age now, but we can use the resolution to indicate student support.
- 15.** Sen. Muric: I like the idea of drop-in childcare, but I have no idea where we would be placing that temporarily. Students are not in favor of the location, but support the resolution.
- 16.** Sen. C. Johnson: The language on placement and authority are a little unclear.
- 17.** Sen. Sanders: As a student with children, I have spoken with others like me, and this is the number one concern we have. This effects many transfer and non-traditional students, and it's a huge expense. I'm hugely in support of this.
- 18.** Sen. Nathan: I feel like people are looking into the specifics of this too closely.



19. Sen. E. Mercado: Motion to limit discussion to 3 minutes.
20. COS Hester: Please consider amending it to address your concerns.
21. Q, Sen. A. Miller: What are your thoughts on hours?
  - a. A: Running until night classes end.
  - b. Sen. A. Miller: It could also be a better idea to subsidize existing Denton drop-in childcare centers.
22. Sen. M. Mercado: I think there is an implication that everything is contingent upon whether or not these are possible.
23. Sen. C. Johnson: Motion to extend discussion
24. Sen. A. Miller: Motion to strike "Board of Regents"
25. Sen. C. Johnson: Motion to amend bill
  - a. Second, Sen. Corpus
  - b. Vote: Amendment passes
26. Sen. Belokin: Motion for Chris Lee to speak
27. Q, Sen. Belokin: Since you are our contact with the Board of Regents, do you think this language is important?
  - a. A, Lee: Not really. As far as the resolution is concerned, the particular verbiage is less important
28. Sen. Muric: Motion to end period of discussion and open period of voting by clicker
  - a. Vote: Resolution passes

## **VI. Officer Reports**

### **a. Chief of Staff [6:44 p.m.]**

- i. If you are in the office, please don't take anything out of the grey closet. The stuff under the Keurig is communal, but the large closet is GSCs. Also, please be mindful of marks left on the workspace tables. I've also started looking into the banquet for the end of the semester on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>



1. Q, Sen. E. Mercado: Could we get an extension cord for the workspace?

a. A: Yes

**b. Director of Leadership & Development 646**

i. Interns had a presentation from Dr. McGuinness today about the things her office provides. The next intern event is Shirts to Sacks. Come out to support them. I have also started planning the Spring SGA Retreat. That will be at the end of January

**c. Director of Administration & Policy**

i. Tomorrow there is a Spirit and Traditions Interest Committee meeting. If you are in an external committee and did not receive...

**d. Director of Public Relations**

i. SGA website is updated. Nametags came in for new senators. Working hard to publicize Texas Higher Education Committee Board applications. Please help promote that application.

**e. Director of Student Affairs**

i. Eagle's Nest closes Friday and Raupe closes ...

**f. Director of Campus Outreach**

i. We will be ordering and distributing Green Books and scantrons. Also looking to transition Green Pages to a new department as it continues into the future.

**g. President**

i. We need Senate to vote on hours and compensation for the Election Commissioner. It should have been done earlier, but there was a lack of communication and understanding. Obviously, next week is the voting for the referenda. We need to decide how much John will be compensated in total. It is difficult to set a flat payment, and since he is comparable to an Executive, it would be \$8.50/hour and we would need to set office hours.



1. John Carr: In the fall, I work exclusively with the referenda. I review the election code, meet with Christa, and made decisions on the election code.
  2. Chris Lee: I suggest that we set certain weeks during the semester, and they are paid like an Exec during those weeks.
  3. Sen. Horick: University employees cannot work more than 25 hours per week. How many hours do you currently work?
    - a. A, Carr: About 17 hours.
  4. Sen. Horick: So at most, John can work 8 hours per week.
  5. Sen. C. Johnson: I move to pay John Carr \$8.50/hour for 32 hours during the fall semester.
    - a. Vote: Motion passes
- ii. Thank you to everyone who came to the Election Watch Party. I also had a meeting about the holiday lighting of the Library Mall. Expect a bill next week to approve that cost.

#### **h. Vice President**

- i. Thank you for those who have filled out 1:1s. Also please fill out the Doodle Polls so we can set up meetings with Deans.
  1. Q, Sen. Hearn: Would you still like to sit in on meetings?
    - a. A: Yes, if you could please fill out the Doodle poll.

### **VII. College Reports**

#### **a. Arts & Sciences**

- i. No report

#### **b. Business**

- i. Tomorrow there is a virtual career fair from 2-3 p.m. It is open to all majors. Someone contacted me about being a new COB senator. We are also working on getting a bus shelter on Maple between the BLB and Kerr. We are also looking into hosting a FAFSA night to help people fill those out.

#### **c. Education**



- i. Brandon and I got our resolutions passed.

**d. Engineering**

- i. Referenda voting opens on Monday. Please encourage students to vote in those, especially if you are in large classes.

**e. Merchandising, Hospitality & Tourism**

- i. On Wednesday, we have an Executive lecture that is open to all students.

**f. Music**

- i. Still looking for answers for the music vending machines. The ATM thing is moving along, and the Music fraternities will be fundraising soon.

**g. Public Affairs & Community Service**

- i. No report.

**h. Visual Arts & Design**

- i. UNT bragging point: our Fashion Design program is nationally ranked.

**i. Honors**

- i. No report.

**j. Mayborn School of Journalism**

- i. I have found someone who is interested in becoming a senator. Also working with ambassadors.

**k. Information**

- i. No report.

**l. TAMS**

- i. No report.

**VIII. Adjournment [7:20 p.m.]**

**IX. Announcements**

- a. Sen. M. Mercado: There is a UPC event hosting a slam poet and open mic night next door.