



UNT SGA 44th Student Senate Fall 2016 Session
Hale & Cole Administration
Wednesday, October 26, 2016

I. Call to Order [5:33 p.m.]

II. Opening Ceremonies

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Texas Pledge

III. Roll Call

a. 36 senators present

IV. Guest Speaker

a. Muhammad Kara, UPC Education Coordinator

i. [Note: Did not speak at this meeting.]

[Announcement] Sen. Brandon Corpus: Because the room is full today and there is lots of discussion on the agenda, I will be adhering strictly to Roberts' Rules of Order. We will be using a speaker list and sticking to it closely.

b. Christa Coffey: Fee presentation. [5:36 p.m.]

i. From a student perspective, there are advantages and disadvantages to each a referendum and a resolution. As Senators, there is information that you may know that regular students may not. Keep this in mind when making decisions. Additional knowledge empowers us to make decisions on behalf of the student body, even if students disagree. Another potential challenge is whether or not you know the Administration's perspective. In the end, you need to vote for what is best for students.

ii. The only way to approach a new fee is to use a referendum that is approved by the students, then the President, then the Board of Regents, then the legislature. I want to provide you with a little bit of the reality of the complicated machine that is a university. In a legislative year, the University has certain priorities and must consider what is too much to ask for. In this case, we know that the legislature and the comptroller have a pretty negative view of fee raises. They may not want to take that risk of asking for fees and potentially losing other requests. Dr. With is putting together a presentation about university fees if you all are interested in seeing that.



1. Q, Sen. Belokin: Is it potentially insulting to the President to ask for a fee raise?

a. A: I appreciate that you would think about that. I can't speak for him, and I don't think it's insulting per se, but I just want y'all to know some of the other perspectives. If the fee is a priority, great, but it may not be. In the end, you need to do what the students want. I don't want you to avoid doing what you think is best out of fear.

c. Pres. Hale: Regarding the Veto of F2016-2 and F2016-3 [5:46 p.m.]

- i. I would like to take the time to let the Senate know that I am considering the use of veto power on F2016-2 and F2016-3 that were passed on October 19, 2016. I believe these bills did not receive proper consideration by the Senate when they were drafted and debated on, such that it would be irresponsible to send them to the student body for a vote.
- ii. Regarding F2016-2, the Transportation Fee increase. Rather than giving this bill any consideration at the October 19th meeting, it was immediately voted upon and passed regardless of the fact that it is unclear whether or not the suggested increase of "from \$3.50/hour to an amount not to exceed \$5/hour" will provide the appropriate funding for effective changes to be made to the University's transportation system. The Office of Transportation Services was not properly consulted about how much the fee needs to be increased and how any fee increase will be implemented.
- iii. Moving on the F2016-3, the Carbon Neutrality Fee. This bill received a tremendous amount of debate, but despite this fact I do not feel like it was properly understood. Let's also remember that the first time it was voted on it did not pass. A re-voted was improperly called and then when before it was properly call a Senator spoke out of order in favor of the bill and it passed. The purchase of Renewable Energy Credits would not actually reduce the amount of carbon that UNT emits to zero, doing so would only make it appear that way. The bill does state that this money might also be used for "verifiable carbon offsets" such as planting trees or installing solar panels. But UNT already has the student funded We Mean Green Fund which exists for projects such as these. I believe that



asking students to pay another fee, even if it is just a dollar per credit hour, is not a sound decision when we already have the means of accomplishing the intent of this bill which is to reduce UNT's impact on the environment.

- iv. That leads me to my third point, which is to say that I support the ends that each of these bills hope to achieve. I agree that we need a better transportation system. I agree that UNT should do more to lessen our impact on the environment. I do not think that F2016-2 and F2016-3 are the proper means of achieving those ends at this time because they propose an increase in student fees, which the current political climate does not support. It is no secret that the Texas State Legislature has said they will not support an increase in student fees, and thus our UNT System Board of Regents will not be keen to approve any fee increases that will then go before the legislature.
- v. This now begs the question, should SGA have students vote on a referendum that we know for all intents and purposes will not come to fruition? My answer is no. To have students vote on these referendums would be irresponsible and undermine the sense of trust that we, SGA, have been working to establish with the student body. The voice of the student body is an important thing to preserve on a university campus, and I feel that utilizing it for both of these bills would be using it in vain. I would be comfortable signing off on a bill that I know we can deliver on, and I do not feel that sense of confidence with F2016-2 and F2016-3.
- vi. Finally, I want to reiterate that I have not taken any actions on either bills at this time, but that I am considering a veto. I have not vetoed either bill yet because I want to be fair in my approach as President and allow you, the Senators, a chance to respond and overturn any possible veto should that be the course of action you decide to take.
- vii. It is at this point that we come to a problem and two possible avenues forward. The problem is that the Student Constitution does not specifically give the Senate the power to override a veto, which is something I strongly believe needs to be included in the Student Constitution and ByLaws but that is a discussion for another day. However, Article IV, Section 8, item H of the Student Constitution does state the following:



- viii. “H) The Student Senate shall have the power and duty to perform any other actions as may be deemed necessary and proper but are not explicitly provided for in this document or the Student Government Association Bylaws.”
- ix. It is my belief that the power to overturn a veto would be provided for in this “necessary and proper clause”, however it would need to be up to the SGA Supreme Court to determine such a matter since there is no stipulated voting process (simple majority, absolute majority, 2/3 majority).
- x. The second option that exists is for a motion to rescind a previous motion be adopted by this body that would rescind the passage of F2016-2 and F2016-3, in which case a veto would not have to be used.
 1. Q, Sen. A. Miller: Have you spoken with the Board of Regents?
 - a. A, Pres. Hale: The Student on the Board of Regents believes that it would not pass.
 2. Q, Sen. Talati: Given your opinion on these, what should we do if you agree with the ends that these referenda are trying to accomplish?
 - a. A: For transportation, we do need more money and this will require a fee increase, but it won’t happen during the political climate of this year.
 - b. A: Regarding Carbon Neutrality, I think it is noble and we can work towards it. We can fund projects through the We Mean Green Fund rather than purchasing RECs. Discovery Park might also be a good testing ground before we apply things to UNT Campus
 3. Q, Sen. Horick: I will be interning with the Texas Legislature in the Spring, meaning that we will have a former member of SGA in direct contact with those tasked with discussing this legislation. Would you consider that in your decision regarding the political climate instead of delaying this issue for two years?

V. New Business

a. Read and Discuss

i. F2016-R1 – Pets on Campus Resolution [5:58 p.m.]

1. Sen. M. Mercado: Reading of the resolution
2. Q, Sen. Grose: What classifies as a single-occupancy rooms?



- a.** A: Single-occupancy includes private rooms, matchbox rooms, or single occupancy rooms with suite cooking areas. These include Honors, Legends single rooms, Mozart single rooms, College Inn matchbox rooms, etc.
 - b.** I have spoken to James Fairchild, mostly about College Inn where doors are outward facing instead of into interior hallways. I left it mostly up to UNT Housing because I can't make those decisions.
- 3.** Q, Sen. Ramirez: Are the colleges you have listed in the resolution implementing these policies?

 - a.** A: Yes, and I spoke to several of these colleges about their policies.
- 4.** Q, Sen. Garcia: How large are these rooms?

 - a.** A, Sen. Ramirez: About 2/3 the size of a regular double room.
- 5.** Q, Sen. Fraser: Would we be the largest school to implement this? Are there any other schools that allow pets?

 - a.** A: Yes, we would by far be the largest school. There are no schools anywhere near as large as UNT that have a policy like this. James said he can't promise implementation, but he can promise consideration.
- 6.** Q, Sen. Belokin: Do you think UNT would partner with a local No-Kill Shelter?

 - a.** A: I wanted to include that because I'm very passionate about it. I think we are big on pioneering new ideas, and hope that it would be something we could consider later on. Realistically, this will probably start as a pilot program and be small. Coordinating with a shelter would be years down the road.
- 7.** Q, Sen. Talati: Why don't we have this in place already?

 - a.** A: The most common objections are concerns about noise, allergies, and damage to halls. To counter those points, I would argue that we currently have HDs and AHDs who live on campus and have animals. They have a very strict policy on what they are and are not allowed to do. For students, they would not likely be allowed to have such a large animal, making any issues even less likely.



- 8.** Q, Sen. Sennet: My biggest concern is noise and damage. I have a puppy and she has accidents. Dorm walls are also really thin and that could be a problem.
- a.** A: There are rules regarding noise complaints. If there are complaints beyond a certain number, a resident can be asked to take the animal home.
 - b.** At Eckerd, you have to bring a family pet (existing) rather than being able to purchase a new animal, this helps prevent the challenges of younger, untrained animals.
- 9.** Q, Sen. Sennet: Would there be any sort of training program in place if we implemented a shelter dog program? Also will there be pet fees?
- a.** A: There would be a fee system in place regarding pet charges and fees for any damages. Students would be responsible for any damages.
- 10.** Q, Sen. Alvarado: What would happen if students are leaving animals in their rooms for long periods of time? Is it humane to have them in such a small space?
- a.** A: I believe these are responsibilities that fall on students. They need to decide if they have time and means to accommodate it appropriately. In the HD rules, it does say that animals are not allowed to stay inside for long stretches of time (8 hours).
 - b.** A, Sen. Smithson: Dogs are crate animals and are not harmed by smaller spaces.
- 11.** Q, Sen. Gregory: Why upperclassmen? There are single occupancy rooms for underclassmen as well. Also, are there charges or provisions for damages?
- a.** A: Most other policies only allow upperclassmen. It's my line of thinking that they are generally more responsible. Damages would be reported to FAs and charges posted to students' accounts.
- 12.** Q, Sen. Alattray: My main concern is the mess and any additional responsibilities on RAs.



- a. A: There shouldn't be any additional burdens on RAs and they should just treat these rooms normally during safety checks etc. Any messes or damages would just be reported, not fall to the RAs.

13. Q, Sen. Hawkins: How does it play out if an animal harms someone?

- a. A: The owner takes all responsibility. Also, dogs are required to be leashed at all times on campus. It would just be a liability for the owner.

14. Q, Sen. Fraser: Do you believe there is enough greenspace for dogs?

- a. A: I do. There is a lot of green space between Maple and Clark. Also we also discussed the possibility of a dog run.

15. Q, Sen. A. Miller: Can you put this on the Facebook page?

- a. A: Yes

16. Sen. A. Miller: Motion to end the period of questioning.

17. Sen. M. Mercado: Motion to move period of discussion and voting later than next week so that I can be here to answer questions and you have more time to discuss.

ii. F2016-R2 – On-Campus Childcare Facility Resolution [6:18 p.m.]

1. Sen. Corpus: Reading of the resolution

2. Q, Sen. E. Mercado: Would putting a child care facility in Kerr cafeteria make Kerr open all the time?

- a. A, Sen. Mercado: Residence halls are currently open to everyone during daytime hours. There would be no change to access to the building.

3. Q, Sen. A. Miller: have you spoken to anyone in Facilities or Administration?

- a. A, Sen. Corpus: Not yet.

4. Q, Sen. Gregory: Do you think putting the childcare facility in Kerr Cafeteria will affect the noise level?

- a. A: No.

b. Eagle's Nest Organization Appeal [6:21 p.m.]

i. DSA Jones: Reading of Eagle's Nest Committee Statement



- ii. The Eagle's Nest program is designed to help student organizations with their programming, which can be defined as events, services or projects. According to the Eagle's Nest bylaws the programs that the Eagle's Nest committee funds has to directly benefit the student body, serve for the betterment of campus life, and provide equal access to all students. On October 20th, 2016 - the committee voted 4 to 1 to not fund the SAE application as it stands.
- iii. One of the main reasons for this denial was the unit cost that SAE is asking the committee for. The average amount we normally give to student organizations stands between \$1,000 -\$2,000. This is done to be sure that the funds are distributed fairly to registered student organizations. With Eagle's Nest only having \$16,924 left for this semester, several applications still waiting to be reviewed and now having to extend the dates for our resource meetings. The committee felt it would be best to be sure every organization has the opportunity for funding.
- iv. Another reason is the price per person when you divide up how many UNT students would actually benefit from this, then the cost comes down to about \$300 to \$400 per person.
- v. The association also has the Raupe Travel Grant, which is open to all students and student organizations. The grant is designed to help UNT students who are attending a conference that will not only benefit the university, but themselves as well, enriching the students with knowledge and a learning experience that they can't get in a classroom setting. Several committee members felt that the Raupe Travel Grant is more fitting for this particular organizations request.
- vi. We are sorry for any inconveniences this decision has caused, but as facilitators of Student Services Fees we need to make sure Eagle's Nest funds are spent in accordance with both the University's policies and the Eagle's Nest bylaws. We would also like to encourage the SAE club to apply for Eagle's Nest if you all have any upcoming on-campus events or programs. We have also reached out to the Coordinator of Student Organization, Kally Jorgensen (Kally.Jorgensen@unt.edu), and the Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Elizabeth With (Elizabeth.With@unt.edu) who would like to meet with you and



your officer team to go over resources and other funding ideas to help your organization thrive.

- vii. Quotes from the Eagle's Nest Committee:
- viii. "What this organization is requesting is basically equipment. As we learn from the Short Film Club, this will not be possible. There are a lot of technicalities that have not been addressed and going back to the bylaws, it is out of our hands. In addition to that, the expected attendance on their application says 80 but only 20 spots were available for the trip. Either way, the amount of money requested or the amount of students this event would reach is not a fair (referring to the other applications we have approved this semester). I personally vote against funding for this organization as their application stands." – Andrea Allen
- ix. "After hearing the presentation, I initially wanted to fund them, however, other members stated that this would be better suited for Raupe Travel Grant. I now understand that the primary reason this organization was asking for money was to fund the construction of a vehicle (?) that they would enter into a competition in Lincoln, Nebraska. It seemed that they were less focused on directly benefitting the student body and more focused on competing at this competition. For that reason, I didn't think it was applicable to Eagle's Nest and voted against their funding." – Brandon Thomas
- x. "I approved them because they are my constituency, and they have been funded in the past. They rely heavily on this funding and have raised the 40000, just need the cherry on top. This is their capstone design project. It is open to all students, they just do not advertise it very well. The Dean has been working on long-term funding options through the cabinet but this would be the exception. Just knowing there will be more money in the pot in the future, I am advising to keep this precedent moving forward." – Adam Miller
- xi. "Price per person is astronomical. Choosing not to go to Nebraska would defeat the purpose of being funded or competing. While it does provide wonderful marketing opportunities for UNT, it is not a return for the students that are paying into the pot are seeing. Some students came just for this program but for the other 36000 people who attend here are not receiving the benefit of this." – Cam Johnson



- xii. “Through the interpretation of the Eagle’s Nest by-laws, the Eagle’s Nest committee felt that the Society of Automotive Engineers’ (SAE) application for funding violated the following Eagle’s Nest by-law:
- xiii. Section 4, Subsection F
- xiv. “All programs receiving Eagle’s Nest funding must serve for the betterment of campus life, present an opportunity for student involvement and provide equal access to all students where reasonable accommodations can be made.”
- xv. The funding request made by SAE had a purpose of building a vehicle from scratch used to race in a competition out of state. While the preparation on the event is to be done on campus, the area where UNT would be represented to better our campus life would not taking place on our campus. We also believed that the tentatively formulated cost per person (based on the budget and expected attendance submitted by SAE) was at a much higher rate than the committee was comfortable approving. Eagle’s
- xvi.** Nest funding is allocated directly from student service fees, which are paid by all undergraduate students and thus, per University policy, should be allocated and utilized to benefit the largest student population possible, which is why it is required that all programs, events, and projects be reasonably open to the entire undergraduate student body. The plan of action from SAE was to use Saturdays to build the vehicle, allowing students to come to campus and work on the expected project. I did not see this as a reasonable accommodation to benefit campus life especially after hearing from the organization that it requires a certain skill level to be able to participate. The organization mentioned that the Engineering department on campus allocates around \$5,000 yearly to fund the SAE vehicle, personally, I also believe that the supplementary purpose of Eagle’s Nest funding should not exceed the fundamental budget allocated to the organization. If I didn’t feel that the funding request violated the by-laws, I would have considered and possibly supported the idea of partial funding based on their application.” – John Carr
 - 1. POI, Sen. E. Mercado: SAE was awarded a much larger sum in previous years.



2. POI, Sen. Corpus: That was happening while Eagle's Nest was acting in violation of the Bylaws.
- xvii. SAE Statement, Kyle McDougal:
- xviii. I am the President of the Society of Automotive Engineers here at The University of North Texas, also known as Mean Green Racing. Every year we participate in a collegiate design project called Formula SAE. Student teams are tasked with designing and building an open wheeled formula style racing vehicle from scratch and eventually competing at an international competition where we must use business and marketing knowledge, knowledge of engineering principals, and a host of other tools to compete against other universities from all over the world.
- xix. This project starts with a team in late June where we begin to formulate a plan for the coming year. We have been given space in the Engineering technology department where we work on the car multiple days per week throughout the year. We hold official meetings twice a week here on campus and advertise regularly that our student organization and this project are open to any student from any major. We regularly attend campus events like mean green fling, UNT preview and the homecoming tailgate with our members to recruit and market our project. We also have an online presence with Facebook, Instagram and twitter pages. Our entire project is done here on campus in the shop space that has been provided to us by the engineering technology department except the competition which takes place over 6 days in June in Lincoln Nebraska.
- xx. The funds that we are requesting from the SGA Eagle's Nest Committee are for parts/materials that are needed in order to complete this project. Any and all funds needed in order to register for or travel to the competition are raised by our members and are not paid for using Eagle's Nest funds.
- xxi. This is the fifth year that this project has been in existence and it is supported by students and faculty all over the University of North Texas. Our faculty advisor fully supports the team and regularly helps recruit students. Our department chair has provided us with space in his department in order for us to have places to work. The dean of the college of engineering has supported us both monetarily and



- xxii. administratively. President Smatresk brought his leadership board to see the car and bragged on how well the team has done and came out to support us at our unveiling on main campus in the spring.
- xxiii. The benefit of this project and program to the students is tremendous. Formula SAE promotes teamwork and leadership skills by providing a complicated real world project for students to work on that must have real world outcomes. This project requires us to partner with many majors in order to complete the vehicle and compete well. The team consists of several different engineering majors, business majors, marketing majors and more. The project gives the experience of working with deadlines, budgets and strict rules pertaining to business and marketing practices and safe engineering practices. These guidelines prepare the students for a career when they graduate by giving them marketable skills they would not otherwise get. A project of this size warrants networking with many kinds of people including sponsors, local and national businesses and even other teams from across the globe. The practical experience gained in Formula SAE is second to none. Engineers learn to design and build parts that will work in high stress applications. Business and marketing majors must present a relevant business proposal and marketing strategy to a team of mock investors. They must also manage marketing the project itself in order to get enough funds to complete the car. This program has already begun to bring students to the university as the team continues to perform well and represent the university well.
- xxiv.** In summary, we are supported as a student project by administration from our faculty advisor and every step all the way up to the President of the University. The money we're requesting is going directly to parts and materials to support the project which is completed entirely here on campus before we leave to compete and all travel and registration is paid for outside of our eagle's nest funding. SAE is extremely active here on campus and made up of a conglomerate of students from many majors, and it is for these reasons I believe that we are, and should be, eligible to receive funding from the SGA Eagle's Nest Committee.
 - 1.** Sen. Horick: Motion to open period of discussion for 15 minutes
 - 2.** Q, Sen. Smithson: The Short Film Club was denied equipment funding?
 - a.** A: Yes, and the Martial Arts Club



- 3.** Q, Sen. Smithson: What makes your request different?

 - a.** A, Kyle: This wouldn't fund our day-to-day operations. We need funds to complete the project
- 4.** POI, DAS Jones: I don't feel comfortable funding this until bylaws are clarified.
- 5.** Q, Sen. Horick: What happens if you don't get this funding?

 - a.** A: We would have to take apart other cars, rendering them inoperable, and limit our practice racing capabilities. We would also have to find other funding options.
- 6.** Q, Sen. M. Mercado: What makes y'all more important than other organizations to merit this much funding?

 - a.** A: I'm not against being awarded less money, but I don't see that it's fit that it automatically goes to zero, especially considering what we were awarded in the past.
- 7.** POI, Sen. C. Johnson: Eagle's Nest was operating outside of its rules
- 8.** POI, SAE: We were unaware of these rules. Dawaelyne oversaw Eagle's Nest last year when we were awarded funds.
- 9.** POI, DSA Jones: I was unaware of that bylaw. I'm not against funding you at all. I just don't want to deplete Eagle's Nest entirely
- 10.** Q, Sen. Fraser: As far as I know, Eagle's Nest is for an event. I feel like if I were to come to an SAE meeting, it would be more along the lines of joining an organization than attending an event. Is this an event that would benefit the school?

 - a.** A: The Eagle's Nest bylaws states that it is to help programming that can help fund organizations projects and programs. This is a program. This is a project that lasts all year and relates to the College of Engineering. Students choose an area to work on and work with leaders. They learn about the car, about design.
- 11.** Q, Sen. Fraser: So your saying this is more something that I would join rather than a one-time occurrence?

 - a.** A: I don't know that it's clear that Eagle's Nest is only supposed to be for one-time events.



- 12.** POC, DSA Jones: Eagle's Nest history – Condom Club had a week long project that was a week-long safe sex week. That is more along the lines of what we mean
- 13.** Sen. Hearn: Motion to let COS Hester speak
- 14.** Q, COS Hester: Have you taken steps to get SAE sponsored officially by the university? The per unit cost for us on the UNT Debate Team is very high, but we hold specific events that directly benefit students. This might be an option for you in the future.
- a.** A: We were funded through the College of Engineering with \$5000, but until we get to full funding like the Dean is working toward, we have been relying on Eagle's Nest.
- 15.** Q, COS Hester: You said that you were supported by the President, have you looked into speaking to him?
- a.** A: Yes, but there is a lot of politics in place there
- 16.** Q, Sen. Sennet: Why didn't you ask for a smaller amount of money?
- a.** A: We asked for what we needed, not knowing how much was left. I am opposed to the money going away entirely, crippling our organization.
- 17.** Q, Sen. Ramirez: What is the longevity of this project?
- a.** A: This has been going on for five years and will continue.
- 18.** Q, Sen. Engles: How do you determine price per unit and are they negotiable?
- a.** A: They are predetermined (at a discount) and they are non-negotiable.
- 19.** Q, Sen. Garcia: Can Eagle's Nest negotiate the amount awarded?
- a.** A: Yes, I can't, but the committee can.
- 20.** Q, Sen. Alvarado: You said that you weren't comfortable giving the amount asked, what amount would you be comfortable with?
- a.** A, DSA Jones: Organizations normally get \$1-2,000. I would be comfortable with that.
- 21.** Q, Sen. Gregory: Is it fair to say that all clubs are created equal? And that some clubs have higher funding needs.



- 22.** Sen. Muric: Motion to close the period of questioning and open a period of discussion for 25 minutes.
- 23.** Sen. Muric: From my understanding there is no way for SGA to fund this because it is an event not necessarily open to students. I think this organization is qualified to receive some money, even if it isn't the full amount. I don't think it's possible to give this organization funding for this event as much as I would like to do so. Is it possible for the Eagle's Nest Committee to make an amendment to allow funding for SAE to get funding?
- 24.** Sen. E. Mercado: There is a much higher value for what these students learn. There are a lot of other groups that get a significant amount of funding, but SAE members receive so much more
- 25.** Sen. C. Johnson: Sitting on the committee comes with a lot of responsibility. I personally decided against funding them \$12,000. From my interpretation, they meet the criteria to apply and receive funds, but they do so minimally. It is not the type of funding that Eagle's Nest set a precedent for. Because a portion of their application takes place off campus, only the students on the trip (30-40 people) would benefit and the cost per person would be very high. If we were to fund them for the entire amount, it would leave only \$4,000 to fund 30+ waiting organizations for funding. What do the majority of students who are paying into this fund receive from this project? While I think it should be funded, it is imperative that we use this to reach as many students as possible. Motion to approve funding not to exceed \$3000.
- xxv.** Sen. A. Miller: I move to amend the motion to a roll call vote in \$1000 increments
- 1.** Vote: Fund at least \$1000: 26 Y
 - 2.** Vote: Fund at least \$2000: 25 Y
 - 3.** Vote: Fund at least \$3000: 22 Y
 - 4.** Vote: Fund at least \$4000: 17 Y
- xxvi.** Sen. A. Miller: Retract motion
- xxvii.** Sen. Talati: Motion to resume period of discussion



1. Sen. Nathan: When people get Eagle's Nest, is it first-come, first-serve?
 - a. A, Sen. C. Johnson: You go to a resource meeting, then once approved, you go to present at a committee meeting, and the process continues.
 2. Sen. Belokin: I had an SAE member discuss this with me in the office during my office hours. I think we should award them something. Since my discussion, I have talked to my constituents about this, and many of them are interested.
 3. Sen. Cumbie: Even though it is \$12,000 I think we should be able to award them something.
- xxviii.** Sen. E. Mercado: Motion to move to a period of discussion on the motion to fund to up to \$3000
1. Sen. E. Mercado: There was a pageant event that was awarded \$3000. I think this offers more than a 3 or 4 hour pageant does.
 2. Sen. M. Mercado: I feel like bringing that up undermines another organization. I'm not against SAE, but I think we can't consider that in funding SAE.
 3. Sen. Talati: I believe Eagle's Nest is utilitarian, and small-scale funding for large-scale projects. I believe SAE is integral in UNT growing as an engineering program. I don't think a small amount of funding will solve the whole problem, but I don't think the whole amount should be awarded
 4. POC, Sen. Corpus: Cam, can you clarify the amount of funding in your motion?
 - a. Sen. C. Johnson: I would like to fund them for \$3000
 5. Sen. Smithson: If SAE has a total of 176 members on an email list, and they divided the amount in question among them, they would be paying ~\$60 per person. I consider this a passion project. As a theatre major, we often have to find our own funding.
 6. Sen. A. Miller: They cannot ask for any additional money in the spring. If the 30 waiting organizations are denied funding, they can reapply in the spring while SAE would be allotted only \$1500 a semester.



7. Sen. E. Mercado: \$1500 undermines their ability to operate. It's more than buying parts. There is testing, tuning, and a lot of other elements that require funding.
8. POC, Sen. C. Johnson: Eagle's Nest is making steps to amend the bylaws
9. SAE: How many members are there in SGA?
 - a. A, VP Cole: 107
10. SAE: I, and many members, are having a hard time understanding why it's being said that we are ineligible for funding.
11. Sen. C. Johnson: I believe you meet the bylaws, but it is up for interpretation. Because there isn't a precedent, which are trying to work on, we are interpreting it to the best of our ability currently.
12. SAE: Who checks on that interpretation?
 - a. A, Sen. Corpus: The Supreme Court
13. Sen. Muric: I heard earlier that this was a large-scale project for a small group of people, and I disagree. It is promoted to all students. Building the car, getting the experience, everything, this can apply to you. If you want to work with SAE, you can. This is not a small-scale project. It is open to everyone. Allowing \$1500 a semester for such a well-renowned organization is just not enough
14. POI, Sen. Corpus: When it comes to building the car, do you have to be a member?
 - a. A: The only time when you have to pay to be a member, or be an official member, is when you go to the national competition.
15. POC, Sen. C. Johnson: When asked about meeting attendance, I was told 30 people.
- xxix. Sen. C. Johnson: Motion to vote by show of hands on the motion
- xxx. Sen. Smithson: Motion to allow Grant Hale to speak
 1. Grant Hale: There is clearly some apprehension about the \$12000. I would like to offer up \$2000 of the
 2. Sen. Mercado: So moved.
 - a. Vote: Approved by unanimous consent
 3. Vote on Sen. C. Johnson's Motion:



a. Vote: Approved.

xxxi. Sen. C. Johnson: Motion to move to next item

1. Objection
2. Vote: Motion fails

xxxii. Sen. E. Mercado: Motion to add an additional \$3000 of Eagle's Nest funding

1. Objection
2. Vote: Motion fails

xxxiii. Sen. C. Johnson: Motion to add an addition \$1500 from Eagle's Nest

1. Vote: Motion passes

xxxiv. Sen. Talati: Motion to move to the next agenda item.

VI. Officer Reports [Note: In the interest of time, Officer Reports will be delivered internally on the SGA Facebook group]

- a. **Chief of Staff**
- b. **Director of Leadership & Development**
- c. **Director of Administration & Policy**
- d. **Director of Public Relations**
- e. **Director of Student Affairs**
- f. **Director of Campus Outreach**
- g. **President**
- h. **Vice President**

VII. College Reports [Note: In the interest of time, College Reports will be delivered internally on the SGA Facebook group]

- a. **Arts & Sciences**
- b. **Business**
- c. **Education**
- d. **Engineering**
- e. **Merchandising, Hospitality & Tourism**
- f. **Music**
- g. **Public Affairs & Community Service**
- h. **Visual Arts & Design**
- i. **Honors**
- j. **Mayborn School of Journalism**



k. Information

l. TAMS

VIII. Discussion:

- a.** Sen. E. Mercado: Motion to allocate \$250 in funds for meetings that extend beyond 45 minutes
- b.** Sen. Horick: Motion to amend the motion to apply to meetings that extend beyond 1.5 hours
 - i.** Vote: Approved
- c.** Sen. Sennet: Motion to open a 10-minute period of questioning regarding Grant's veto.
- d.** Sen. Sennet: He isn't opposing them entirely. We should have time to reconsider these.
- e.** Sen. M. Mercado: In your statement, you said we blew through the Transportation bill, but we discussed it two weeks ago. I understand that we blew through voting, but I'm confused as to why you feel that way about this specific bill after we discussed it at length.
 - i.** A: My concern is with the amount of funding. We don't know if the amount is enough or too much. They have not been included enough in these discussions. Personally, I don't know that this is enough to the number of busses that we need etc.
- f.** Sen. Hawkins: Whatever we ask or discuss right now, you can still veto?
 - i.** A: If I wanted to veto it, I would have already, but I want to express my concerns and get feedback from y'all.
- g.** Sen. Belokin: If we revisit this in the spring, will there be time to get it through all of the necessary hoops?
 - i.** A: No
- h.** Sen. Sennet: Motion to end the period of questioning and opening a ten-minute discussion.
 - i.** Objection
 - ii.** Vote: Motion passes
- i.** Sen. Nathan: For the transportation bill, because we had Gary come to speak to us, we understand why we need more funding. Because of the students' perception of Transportation, I think it needs more clarification
- j.** POC, Sen. E. Mercado: If we rescind this bill, do we have to wait two years?



- i.** A: Yes
- k.** Sen. Corpus: I agree with Grant. I do not believe we have discussed these enough. I think we rushed through, which I think is unethical.
- l.** Sen. Horick: I agree that neither of these referenda are perfect, but I believe that they are issues that are too important to kill. If we don't act on these, they will not be addressed for two years. Senate has the opportunity to work with legislature, speak with the President, speak to students, work with the Board of Regents via the student member, and it would be a waste if we didn't give the students a chance to vote on these measures.
- m.** Sen. Smithson: Motion to limit speakers to 30 seconds
- n.** Sen. M. Mercado: I think there is never a 'right' time to change things, and that the language will never be perfect.
- o.** Sen. C. Johnson: I agree with the end goal, but I think we need to take time to approve our wording
- p.** Pres. Hale: I'm questioning whether it's in the best interest of SGA.
- q.** Sen. E. Mercado: My constituents would like to see transportation improved. There should have been better guidelines.
- r.** Sen. Talati: I think political climate are buzzwords and that we should try, and that we are here and if we want to do this we should try. Also, the political climate is changing all the time. We can work with legislators and the student body.
- s.** Sen. Sennet: At the end of last meeting I was tired of arguing so I voted for it. I talked to a lot of people who were against it. I feel that we are so consumed with getting it done, that we are ignoring other parts.
- t.** Sen. Muric: I do think that shortening our period of discussion to 30 seconds falls into the category of half-assing things. Why not keep talking about it? I know it is late, but we are here. Let's do our jobs and not limit ourselves in the time we have to discuss this.
- u.** Sen. A. Miller: Motion to move into a period of discussion about the We Mean Green Fund.
- v.** Sen. Horick: Would raising the WMGF funding also require the same approval process?
 - i.** A, Sen. A. Miller: No, there is an existing ability to raise the fee, but no one wants to do so.
- w.** Sen. Sennet: Could we do the same thing through the We Mean Green Fund?



- i.** A: Yes, but with half as much money
- x.** Sen. Talati: In response to objections about the claim of carbon neutrality, if we purchase RECs, we cut the amount of carbon emission in half. We can't go Carbon Neutral here in Denton, but as far as the environment is concerned we cut emissions.
- y.** Sen. Muric: We could have combatted a lot of last week's discussion if Eric and Adam had combined their thoughts. In terms of discussing this legislation as a whole, we need to create a bigger committee than this originally was. Gary needs to know how much money we're asking for and so does the Board of Regents. If we are going to nit-pick, we need to set up a committee.
- z.** POC, Sen. A. Miller: Were you not denied access to the Transportation Committee before this legislation was introduced?
 - i.** A, Sen. Muric: Yes, I was.
- aa.** Sen. M. Mercado: Can you clarify what you mean by the yearly limit on the We Mean Green Fund?
 - i.** A: It is on a yearly basis.
- bb.** Sen. Sennet: Motion to end period of discussion
- cc.** POI, Sen. Sennet: Grant, you were elected because students thought you were qualified to make these decisions. I feel that you should make whatever decision you think is best.
- dd.** Q, Sen. Muric: Do you think you can represent all of the student body with your veto?
 - i.** A: By vetoing this, we are saying we don't feel confident that these referenda can go to students for a vote. I think it is not using the student voice in a constructive manner. I think we need to more for transportation and the environment. I want to pose this back to y'all because you may not be able to override a veto.
- ee.** Sen. C. Johnson: Motion for a 5-minute period of recess
- ff.** [Senate breaks for a 5-minute recess]
- gg.** Sen. Aguayo: Motion to open period of discussion
- hh.** Sen. Aguayo: I feel like the transportation fee may not be enough, but killing it would be a missed opportunity because we will add no funding. Do you think the benefits outweigh the costs?
 - i.** A: I think it is better to get a sense of what the numbers should be.
 - ii.** Sen. Aguayo: When would that be?



1. A: Fall 2018

iii. Sen. Aguayo: What are the cons of coming back to it later?

1. A: I think when you ask students to vote on something, we need the confidence to say that it's the best thing we could put in front of them. If this passes and nothing happens, that looks bad on SGA.

iv. Sen. Aguayo: At the end of the day, if we try and this fails, it just looks bad on SGA or are there other cons?

1. A: In order to build the rapport with the student body, SGA needs to put our best foot forward.

v. Sen. Horick: I wholeheartedly support the passage of these measures, but unless there are any new points to be made, our only two options now are to rescind the passage of these referenda or leave it to Grant to make his decision.

vi. Sen. Sennet: Motion to vote by hand to demonstrate support for each bill

vii. Sen. Talati to Pres. Hale: I believe that your voice matters, but I want to thank you on behalf of the Senate for at least giving us the opportunity to have this discussion. You could just as easily have defeated this, but the fact that you brought it up is appreciated.

viii. Sen. Corpus: Motion to call the quorum

1. Quorum met.

2. 1 senator leaves

3. Quorum not met. [8:56 p.m.]

IX. Adjournment [8:56 p.m.]

X. Announcements