UNION BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
UBD Meeting Minutes  
January 17, 2024

Members Present: Bella Armenta, Dorcas Bisisi, Fatuma Mwende, Areeba Hassan, Shelby Kennedy, David Munoz-Sarabia, Seth Parsons in place of Em Sessom*, Faith Hamilton*, Lucas Pons in place of Isaac Hernandez#, James Parrish, Jeffrey Britain, Michael Savoie, Stacy Buchanan, Megan Wheeler in place of Brittany Landau^, Wendy Denman, Mackenzie Martinez, Mike Flores, Richard Owens, Molly Orr, Kavan Ingram

Members Not Present: Thanuja Beeram, and Skylar Redlin

Member Attendance Notes:
*Seth Parsons is taking Em Sessom’s place as the representative for Talons. Seth is the Talons’ Parliamentarian.
& Faith Hamilton has been appointed as the Housing Representative for the remainder of this semester.
# Isaac Hernandez (Greek Council) was unable to attend today’s meeting. Lucas Pons took his place for this meeting.
^ Brittany Landau (Staff Senate) was unable to attend today’s meeting. Megan Wheeler took her place for this meeting.

Union Board of Director Student Government Association VP Bella Armenta called the meeting to order at 11:49 a.m.

Bella welcomed everyone and introduced the new members, Seth Parsons and Faith Hamilton, and announced the members who were absent and their fill-ins: Lucas Pons and Brittany Landau.

The Minutes from the November 15, 2023, meeting were presented for approval. Bella asked if there were any questions. David Munoz-Sarabia moved to approve, James Parrish seconded the motion, the vote was taken by show of hands and all approved.

Facilities

Mike Flores provided an update on all the projects that took place over the Winter Break, the ongoing projects, and the projects expected to start in the near future.

Mike started with providing us with an update of the roof repair. The weather was good all throughout the Winter Break, so all phases of this project were completed and on time.

Mike next reviewed the details of the scheduled power outage. The 3 days of testing were successful. There were a couple of buildings where power didn’t come right back up when initiating the test, but these issues were addressed and corrected. These types of tests will be an annual occurrence as preventative measures. Michael Savoie expressed his gratitude for Mike’s work to facilitate this annual test in which Mike in turn thanked his team and all who were involved with this project.

Mike provided an update on the progression of the Chick-fil-A project. On 1/12/24 CFA provided UNT with revised construction plans. James Parrish inquired about the estimated completion of the project. Mike stated that there have been several setbacks and delays with the project but as of today, the estimated completion date is sometime in May 2024. The current items that are being worked on are the inspection of the framing and the electrical panels. Megan Wheeler asked if the new space will be able to relieve some of the backup and traffic experienced in the waiting line/queue by the limited space of the current location of CFA. Mike said that the new space will have a spacious waiting line/queue, there will be seating for 80-85 people, and there will be approximately 15 feet of space between the counter and the north entrance. Megan also asked if CFA must approve all revised plans and progress. Mike answered yes. CFA has their own rep that meets with the Union on a regular basis as well as signs off on all plans. Bella Armenta inquired if the new space would have gender or unisex bathrooms. Mike stated that the bathrooms will be unisex.

Mike gave an update on the DATCU branch. DATCU’s floorplans have changed, which has caused delays. Floor materials have been delivered but due to delays with the light grids, the floor project will have to wait. The
tentative completion date is 1/29/24 with a tentative grand opening date of 2/5/24, both pending final project approvals.

Mike updated the Board on the ongoing road and manhole work. It has been planned that all of Union Circle will be repaved starting the summer of 2025. ATMOS is currently working on the gas lines along Union Circle due to age and ongoing problems. This project is expected to be completed prior to the start of the repaving project in summer of 2025. Megan Wheeler inquired if this was a UNT project decision. Mike explained that UNT’s prior gas contractor failed to maintain the integrity of the gas lines, so ATMOS was hired to inspect and correct.

Mike and Wendy provided details regarding the unscheduled power outage that took place on 1/4/24 and lasted through 1/5/24. An ATMOS gas line contractor working on Union Circle accidentally “clipped” the 13K.2-volt conduit feed to the Union resulting in complete loss of power to the Union. The City of Denton, Denton Municipal Electric, and Humphries Electrical Service all came out to assess and correct the accident. The main electrical wire between the switch gear and the main transformers was repaired. Wendy and her team coordinated with staff across the campus to relocate the scheduled orientation that was to take place in the Union that weekend, with a relocation to the Gateway/Coliseum, among other sites on campus. David Munoz-Sarabia asked if UNT had to pay for the power outage. Mike assured us that, no, UNT didn’t have to foot that bill as it was ATMOS who accidentally caused the outage.

James Parrish circled back to the Union Circle road repairs and inquired to what extent the roads would be repaired and if this is a cyclical thing that would have to be ongoing. Mike assured the Board that with these upcoming repairs, they will be repairing deep into the concrete and will be “fire rated” (a test to assess the integrity of the road concrete) among other tests.

Mike concluded that for the Union Circle road repairs, him and his team will have to put together a thorough action plan to accommodate and anticipate any and all activities that will be impacted by this project.

Finance
Kavan Ingram gave an update on the budget. We have expensed 41% of our fiscal year budget, which is down 2% from where we were last year at this time. $10,000.00 was moved to the Cost of Goods Sold line from Materials & Supply as there was better understanding to which items are “materials used for sales.” Capital Expenses decreased due to ongoing projects. None of the ongoing projects have met the Capital Expenses threshold of $5,000 but rather materials needed for these projects have added up to $5,000, therefore these expenses have been allocated to more appropriate line items for expensing. Michael Savoie inquired if we are projected to exceed 100% of our budget in FY24 given the current numbers. Kavan responded that the Axium system, the tool that is used for such projections, will be available on 2/19/24 and will be used to analyze the projected budget.

Programs/Discovery Park
Molly Orr updated the group on the past and upcoming events. The first big event of the Spring Semester is the Eagle Insomnia, which is to take place on 1/19/24. This year’s theme is a play off the popularity of Barbie with Scrappy’s Dreamhouse! Jazz in the Union starts up again at the end of January and will be through April. The schedule is being updated and will be available on the website very soon. The Union will be celebrating its 75th anniversary this March. This celebration will correlate with the annual Union Fest, which will kick off on 3/4/24.

Conference & Event Services
Richard Owens revisited the stats of reservations made in Fall of 2023 verses Fall of 2022. In Fall 2023 3,300 reservations were made and the Union hosted 88,000 guest while the Fall of 2022 had 2,900 reservations made and 83,000 Union guests. Richard stated that he is seeing a trend upwards that will continue into Spring 2024.

Director’s Report
Wendy Denman updated the Board on the progress of the changes due to the SB 17 law. The Center for Belonging and Engagement has been created to take the place of the Multicultural Center and the Pride Alliance in order to stay in compliance with the new law. The necessary changes to signage and exposure of these previous groups was completed in December 2023. This change also impacts the current members of the UBD as there is one (1) student representative from both the Multicultural Center and the Pride Alliance. A change to have two (2) representatives for the Center of Belonging and Engagement will be decided by the Board via an action item.
Wendy touched on the success of the all-staff and student training days that took place last week. There are only 3 vacancies in the UCE department as of today!

Bella asked if there were any further questions or comments. No further questions or comments were presented.

**Action Items**

The Board was to vote on the UBD Constitution amendment to remove item G. from Section 2, in Article 4 and revise item J. from Section 2, in Article 4 to be in SB 17 compliance (see Figure 1 below). David Munoz-Sarabia motioned, and Megan Wheeler seconded to proceed with the vote. All voting members present voted affirmative to proceed with the motion to move forward with the change. Following the UBD meeting Mackenzie Martinez emailed Christi Hestand, Sr Executive Assistant to Dr. With, VP of Student Affairs to approve of the amendment according to the UBD Constitution procedure in Article 8. Dr. With approved the amendment as of 1/17/24. Mackenzie Martinez will make the appropriate changes and inquire with the appropriate staff to have the website updated.

David Munoz-Sarabia stated that with the establishment of the Center for Belonging and Engagement, they will be establishing the handle @untbelonging on all social media outlets and staff will be available in person in Union 335.

The meeting was adjourned by Bella at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mackenzie Martinez.

---

**Figure 1:**

Current UBD Constitution:

![Current UBD Constitution](image)

Amended UBD Constitution:

![Amended UBD Constitution](image)