

**Student Government Association Senate**

**Northern Illinois University**

**3:00 p.m. – Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

**Holmes Student Center Sky Room**

**Public Streaming: <http://go.niu.edu/SGASenateLive>**

**Members of the public wishing to give public comment, please submit an [Intent to Speak](#) form, no later than 11:59 pm, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.**

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call:
  0. Called to order at: 3:09pm
  1. In Attendance: Senators Osman, Guerrero, Lazaric, Khanjian, Robinson, Anukwuocha, Rosales, Speaker Hensley, Specker Elect Corpuz, Deputy Speaker English, Sergeant-At-Arms Bereolos,
  2. Absent: Senator Onebunne, Chairperson Musgraves, and Senator Sofia
- II. Verification of Quorum: met
- III. Public Comments: none
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - A. From April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

*Minutes are distributed electronically to the Senate.*

Motioned: Senator Guerrero

Second: Senator Rosales

Discussion & Debate: Deputy Speaker English

From April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024
  1. Please change the name structure to be consistent
  2. the special report shouldn't be highlighted
  3. there are some motions that failed to pass that should still be accounted for that are missing
- V. Approval of Agenda
  - i. Motion: Senator Geurrero
  - ii. Second: Senator Rosales
  - iii. Speaker Hensley and Deputy Speaker English: Move items A – F in new business to items A-F old business, Second: Senator Geurrero
  - iv. Vote: Passed
- VI. Speaker's Report
  - i. Speaker Hensley: I am working on my transitional material and thank the leadership in Senate.
- VII. Special Report: none
- VIII. Office of the Speaker Report(s)
  1. Chris: What I am about to say is something I have hinted at before but I should have revitalized it last week however, my attention was consumed by various matters, primarily focused on legislative discussions, particularly regarding the removal of the Chief Justice and crafting questions for them to ensure the Senate's complacency with

they supreme courts suggestions to the bylaws. my mind was also focused around enhancing our functionality, addressing objectivity concerns, as well as clarifying stipend matters. However, despite the timing possibly being less impactful now, I still feel compelled to express my thoughts on the recent 5 to 8 vote which ultimately caused the petition raised by students to fail. These students had previously approached the Senate to express their sentiments, yet our decision was made with minimal discourse.

2. While I appreciate the possibility of feeling under-informed and not wanting to be incorrect or drawing out process, the silence of those who opposed the petition is concerning. As representatives of the student body, your voices are pivotal, yet you remained silent. Over 1000 individuals voiced support for establishing an indigenous student center including those that came before the senate a month or two ago. However some of you said nothing and still voted against it. The lack of substantial dialogue or specific reasons for dissent is disheartening. Now I want to make it clear I am not saying you should vote in favor for everything but what I am saying is you should share your reasoning for the votes you make as you represent hundreds to in some cases thousands of students and they should be able to know why you voted a certain way.
3. Had senators voiced concerns such as the conflict between this legislation and existing been raised, I would have emphasized the importance of aligning efforts with student desires. Unfortunately I have to make the assumption that that is why some of you opposed this petition as, such considerations were not brought forth. I urge future sessions to actively engage in questioning and expressing opinions, positive or negative. As the voice of the student body, it is imperative that we vocalize our stance and considerations. Failure to do so not only diminishes the essence of our role but also deprives thousands of students of their representation.
4. Therefore, I urge all present in this meeting to share their perspectives openly. Constructive criticism or support with reasoning allows for a deeper understanding of issues and encourages reevaluation, ultimately benefiting our campus community as a whole.
5. Sign up for ignite for those returning to senate next

- i. Manny: I have only collected about 5 transition materials from the entire SGA, I urge you all to complete it.

IX. Committee Report(s)

- i. Chris OO: OO has approved one new org and Director Innis has submitted transition materials.

X. Executive Branch Report(s): none

XI. Cabinet Report(s): none

XII. Old Business

- A. SB55038: A bill to limit individuals from a similar organization to take up positions in the SGA
  - a. Motioned: Senator Onebunne
  - b. Seconded: Senator Robinson
  - c. Friendly Amendment by Speaker-Elect Corpuz changed to 1/3 during active session, ½ during election for senators from the same student organization.
  - d. Friendly amendment to change spelling of accomplish made by Senator Anukwuocha and accepted by Deputy Speaker English.

- e. Friendly amendment to add a comma after THEREFORE made by Senator Anukwuocha and accepted by Deputy Speaker English.
  - f. Friendly amendment to change an organization to an SGA recognized Organization made and accepted by Deputy Speaker English.
  - g. Friendly amendment to change similar to same.  
Sergeant-At-Arms Bereolos Calls the Question, Second by Senator Robinson:  
Passed, goes to immediate vote
  - h. Vote: 7-3-1 passed
- B. SB55039: A bill to suggest changes to the NIU SGA Supreme Court's Code of Procedure
  - a. Motioned: Deputy Speaker English
  - b. Seconded: Senator Anukwuocha
  - c. Motion to turn this into a resolution mad by Deputy Speaker English, Second by Senator Lazaric
  - d. Vote: 10-1-0 Passed
- C. SB55040: A Bill to update the bylaws based on the recommendations from the Chief Justice acting as a representative of the Supreme Court
  - a. Motioned: Deputy Speaker English
  - b. Seconded: Senator Rosales
  - c. Vote: 9-1-1 passed
- D. SB55041: A bill to ensure the bylaws are consistent with the passage of SB55038
  - a. Motioned: Senator Onebunne
  - b. Seconded: Senator Guerrero
  - c. Friendly amendment to change organizations after which to SGA recognized organizations.
  - d. Motion to modify the wording to add Senators are required to give a list to the board of elections as to which organization they belong to.
    - i. Motion made by Deputy Speaker English
    - ii. Second by Senator Rosales
    - iii. Vote: Passed
  - e. Motion to recess for 5 minutes made by Speaker Hensley, second by Senator Onebunne resume at 4pm.
  - f. Attendance: Senators Osman, Robinson, Guerrero, Onebunne, Khanjian, Lazaric, Rosales, Deputy Speaker English, Speaker Hensley, Speaker Elect Corpuz, Sergeant-At-Arms Bereolos
  - g. Quorum is met.
  - h. Vote: 11-0-0 Passed
- E. SB55042: A bill to update the bylaws for when outreach campaign information is due
  - a. Motioned: Deputy Speaker English
  - b. Seconded: Senator Lazaric
  - c. Vote: 11-0-0 Passed
- F. SR55074: A resolution to recognize student organizations.
  - a. Motioned: Sergeant-At-Arms Bereolos
  - b. Seconded: Senator Rosales
  - c. Vote: 11-0-0 Passed
- G. SR55069: A resolution to terminate Chief-Justice Weiskopf based off a petition for removal
  - a. Motioned: Senator Guerrero
  - b. Seconded: Senator Khanjian

- c. Vote: 7-4-0 Failed
- d. Motioned to rehear item G SR55069 made by Deputy Speaker English, second by Senator Robinson: item will be heard again.
- e. Motion to table until after item J, SR55068 made by Speaker Hensley, second by Senator Robinson
- f. Tabled
- g. Motioned to Rehear by Senator Robinson
- h. Second By Deputy Speaker English
- i. Motioned to go into recess for 5 minutes by Deputy Speaker English, second by Senator Robinson, Passed resume at 5:35pm
- j. Attendance: Senators Osman, Robinson, Guerrero, Anukwuocha, Onebunne, Khanjian, Lazaric, Rosales, Deputy Speaker English, Speaker Hensley, Speaker-Elect Corpuz, Segeant-At-Arms Bereolos
- k. Quorum Is met.
- l. Deputy Speaker English calls the question on revoting on this resolution, Second by Senator Robinson. Motion rescinded by Deputy Speaker Englis
- m. Vote: 9-2-0
- n. Motion to revote made by Speaker-Elect Corpuz, Second by Deputy Speaker English
- o. Motion to hear Chief Justice Weiskopf Statement made by Deputy Speaker English, Second by Senator Osman, Failed
- p. Motion to Call the Question made by Senator Lazaric, second by Deputy Speaker English, passed.
- q. Vote: 8-3-0 Failed
- r. Motion to hear the vote again made by Deputy Speaker English, Second by Speaker Hensley,
- s. Motion to Call the Question Senator Robinson, Seconded by Senator Rosales
- t. Vote: 9-2-0 Passed
- H. SR55061: A resolution to allow Senators to receive a stipend
  - a. Motioned: Deputy Speaker English
  - b. Seconded: Senator Guerrero
  - c. Motion to add in item K including but not limited to the critea created in SGA Bylaws Article IV Section 4.F made by Speaker Hensley, seconded by Deputy Speaker English
  - d. Vote: 10-1-0 Passed
- I. SB55026: A bill to grant SGA Senators a stipend for their work accomplished over the semester
  - a. Motioned: Sergeant-At-Arms Bereolos
  - b. Seconded: Senator Guerrero
  - c. Speaker Hensly makes a friendly amendment to change 2 weeks to 10 business days, as well as changing 1 week to 5 business days, as well as adding the senator criteria list located in SGA Bylaws Part I, Article IV, Section 4. To 6. Accepted by Speaker-Elect Corpuz.
  - d. Friendly Amendment to add to 1, including but not limited to the senator criteria list as stated in the SGA Bylaws Part I, Article IV, Section 4. Made by Speaker Hensley, accepted by Speaker-Elect Corpuz
  - e. Motion to call the question made by Sergeant-At-Arms Bereolos, Second by Senator Khanjian.

- f. Vote: 10-0-1 Passed.
- J. SR55068: A resolution to decide the Fall 2024 Senator Stipend amount
  - a. Motioned: Sergeant-At-Arms Bereolos
  - b. Seconded: Senator Osman
  - c. Vote: 10-1-0 Passed

XIII. New Business: none

XIV. Good of the Order

1. Deputy Speaker English: happy last meeting.
2. for those of you who are returning please remember what I said at the top, remember that you were elected to be the voice of the student body so please use yours

Speaker Hensley, I would like to thank everyone that was a part of the Senate this year.

Senator Rosales: Thanks for being a part of senate this year

Senator Onebunne: It does not need to take so much preaching to get something to pass. If you are afraid of your choice of vote next year, abstain or don't vote.

Senator Anukwuocha: I think we have done the right thing, we have set a good precedent for the next Session. We should not allow our personal interests to override the good interests.

XV. Announcements

- i. Deputy Speaker English: demo day concluded so props to all those engineers who worked very hard to get their projects done. Ignite training.
- ii. Sergeant-At-Arms Bereolos Stoles are in Alex's office.
- iii. Speaker-Elect Corpuz: Check your emails for information on meetings and training.
- iv. Speaker Hensley: Repeating what Speaker-Elect Corpuz stated.

XVI. Adjournment

- i. Motioned: Bereolos
- ii. Second: Anukwuocha
- iii. Vote: 7:11 PM
- d. Attendance: Attendance: Senators Osman, Robinson, Guerrero, Anukwuocha, Onebunne, Khanjian, Lazaric, Rosales, Deputy Speaker English, Speaker Hensley, Speaker-Elect Corpuz, Sergeant-At-Arms Bereolos
- iv. Absent: Senator Onebunne, Chairperson Musgraves, and Senator Sofia

Please be advised that public comments will be limited to five (5) minutes per person, and that any one topic may not be discussed for more than 15 minutes.

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations.