Transcripts of the

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE

OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

January 17th, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

1. This meeting was called to order by Speaker Corpuz at 4:03pm in the HSC (Holmes Student Center) Sky Room.
2. 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
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. **Voting Members Present: Klister, , Lavallais, Crawford, Chigurupati, Gonzalez, Monteleone, Ivy, Samuel, Guerrero, Sawyer,**
5. **Voting members Absent:**
6. **Voting members Excused: Vaske, Fields, Rosales**

**VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez confirms quorum is met.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. There is none.

**APROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Speaker Corpuz moves to approve last week’s minutes.
2. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
3. Senator Guerrero seconded.
4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
5. There is none.
6. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
7. The motion is passed, and the minutes are approved.

**APROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Speaker Corpuz moves to approve the agenda.
2. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
3. Senator Guerrero seconded.
4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
5. There is none.
6. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
7. Vote passes with and business is moved.
8. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote to approve the agenda.
9. The motion is passed, and the agenda is approved.

**SPEAKER REPORT**

1. Speaker Corpuz states
2. “Hello, hope you all had a wonderful break, and I welcome you all back to SGA. During the break I was able to complete a couple projects that I started at the end of the semester to help you all understand how to complete certain requirements you have for SGA. Mainly a document that walks you through submitting service hours on Husky Hub and a new manual for running committees. This new manual is for committee chairs and directors to understand what is expected objectively from you during committee meetings. Please check your emails for it before your next meeting. Over the past week, I have been focused on trying to finish setting up committee meetings for the next semester. As of right now, I have to finalize two more committees before I release the committee schedule for next week. I'm looking to reach out over the weekend about it, but I will not require your committees to meet in the next week if I don't reach out before Sunday next week. Involvement is hosting their spring involvement fair on January 22nd and January 23rd from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. I'm looking for volunteers that will are willing to table for SGA during this event. If you're available at any time during this event, please let me know. You will not be required to stay for the entire fair, but anyone who is available to help out at these tables will be greatly appreciated. If nobody signs up for this, I will randomly select some of you to work it regardless of your schedule. Just for your information, I will count this event as part of your tabling only if you volunteer for it, you will have until Monday morning to e-mail me to sign up for it, if you wish to volunteer.”
3. **SPECIAL REPORT**
4. There is none.

**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER REPORT**

1. Deputy Speaker’s Report
   1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “Welcome everyone to a brand-new semester and Happy New Year to all. Over the past week I've updated a form submission that way for all chairpersons. Any single report that you may have to report about your committee, whether you report to senator or not, will be collected using that form, and I will be enforcing that form. As per mandated by the bylaw, this is specifically for the chairpersons. This does not affect individual committee members. You can still use the form if you wish to submit a report for any other committee where do you have a report you want to give on your own behalf. Furthermore, I have continued to work full steam on those back-end projects, of which one of them you will see presented today in a resolution that is a naloxone training initiative that I have begun with NIU administration and as a part of my efforts for harm reduction. Regardless, if it's an issue on campus or not, this is one of the many initiatives I've been working behind the scenes throughout the entirety of the fall semester to make sure things get up and running for the springtime, and I can go more on that detail when the resolution comes up in new business. For the second collegiate panel, we have established a date and time for it. The intercollegiate panel is an initiative I had set up during the fall semester, which is a collection of representatives from different student governments. Our second meeting will be on Monday, February the 24th at 5:00 PM, it will be a virtual meeting. Although senators are not required nor expected to attend, if you have some sort of interest in being involved, I am more than happy to hear from you because of it.”
2. Historian’s Report
   1. There is none.
3. Clerk’s Report

1, There is none.

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

1. Chairperson of Student Life and Greek Affairs’ report
   * 1. There is none.
2. Chairperson of Campus Life and Environmental Affairs’ report
   * 1. There is none.
3. Chairperson of Public Affairs’ report
   * 1. There is none.
4. Chairperson of Organizational Oversight’s report
   1. There is none.
5. Chairperson of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion’s report
   1. There is none.
6. Chairperson of Board of Elections’ report
   1. There is none.

**EXECUTIVE REPORT**

1. President’s report
   1. There is none.
2. Vice-President’s report
   1. There is none.
3. Treasurer’s report
   1. There is none.
4. Deputy Treasurer’s report
   1. There is none.
5. Chief of Staff’s report
   1. There is none.
6. Student Trustee’s Report
   1. There is none.

**CABINET REPORT**

1. Director of Diversity, Equity and, Inclusion
   1. There is none.
2. Director of Organizational Development
   1. There is none.
3. Director of Athletics
   1. There is none.
4. Director of Student Life and Greek Affairs
   1. There is none.
5. Director of Public Affairs
   1. There is none.
6. Director of Academic Affairs
   1. There is none.
7. Director of Campus Life and Environmental Affairs
   1. There is none.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. SB56015: A bill to establish an international representative seat on Senate.
   1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
   2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
   3. Senator Samuel states “
      1. “The aim of this bill is to create an opportunity for international students to have their representative here at the Senate because the international student has unique challenges and they are unique in their own constituents and Pierre, the Northern Illinois University, has significant amount of international student and that's why we deem it fit to actually create a seat for them for the next election.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   6. The bill has been tabled and will be voted on next week.
2. SR56018: A resolution to confirm an alternative member of Board of Elections for Spring 2025.
   1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
   2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
   3. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “Yes, this was a bill resolution introduced during the final OO meeting of the fall semester, this is to add Senator Udoh on as an alternate for the Board of Elections based on their performance and willingness to participate in the Board of Elections. They just happen to miss the initial round of resolution to be elected and still wish to be a part and a dedicated member of student government, especially for BOE.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz states “
      1. “Senator Samsonek was removed from office last semester due to a violation of OMA. So that Vice President James Innis is now part of the Board of Election and Senator Udoh would be the first alternate member of the Board of Elections.”
   5. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   6. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   7. The vote passes with a count of \_\_9\_\_yays, \_\_0\_\_nays, \_\_1\_abstentions.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. SB56016: A bill to establish the Finance Operating Manual
   1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
   2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
   3. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “So, this goes in regard to updating the finance policy. This is a part of the streamlining efforts that both me Speaker Corpuz and Treasurer Ethan Pesavento have been attempting to do and been trying to implement since the fall semester. This essentially codifies the finance operating manual, which we have already streamlined and created. Essentially, to do this, we'd have to include several provisions within the Constitution itself as you can see up on the screen, aside from. Including this within the list of duties for the Treasurer himself. In the legislative branch, we have also included it as a way for the Senate to still have the power to amend the Finance operating manual under the direction of the Treasurer. The only section that will not be amended by the Student Government Association is the purchasing guidelines, as that is set by the university itself. Other than that, this will essentially make sure that the finance operating manual is up to date and to make sure that the information with it is accessible for leaders and just general members of the university and student organizations to navigate the sometimes-complex financial policies That student organizations face, and this is just a way to finally codify it, and this is the final piece that we do that we have.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz states “
      1. “As a side note as well for this piece. At the current moment or at the start of this, or yeah, at the start of this year. The process to amend any financial policies required at least two weeks because it had to go through Senate and also passed through Senate. This process just makes it easier that we can make changes when it is absolutely necessary to the finance operating manual instead of having to go through a bunch of hoops just to make changes that are given to us by the university itself.”
   5. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   6. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   7. The bill will be voted on next week.
2. SB56017: A bill to unify language from the creation of the Parliamentarian
   1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
   2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
   3. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “Yes. So basically, with the passage of SB 56009, which we consolidated the positions of legislative Director, historian and director of Community service underneath one position, Parliamentarian, for efficiency reasons. Because that just initially changed the bylaw section of the legislative branch, there were still various points within the Constitution itself and the bylaws that still refer to either of the now defunct positions. So, this bill essentially just combs through the entirety of the constitution and violence to see where those names were and old names still there and replace it with the parliamentarian. As per 56009 Parliamentarian essentially acts as the successor legal successor of the old positions, so therefore any and all remaining links to the previous positions are now subsumed by the parliamentarian and expanded upon. In their duties. This is just to make sure that everything is simple, and everything is up to date.
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   6. The bill will be voted on next week.

C. SB56018: A bill to reform the Campus Life and Environmental Affairs Committee

* 1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
  2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
  3. Senator Samuel states
     1. “The idea of this bill is to reform the campus life and environmental affairs to be able to meet their responsibilities and one of the ways I am proposing, for like trying to equip the Members of this committee is to create an Environmental Literacy program where members of the ground will be educated on their responsibilities on how to actually initiate right places and as well as acute environmental sustainability one or before the Earth week here at Niu.”
  4. Speaker Corpuz asks
     1. “Would you like to like elaborate on what you think campus sustainability week will be about what you are like envisioning from it?”
  5. Speaker Samuel responds
     1. “OK, what I'm envisioning for it is, for instance, climate change is a very big global issue and as a student and who is in a research environment if we don't care if our environment, that will have a negative impact on us. So, there is need for collaboration between the students and the faculty members to actually have a kind of campus sustainability week where we'll have some educational activities to actually promote this climate change awareness on campus.
  6. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
  7. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
  8. The bill will be voted on next week.

D. SR56019: A resolution to call the Supreme Court for a hearing

* 1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
  2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
  3. Speaker Corpuz states
     1. “So as of the passing of Sr. 56002, which was just asked Supreme Court to give us a report, we have not heard from them since and we would like to start getting the process of figuring out what is happening with the Supreme Court and who is the leader of the Supreme Court. This legislation is just a call for the Supreme Court to come before the Senate and explain what they have accomplished for the semester and what they are hoping for by the end of this semester.”
  4. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
     1. “I would just like to make a comment with the passage of this resolution. As noted in the bill text. Therefore, the specific hearing would be held next Friday as it says next sentence meeting. So we would, with the passage of this resolution, have Supreme Court members here present where we would have the ability to ask them questions about the inability for them to respond to SR-56002 and among other questions we might have. I just want to make that comment known.”
  5. Senator Ivey asks
     1. “I guess my question is do we know who they are?”
  6. Speaker Corpuz responds
     1. “Yes, we have records of it, and we have appointed one of them. We appointed 2 last year in last year's session, so I do have records of everyone that is on Supreme Court as of right now. And who should be responding to us. And I have also made an effort to contact them all last semester too. We'll move into it as long as one of them shows up and speaks on their behalf. We can start having that discussion, but it will move into another process that we will have to look at, which is just the removal process at that time.”
  7. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
  8. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
  9. The vote passes with a count of \_\_10\_\_yays,\_\_0\_\_nays, \_\_0\_abstentions

E. SR56020: A resolution to call for the establishment of Naloxone Training Initiatives

* 1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
  2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
  3. Deputy Speaker states
     1. “This was my part of my project that it had in the background I alluded to in several deputy speaker reports throughout fall semester. Basically, for the quick context is several colleges and university across not just the state, but also across the country have their own naloxone, which is the specific drug called Narcan that people can use when they suspect someone of having an opioid overdose, especially in the context of the opioid epidemic plaguing the nation. Although there are no cases that I know of that have occurred at NIU, this is a proactive measure. I have spoken with students including Speaker Corpuz himself who has backed this idea, and I have indeed spoken with some members of Niu administration who have voiced their support and have been involved in similar actions and activities at different colleges in the state. For example, Doctor Rachel Boldman, who is the associate Assistant Vice president for academic affairs has given support and was involved in similar measures done at McHenry County College. Because of such efforts with passage of this resolution, it would essentially establish a firm position that student government has allowed administration to fully understand the proposal I have put together based on research of me attending different colleges, training programs, contacting health officials from different universities, including one from Ohio. So, with the passage of this resolution, it'll essentially make this harm reduction measure a firm policy of student government to pursue. Although it would open the floor for senators such as yourself to help participate in these actions by helping to be part of the discussion and collaborate or coordinate with proper university emissions, if you so choose.
  4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
  5. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
  6. The vote passes with a count of \_\_\_10\_yays,\_0\_\_\_nays,\_\_0\_abstentions.

F. SR56021: A resolution to confirm a Parliamentarian

* 1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
  2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
  3. Senator Guerrero states
     1. “First of all, I would like to thank Speaker Corpuz for considering me for this position as parliamentarian. I believe due to my experience being an SGA, I think I fit this role, and I believe I could deal with the responsibilities of this role. If approved by the Senate, I am ready to work alongside the different branches and directors of SGA. I know that this position is new, and I'm prepared to set the expectations for future parliamentarians that are coming after me. When I came in the fall for SGA, I said I wanted work to improve the recognition of SGA around campus by tabling and other sorts of events. Through this position, I think I'm capable of that by organizing committee service hours for senators through the various resource centers organizations, the food pantry and Niu Care day to spread the word about SJ and get ourselves out there as a history major, I know the importance of keeping record of the past and how that can influence us and influence the future generations. I plan to work with the current executive and judicial legislative directors, legislative members to ensure proper preservation of SGA history for future sessions. I am prepared to be the historian for students and members of the Senate for any questions you may have about previous SGA and history about it.
  4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
  5. Senator Ivy states
     1. “Are you familiar with Robert's rules of order?”
  6. Senator Guerrero responds
     1. “Yes, I am. I know a few, but I'm ready to learn more about it.”
  7. Senator Monteleone asks
     1. “As parliamentarian, will you be working with the Public Affairs Committee?”
  8. Senator Guerrero responds
     1. “I'll work with any committee since I know that the parliamentarians worked alongside executive, judicial. So, I know there are many more people in these branches, so I'm ready to work with anyone.”
  9. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez asks
     1. “Since this is a paid position, would you be able to make sure that you meet the minimum of 10 out working hours?”
  10. Senator Guerrero responds
      1. “Yes, my schedule for the semester is school on Tuesday, Thursday with Friday and Monday. So, if I need to come in on a Monday to put in my hours due to, you know, academics or something else that may come down later in the week, I will come in early and work for them.”
  11. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. “I would just like to say Senator Guerrero has been a huge help for me this past semester. As someone who has class beforehand, he has helped set up four meetings and has also helped me out of well, the good news is he is here to help me. Well, whenever I need help here in the office.
  12. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
  13. The vote passes with a count of \_9\_\_\_yays,\_\_0\_\_nays,\_1\_\_abstentions.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

1. There is none.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Speaker Corpuz asks if there are any announcements.
   1. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. I do have one or one announcements. The DeKalb Park District has invited us to volunteer for their 9th annual polar Palooza Winter Fest. This event will run from 12:00 to 3:00 PM, on Saturday, February 1st at Hopkins Park in DeKalb. They are looking for 15 to 20 volunteers who are available and who can work from 11:15 to 3:30 PM. You will be mostly filling a number of various needs, from helping with crafts, monitoring winter activities, assisting with set up and clean up and engaging community members at the event. If you are any of you are interested in attending this, please let me know so we can start a group for SGA to go to that event. The other one I have is the Cowboys district is also hosting another event called Daddy and Daughter and Hero volunteers. This event is Saturday, February 15th, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM during this event. Let me pull out more details. Volunteers will be asked to help with crafts, serve refreshments, help with clean up, and mingle with patrons. Once again, they are just looking for volunteers. If we have a large enough group from SGA, we'll send a group out with them. But if you want to volunteer by yourself, that's also acceptable. Welcome back everyone, hope to work with you all over this break and or over this semester.

**ADJOURNMENT**

1. Speaker Corpuz calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
2. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez so moved.
3. Senator Guerrero seconded.
4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
5. There is none.
6. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
7. The motion passes and the meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.

**CLOSING ATTENDANCE**

1. **Voting Members Present: Klister, Lavallais, Crawford, Chigurupati, Monteleone, Gonzalez, Ivy, Samuel, Guerrero, Sawyer,**
2. **Voting Members Absent:**
3. **Voting members Excused:** **Vaske, Udoh, Fields Rosales,**
4. **Candidate Members Present: Ramirez, Meister, Robinson**

**MINUTES SUBMITTED BY**

Clerk Sawyer on January 23rd, 2025

56th Senate on January 17th, 2025