Transcripts of the

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE

OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

November 8, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

1. This meeting was called to order by Speaker Corpuz at 4:07 pm 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, Field, Lavallias, Robinson, Chigurupati, Gonzalez, Monteleone, Ivy, Samuel, Guerrero, Samsonek, Rosales
5. **Voting members Absent:**
6. **Voting members Excused:** Crawford, Udoh

**VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

1. Clerk Sawyer confirms quorum is met.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. There is none.

**APROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Speaker Corpuz moves to approve last week’s minutes.
2. Clerk Sawyer 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. Clerk Sawyer 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
   1. “Hello. Over the past week I've been able to update and review the Senate attendance. In correlation with the Senate attendance, Senator Vaske was dismissed from Senate due to accumulating 3 unexcused absences from committee meetings. Next week will be the last week to submit any bills regarding bylaw changes or constitution changes. Please e-mail me to submit the legislation to R and P. I was able to also write legislation for the stipend amount for the next semester. For senators this semester, you will receive notice of the amount you have obtained within the next few weeks. Legislation for the Board of Elections will be coming up later as well. If you are planning on not returning for the next session of SGA or are graduating in the spring, please e-mail me after the meeting if you are interested in joining the Board of Elections. I've also been working with the Asian American Resource Center this week to mainly help find different avenues of funding for the Indian Student Association for their larger event next week, called ISA Nights.”

**SPECIAL REPORT**

1. There is none.

**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER REPORT**

1. Deputy Speaker’s Report
   1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “In the past week I have worked with Treasurer Pesavento, Speaker Corpuz, and Vice President Innis on helping to review the Executive Allocation guidelines and simplifying the tiers to make it easier for organizations. As mentioned last week, those discussions have led to the legislation you see today. I have also spoken with Bradley and Jaime from the University Archives in an effort to archive Student Government Records. This is to preserve SGA history and allow it to be shared with the greater community. The beginning of uploading our files into the Huskie Commons, the program used by the University Archives to house other records, will begin next week. I have also been meeting with various individuals across the campus in the effort to start a public health service based on what other universities have done. Details will be revealed in the future, pending further review and information.”
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. Chairperson Monteleone states
      1. “ The Public Affairs Committee plans to host a tabling event to encourage students to run for student government elections in the next two weeks, and we encourage you guys to stop by that and help campaign a little bit and additionally send pictures from your own committees to the public affairs director, so we can get those posted for you guys, that's all. Thanks. “
4. Chairperson of Organizational Oversight’s report
   1. Chairperson Gonzalez states
      1. “The Mortar Board Pleiades Chapter at NIU, they are an Honor Society, and they were approved yesterday. I would also like to remind everyone that OO is hosting its own event called Discover Your Pack. It is a mini-involvement fair for the new student organizations that OO has approved this semester in an effort to help them connect more with the NIU community. This event is slated for Thursday, November 21st from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM and the Oasis Suite. Food will be provided.”
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.

**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. SB56009: A bill to consolidate the positions of Historian and Legislative Director into the Parliamentarian.
   1. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
   2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
   3. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “This bill consolidates the positions of historian, legislative director and director of Community service into one singular position called the Parliamentarian. Again, this is just mostly to update SGA Senate leadership, just to make sure that each individual position has unique roles, nothing is overlapping, helps to make a more effective office and helps run SGA more smoothly.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   6. This vote passes with \_11\_\_ yays, \_1\_\_ nays, \_\_0\_ abstentions.
2. SB56010: A bill to update and simplify the tiers of organizational funding.
   1. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
   2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
   3. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “This piece of legislation, was worked with Speaker Corpuz, but as well as Treasurer Pesavento. We were trying to simplify the tiers. We're not getting rid of tiers. Tiers are still remaining. We're just moving it away from the bylaws into its own, essentially, manual or guidelines document. That way it's easier for organizations when they apply for supplemental funding or even annual funding that they can just consult with it instead of going through the large document that is the bylaw.
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “I’d like to request for a friendly amendment. The change will simply just change where it says, “tier funding guidelines” in subsection C to finance operating manual.”
   6. Speaker Corpuz accepts the friendly amendment.
   7. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any more discussion or debate.
   8. Senator Rosales asks
      1. “In question for the document, the legislation just takes effect immediately. There’s no document for that. So, if this is like that, when would that take effect immediately? I was wondering if the Treasurer would be here to ask more questions about it. “
   9. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez responds
      1. “Sometime next week it would be finalized right before when all organizations and their leadership are informed to when the annual funding opens that will already be completed. So, they would not create a problem or anything.”
   10. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any more discussion or debate.
   11. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   12. This vote passes with \_12\_\_ yays, \_0\_\_ nays, \_1\_\_ abstentions.
3. SB56011: A bill to update the committee’s procedures and conduct of business
   1. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
   2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
   3. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “What this bill does is simplify some of the procedures for committees themselves. This is an effort to increase efficiency for each committee, simplify the process and expand the responsibilities of the chairs, and how it will be addressed by someone if there is any sort of violation.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   6. This vote passes with \_12\_\_ yays, \_\_0\_ nays, \_0\_\_ abstentions.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. SB56012: A bill to update and simplify the definition of supplemental funding.
   1. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
   2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
   3. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “This bill was worked in conjunction with Speaker Corpuz as well as Treasurer Pesavento. This was just to clarify the definition of supplemental funding. This is just in regard to some discussions I had with the treasurer. There was just some confusion when organizations were submitting the form, and this is just to make sure that there is no ambiguity when it comes to supplemental funding as well as just changes some of the way how organizations are notified to reflect current operations. And so, this is also just to update as well.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. “I would also like to add this. There's also a change here that makes the Finance Committee meet once a week while the Senate is in session just to hear supplemental requests from different organizations.”
   5. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   6. This bill will be voted on next week.
2. SB56013: A bill to update and simplify the definition of executive allocation.
   1. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
   2. Senator Guerrero seconded.
   3. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “This piece of legislation also stems from that conversation with Treasurer Pesavento. This is just to kind of simplifying the executive allocation funding process. If you are unaware of what executive allocation is, it is specifically money that the executive branch can give to certain organizations. If they apply for it, it has to be a large campus initiative and there's also several requirements that go along with it. This bill, even though it doesn't look like it is operating on that same idea and framework of the general funding oversight bill as well as the recently passed tiers funding Bill, where it's that definition has moved into its own document. But the coexists alongside the bylaws, that is the finance operating manual and that is just to give more clarity for organizations requesting executive allocation and is really for simplicity's sake, and this was discussed with President Ja’kobi Jones as well as Vice President James Innis. So, everyone in the executive branch is aware of this and they do support it, even if their name is not listed as a sponsor.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. This bill will be voted on next week.
3. SB56014: A bill to clarify the transition process of elected paid officials.
   1. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
   2. Senator Gonzalez seconded.
   3. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
      1. “This one is also, again, in regard to conversations with Treasurer Pesavento but as well as President Jones, the specific on this bill is for his elected paid positions and SGA, which would include the speaker, deputy speaker, as well as the clerk and the legislative branch and in the executive branch, it would be the President, Vice President, as well as Treasurer to create transitional materials and documents prescribed by a certain deadline. That way it can be ready to be reviewed as soon as the newly elected positions or elected following the spring elections. Another tidbit with this is if a position has already been elected for the future. So, assuming spring elections have come then, the elect must be trained in conjunction with the outgoing presidents or other elected officials. Term. That way they are trained as we're going along. The whole aim of this is to help smooth the transition, prevent any operational setbacks if administrations must keep starting from scratch every single year and will ensure that SGA's priorities remain straightforward and operational regardless of who the administration is and what time of year it is.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. This bill will be voted on next week.
4. SR56013: A resolution to approve all meeting times, locations, and dates for the upcoming semester.
   1. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
   2. Senator Gonzalez seconded.
   3. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. “This is a resolution for next spring’s meet times. I would like to say that the meeting time will not change, and it will now be hopefully all in the sky room if there are any changes or any cancellations to our reservation, I will let you guys know and then we can also vote on it as well. But I will let you all know beforehand if I am made aware of any changes.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   6. This vote passes with \_\_12\_ yays, \_\_0\_ nays, \_0\_\_ abstentions.
5. SR56014: A resolution to finalize the stipend amount for the next semester’s session
   1. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
   2. Senator Gonzalez seconded.
   3. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. “So, you guys will receive a stipend at the end of this year of $250. This was decided by our speaker, Hensley, from last year’s session. Moving forward, we I will be deciding for the spring semester and the amount that was agreed upon was $250.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   6. This vote passes with \_\_10\_ yays, \_\_0\_ nays, \_3\_\_ abstentions.
6. SR56015: A resolution to confirm the Spring 2025 Board of Elections
   1. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
   2. Senator Gonzalez seconded.
   3. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. “The Board of Elections is decided by Senate. We will have seven members, technically of which only 5 are technically part of the Board of Elections. The other two will be serving as alternates. If you are graduating in the spring or are not planning on returning to SGA in the fall, this is just a way that you guys can contribute one last time to SGA. And this will count as your third committee as well in response to the senator stipend and to your duties as senator. We will be making nominations in next week's meeting, but this is just a piece to talk about.”
   4. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   5. Speaker Corpuz moves to table this piece.
   6. Senator Rosales seconded.
   7. The resolution is tabled for next week.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

1. Deputy Speaker Gonzalez states
   1. “I would just like to inform the entire Senate if you were unaware on Wednesday of this week, the Provost Office release mission, which is an AI chat bot that is designed to help students with asking questions related to any sort of services the NIU has to offer. This can range from academics to even counseling help if requested and needed by students. It is managed by the Provost Office and only they can see whatever you put into the chat box. I want to make this known in case anyone comes up to you requesting information about the chat feature, but I had a meeting with them earlier today and they were saying that it so far has been a massive success based on the responses collected so far. And so, if you can spread the information about the chats, use and even test it for yourself and spread it to your constituents, that would be greatly appreciated by the office of the Provost.
2. Senator Ivy states
   1. “Just so you all know, the College of law is hosting an open house tomorrow. So, if you have any interest, want to know what law students are and how they look like head on over tomorrow. It's between 9:00 and 2:00 pm.
3. Speaker Corpuz states
   1. “I have just one thing or I have two things. Technically, next week we will be in the capital room, so please do not come up here because our meeting will be downstairs on the 2nd floor right next to the Duke Ellington Ballroom, I believe. That's in the capital room. So that's the first announcement. Second announcement. I've secured a photography promotional event for us for SGA's meeting. There will be a photographer next week. During our meeting, they'll be taking pictures and we'll just be taking, like, action shots for our websites. Please dress in your SGA polo shirt. If you do not have an SGA polo please come bother me right after this meeting and I will get it to you as soon as I can.”

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Speaker Corpuz states
   1. “I have one announcement. The Indian Student Association are hosting an event called ISA Night on November 12th in the Duke Ellington Ballroom. There will be food, live performances and more. Please stop by if you are available.”
2. Senator Lavallias states
   1. “This week is the week for first generation college students, so I do suggest if you guys have any free time you can come support or if you are first gen, go to their events.”

**ADJOURNMENT**

1. Speaker Corpuz calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
2. Clerk Sawyer so moved.
3. Senator Rosales 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 4:35pm.

**CLOSING ATTENDANCE**

1. **Voting Members Present:** Klister, Field, Lavallias, Robinson, Chigurupati, Gonzalez, Monteleone, Ivy, Samuel, Guerrero, Samsonek, Rosales
2. **Voting Members Absent:**
3. **Voting members Excused:** Crawford, Udoh
4. **Candidate Members Present:**

**MINUTES SUBMITTED BY**

Clerk Sawyer on November 11th, 2024

56th Senate on November 8th, 2024