Transcripts of the

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE

OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

March 21st, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

1. This meeting was called to order by Speaker Corpuz at 4:02 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 (Late) Lavallais, Chigurupati, Monteleone (Late) Obabco, Woodson, Ivy, Samuel, Boniecki, Guerrero, Meister, Robinson, Zimmer**
5. **Voting members Absent:**  **Fields Crawford**
6. **Voting members Excused: Gonzalez, Udoh, Ramirez**

**VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

1. Parliamentarian Guerrero confirms quorum is met.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. There is none.

**APROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Speaker Corpuz moves to approve last week’s minutes.
2. Senator Woodson so moved.
3. Senator Boniecki 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. Senator Obabco so moved.
3. Senator Boniecki 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, from last you guys saw me, I’ve been working on helping Treasurer Pesavento work on annual funding as well as helping Vice President James Innis and Director of Organizational Development, David Rivera finish the organizational check-in. I’ve also been working with Election Commissioner Althoff on the elections, which will be next week. There will be more information to follow as soon as we can get information sent out to you guys.”

**SPECIAL REPORT**

1. There is none.

**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER REPORT**

1. Deputy Speaker’s Report
   1. Ther is none.
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. Parliamentarian Guerrero states
      1. DEI met today at 2:00 pm. We also met with the different disability resource centers on the Campus Life building. We met with the Disability Resource Center Student Assistance Center and Gender and Sexuality Resource Center to discuss each research, research centers, goals for the semester, and how we can help them. For next years’ session, I think it went well, and all the committee members agreed as well. Next week we’ll be meeting with the Latino Resource Center, Asian American Resource Center, and Center of Black Studies at 12:00 pm. If you’re interested in joining us, please let me know.
6. Chairperson of Board of Elections’ report
   1. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. Elections are next week. The ballot will be released later today, pending approval from our advisor.

**EXECUTIVE REPORT**

1. President’s report
   1. There is none.
2. Vice-President’s report
   1. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. Vice President Innis apologizes that he cannot come up here today, because he is technically working for the Office of Student Involvement during this time, so he would just like to say a total of 37 organizations have been approved this academic year with 28 in the fall and 9 in the spring. We are still waiting on a few more new organizations to make necessary changes to their constitution and their organization just so that they can be approved. All constitution and bylaw changes have been made-up to SB56020 and he is going back to go through all the recent legislation to verify all the updates have been entered into the Constitution and bylaws. if any students have questions about their student organization or the approval process, please send them to Vice President James Innis, Director David Rivera, or Deputy Speaker Gonzalez.
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. SB56023: A bill to update the Constitution to provide further definition of the Code of Procedure
   1. Senator Obabko so moved.
   2. Senator Boniecki seconded.
   3. Speaker Corpus states
      1. “As stated the week before spring break, the Code of Procedures is just a document that the Judicial branch relies on and is their main governing document besides the SGA Constitution. This just adds into the Constitution that the Code of Procedures should be updated every two calendar years by the Supreme Court and that it should be maintained and properly passed on to the next Supreme Court if the Chief Justice is not in session or there is no current Chief Justice.
   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 12 yays, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.
2. SB56024: A bill to update the responsibilities and duties of the Chief Justice
   1. Senator Woodson so moved.
   2. Senator Obabko seconded.
   3. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. This legislation was written the week before spring break to update the responsibilities of the Chief Justice. It is just so that we have the code of procedures and that we should be giving a code of procedures. Every single year the Chief Justice shall send the code of procedures to at least the Clerk of the Court, and so that we can transition this into our yearly sessions at least now.
   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 \_\_12\_\_yays,\_\_0\_\_nays,\_\_0\_abstentions

C. SB56025: A bill to ensure that there is clear precedent and archiving standards for the SGA Supreme Court.

* 1. Senator Obabko so moved.
  2. Senator Woodson seconded.
  3. Speaker Corpuz states
     1. So, this is brought by Deputy Speaker Gonzalez and is also just adding onto the Constitution the responsibility of the Clerk of the Court to work with the Parliamentarian just so that we have someone connected to the Supreme Court and we can have documentation of all meetings that they have.
  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 \_\_12\_\_yays,\_\_0\_\_nays,\_0\_\_abstentions.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. SB56026: A bill to update the bylaws to provide definition of major changes to student organization’s constitutions.
   1. Senator Obabko so moved.
   2. Senator Chigurupati seconded.
   3. Speaker Corpuz states
      1. So, this legislation was written in hopes of helping the organizational oversight committee. This change allows organizational oversight to not have to check every single organization and check with each organization, when they make a single change to their constitution. This includes anything that's typographical or grammar. As it currently stands, anytime a student organization wants to change their constitution they would have to go to OO. This process just makes it so that anything that would directly affect an organization is a standard and reason for them to meet with OO to discuss these changes. Any other changes can be made purely by the organization itself to allow a little more self-governance between the organization. But these are just the major changes are anything that restricts or Browns NIU membership or anything that has to do with the collection of dues.
   4. Senator Obabko asks
      1. Just a question to clarify. So, it just streamlines the process by allowing any mild oversight to club constitutions without having to go to student government?
   5. Speaker Corpuz responds
      1. Yes, so basically the only things that would make Organizational Oversight committee call a meeting to meet with them is if something changes their constitution, that would change their financial status or their restrictions on the organization itself.
   6. Senator Chigurupati asks
      1. Who would decide if it’s a major change? If they do make a major change by themselves, is there a procedure that we can oversee when we come to know they made a change?
   7. Speaker Corpuz responds
      1. For them to upload their constitution on Husky Hub, we get notified of it. Any organization that does change the constitution we will know about it beforehand. If you are asking about what constitutes a major change, it’s the numbers that are written up there. We’re not saying that every single minor change. If they add an S to their name, if they’re changing what they define as their officers, they can. They’re allowed to do that without having to ask us for permission.
   8. Speaker Corpuz asks if there is any discussion or debate.
   9. Speaker Corpuz calls for a vote.
   10. This bill will be voted on next meeting.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

1. Speaker Corpuz states
   1. If you haven’t noticed, a lot of legislation I’ve been putting up recently was the Supreme Court and Judicial branch. For everyone’s further information and for full transparency, the judicial branch has had major changes within the last year and I’m trying to make sure before I leave the office that you guys have access to the judicial branch and that there is no more stalling of the judicial branch. It is just based on misinformation and lack of information. There’s going to be more legislation that I’m going to be putting up later about the judicial branch and the Supreme Court. If you would like to help me on that that would be very helpful and please come and talk to me if you want help. Secondly, senators, you all have to write legislation as per you responsibility. At this time, I’m also working with the Board of Elections and also the Executive Board for next year, while also still helping out with Senate so I’m not always going to be available for you guys to write legislation or to help you guys. So, you guys need to start coming in and talking to me about your legislation because come April, I don’t know if I’m going to be fully available as I am right now. So, please come in and talk to me if you have any questions about your own responsibilities or writing legislation, or just e-mail me about these things as chances are I will forget something as I normally do if I don’t see it in an email.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Parliamentarian Guerrero states
   1. Today is the last day to sign up for NIU Care’s Day if you want to participate as part of SGA. This will take place April 4th at 12:00 pm. This will help you fulfill that one hour community service requirement at the center for SGA. If you’re interested, please come up after the meeting so I could put you in the list. And thank you to the five senators that have signed up.
2. Speaker Corpuz states
   1. Once again, Parliamentarian Guerrero has mentioned before you guys have 5 service hours that are due to SGA with one of them being corresponding with SGA. So, please if you aren’t doing anything on April 4th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, there’s NIU Cares Day. It’s a great way to help the community and please come up here after the meeting to sign up if you want.

**ADJOURNMENT**

1. Speaker Corpuz calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
2. Senator Chigurupati so moved.
3. Senator Obabko 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 4:21 pm.

**CLOSING ATTENDANCE**

1. **Voting Members Present: Klister Lavallais, Chigurupati, Monteleone Obabco, Woodson, Ivy, Samuel, Boniecki, Guerrero, Meister, Robinson, Zimmer**
2. **Voting Members Absent: Field, Crawford**
3. **Voting members Excused:** **Udoh, Ramirez**
4. **Candidate Members Present:**

**MINUTES SUBMITTED BY**

Clerk Sawyer on March 26th, 2025

56th Senate on March 21st, 2025