

Minutes of the
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

February 24, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

1. This meeting was called to order by Speaker Douglass at 2:06pm in the HSC (Holmes Student Center) Heritage 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. **Voting Members Present:** Gibbons, English, Colvin, Senator Woodward, Allen, Perez-Hernandez, Kolawole, Jovanovich, Althoff, Musgraves, Corpuz, Douglass, Babcock, Rogers
4. **Voting members Absent:** Olson, Martin, Ramos, Rosales
5. **Voting members Excused:** Hensley, O'Brien, Ashton

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

1. Quorum is met.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. There is none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Speaker Douglass moves to approve last week's minutes.
2. So moved.

3. Seconded.
4. Speaker Douglass asks if there is any discussion or debate.
5. There is none.
6. Speaker Douglass calls for a vote.
7. The motion is passed, and the minutes are approved.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Speaker Douglass moves to approve the agenda.
2. So moved.
3. Seconded.
4. Speaker Douglass asks if there is any discussion or debate.
5. There is none.
6. Speaker Douglass requests a motion to move new business to old business.
7. So moved.
8. Seconded.
9. Speaker Douglass asks if there is any discussion or debate.
10. There is none.
11. Speaker Douglass calls for a vote.
12. Vote passes business is moved.
13. Speaker Douglass calls for a vote to approve the agenda.
14. The motion is passed, and the agenda are approved.

SPEAKER REPORT

1. Speaker Douglass states

- a. Earlier this week President Majeed, Treasurer Morgan, and I, met with the new CFO Middlemist and Provost Ingram.
 - b. Student org funding and how that works was a big topic.
 - c. Overall it went well.
 - d. Dr. Middlemist wants to be call George.
 - e. He talked about his values, transparency dedication to the mission, acceptability of information's.
 - f. If you have questions, please let me know.
 - g. In incoming months the university will be trying to revitalize old stuff
 - h. There are a lot of unused classrooms which will be renovated into study spaces.
 - i. As a reminder if you are running in the SGA election there are only two left, and you need to go to a candidate meeting if you want to run.
2. Senator Woodward is recognized.
 3. Senator Woodward asks.
 - a. Is there on at 5pm today.
 4. Speaker Douglass replies
 - a. Yes, there is.
 - b. also State of the university is today at 3:30 you all should go.

SPECIAL REPORT

1. There is none.

OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER REPORT

A. Deputy Speaker's Report

1. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.

2. Deputy Speaker Allen States

- a. Every senator needs to complete a 1 on 1 most of you have gotten back to me however a few have not. Senator Ashton, Senator Kolawole, Chairperson Olson, and Senator Althoff still need to do 1 on 1s.
- b. Please attend Board of Elections meetings if you want to come back.
- c. Met with member of Holmes Student Center staff how we set up our stuff so that we have good events.

B. Clerk's Report

1. Clerk English is recognized.
2. Clerk English states
 - a. Hello senators I wanted to remind you that it is expected that you fully read the agenda and all legislation on it so that we don't have to ask and answer questions that are already included in the legislation.
 - b. Also I wanted to remind senators that if they agree with most of a piece of legislation but want to add to a part, they can make a motion to modify the wording and if that requires research needed outside of the current meeting you can make a motion to table the legislation for until the next meeting.
 - c. Also I wanted to remind senators that a resolution is a vote on our support for a cause or change within the university, a petition is a signed document of support for those changes we can send to members of the university, and a bill is to make changes to how the SGA operates. Last week there appeared to be confusion about what various levels of legislation could do. So this is just a reminder if you have questions, please let me know after the meeting.

- d. I wanted to let y'all know that I will be following up on statements made in reports from people who promised to give out information that they were not able to give at the time of the report from now on. With that being said, Director Becker according to both Deputy Speaker Allen and Senator Martin they have not received title IX information, the volleyball coaches name, not the percentage of student fee money that athletics takes. Please make sure you send that information to them promptly.
 - e. Talked into the mics.
3. Senator Kolawole is recognized.
4. Senator Kolawole asks.
 - a. If I request information, what do you do?
5. Clerk English is recognized.
6. Clerk English responds.
 - a. Good question.
 - b. To clarify what I will be doing is that if you say, "I don't know right now, or my phone is dead I can't give you that information now."
 - c. So I will just be following up to make sure the information is sent.
 - d. For example Deputy Speaker Allen did not receive the information even after asking for it.
 - e. So I will just be following up to make sure the information is sent.
7. Senator Kolawole is recognized.
8. Senator Kolawole asks.
 - a. Would you have to specifically ask for the information?

9. Clerk English is recognized.

10. Clerk English responds.

- a. If you say that you will give information I will follow up and make sure that you do give that information.

C. Historian's Report

1. Historian Babcock is recognized.

2. Historian Babcock states

- a. I have done the mission I started out doing which was all paper documents are organized labeled and put in sleeves.
- b. This is an accomplishment as they were a mess when I started.
- c. If you have questions about those documents, please let me know.
- d. I did follow up with Director Becker.
- e. He did send me the follow up.
- f. Sondra Parys is the new volleyball coach.
- g. 32% of athletic revenue comes from student fees.
- h. I can send previous information to those who request it.

COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Chairperson of organizational Oversight's report

1. Vice-Chairperson of Organizational Oversight English is recognized.

2. Clerk English states

- a. four orgs last week
- b. no orgs this week
- c. Next week 4-5 orgs

B. Chairperson of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion's report

1. Chairperson of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Rogers is recognized.
2. Chairperson Rogers states
 - a. [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion] met this Monday we planned out events.
 - b. Rainbow rave and [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion] panel
 - c. Please show up and show you reports.
3. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.
4. Deputy Speaker Allen asks.
 - a. Have you reached out to [Holmes Student Center] staff to confirm rooms?
5. Chairperson Rogers is recognized.
6. Chairperson Rogers responds.
 - a. Yes, I have I will forward that to you I have a spreadsheet.

C. Chairperson of Environmental Affairs' report

1. Chairperson of Environmental Affairs Jovanovich is recognized.
2. Chairperson Jovanovich states
 - a. We have been in this weird limbo as Courtney Gallaher has taken a huge step to involve a bunch of orgs.
 - b. Dr. Gallaher is amazing she is making [Environmental Affairs] so much easier.
 - c. When we get the specifics, I will advertise.

D. Chairperson of Board of Elections' report

1. Chairperson of Board of Elections Olson is recognized.
2. Chairperson Olson states

- a. Board of Elections will be meeting on Saturday at 11 and at today at 5.
3. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.
4. Deputy Speaker Allen asks.
 - a. What advertising have you done for committee meetings?
5. Chairperson Olson is recognized.
6. Chairperson Olson responds.
 - a. Posts
 - b. Drawings
 - c. Public Affairs has sent it through social media.
7. Clerk English is recognized.
8. Clerk English asks.
 - a. Is there also a meeting on Sunday.
9. Chairperson Olson is recognized.
10. Chairperson Olson responds.
 - a. Yes
11. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.
12. Deputy Speaker Allen asks.
 - a. More meetings?
13. Chairperson Olson is recognized.
14. Chairperson Olson responds.
 - a. Yes, we will talk this Saturday.
15. Speaker Douglass states
 - a. Open secret that there are almost always meetings after the last one.

E. Chairperson of Campus Life and Greek Affairs' report

1. There is none.

F. Chairperson of Public Affairs' report

1. There is none.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

A. President's report

1. There is none.

B. Vice-President's report

1. There is none.

C. Treasurer's report

1. There is none.

D. Deputy Treasurer's report

1. There is none.

E. Chief of Staff's report

1. There is none.

CABINET REPORT

A. Director of Organizational Development

1. Speaker Douglass reads a report from Director of Organizational Development

Blalock

- a. "SENATE EXECUTIVE REPORT

- b. For my position, I have been working with Vice President Lee and the entirety of the Organizational Oversight Committee to swiftly, and accurately approve all organizations. In the past, we worked on a large mission of updating all

organizations on campus, and ensuring that their Constitutions / Bylaws meet the standards of NIU and Student Government. This consisted of all 250+ organizations that we have listed in HuskieHub.

- c. Since then, I have been diligently working through HuskieHub and Workflow to ensure that all new submissions for organizations on campus are attended to. I check HuskieHub every single day and send out emails as often as I possibly can based on the response time of those that I am in contact with.
- d. To this date, I have submitted a quite substantial number of organizations to Cole Hensley and the OOC committee with the help of Vice President Lee. My goal is to continue to push organizations that fully meet the requirements up to the OOC and help everyone that I possibly can obtain full recognition / approval here on campus.
- e. FUTURE ENDEAVOURS
- f. In the near future, my goal is to continue to create a positive presence on campus for SGA by attending as many events within the calendar as possible. Pushing our presence and support to the student body is a big priority of mine. This positive relationship between SGA and all student organizations will allow us to offer more support for those who know that they can reach out to us, and utilize all of our support / services.”

B. Director of Diversity, Equity and, Inclusion

- 1. There is none.

C. Director of Athletics

- 1. There is none.

D. Director of Student Life

1. There is none.

E. Director of Public Affairs

1. There is none.

F. Director of Academic Affairs

1. There is none.

G. Director of Community Engagement and Environmental Affairs

1. There is none.

OLD BUISNESS

A. SR54030

1. Speaker Douglass calls for a motion to discuss agenda item A. A resolution to grant official recognition to student organizations.
2. So moved.
3. Seconded.
4. Clerk English is recognized.
5. Clerk English introduces the bill.
 - a. All four orgs meet the requirements to become a recognized org.
 - b. History Graduate Student Association's mission is, "The mission of the History Graduate Student Association is to provide graduate students with opportunities for professional development, foster academic collaboration, and promote the profession of history in a supportive intellectual environment."

- c. Graduate Arts Association's purpose is, "To encourage the recognition of DeKalb as a center of artistic endeavor in the media of visual arts.
 - d. To educate students (graduate and undergraduate) in the visual arts by programming lectures, demonstrations, exhibitions, workshop classes, and critique.
 - e. To promote development of students (graduate and undergraduate) through fundraising stipends."
 - f. Women and Gender Advocacy Alliance's purpose is to, "Promote the success and wellbeing of women and girls.
 - g. Improve gender relations by providing opportunities for women and men to engage in cooperative work and open dialogue.
 - h. Provide the NIU and DeKalb communities appropriate forums for raising awareness of and working against sexual assault, domestic abuse, and gender discrimination.
 - i. Educate women and men about reproductive biology and health.
 - j. Provide women and men opportunities for confidence and leadership skill development."
 - k. WeCare4NIU's purpose is, "The purpose of this organization shall be empowering women and men to make life-affirming choices when facing an unplanned pregnancy, educating students on sexual risk avoidance, encouraging unmarried students to choose sexual abstinence, and embodying the life-changing love of Jesus in all our interactions."
6. Speaker Douglass asks if there is any discussion or debate.

7. There is none.
8. Speaker Douglass calls for a vote. 12 yays // 1 nays // 2 abstains.
9. This passes.

B. SB54027

1. Speaker Douglass calls for a motion to discuss agenda item B. A bill to require Senators in the Student Government Association to complete one piece of legislation during their time in office.
2. So moved.
3. Seconded.
4. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.
5. Deputy Speaker Allen introduces the bill.
 - a. This a bill to require senators to complete one piece of legislation.
 - b. Duties and responsibility do not show how they have done outreach.
 - c. A lot of questions on legislation
 - d. More than just voting.
 - e. Continuing DeMeuse wanted senators to write legislation.
 - f. Want to see engagement.
6. Historian Babcock is recognized.
7. Historian Babcock states.
 - a. I think this is a good idea.
 - b. Legislation is the best way to support constituencies.
 - c. How do we expect others to listen if we have nothing to say
 - d. I am in full support.

8. Senator Martinis recognized.

9. Senator Martin states.

- a. I am in full support.
- b. As senators we understand what legislation is
- c. Also people think we don't do anything by passing legislation we show that we do.

10. Chairperson Rogers is recognized.

11. Chairperson Rogers states.

- a. I agree.
- b. From Snacks with SGA I gained perspective on what the average student thinks of [Student Government Association]
- c. They don't think we can have an impact.
- d. I fully support.
- e. I would love to see all of us put our best foot forward and show we care about what we do.

12. Senator Althoff is recognized.

13. Senator Althoff asks.

- a. Can they work together?

14. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.

15. Deputy Speaker Allen states.

- a. As already stated, yes.

16. Chairperson Jovanovich is recognized.

17. Chairperson Jovanovich states.

- a. Friendly amendment to change the wording to, to introduce a piece of legislation.

18. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.

19. Deputy Speaker Allen states

- a. I'll defer to Historian Babcock.

20. Historian Babcock is recognized.

21. Historian Babcock states

- a. Would it make more sense to say author instead of introduce?
- b. As every legislation has an author at the top

22. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.

23. Deputy Speaker Allen states

- a. I accept that friendly amendment.

24. Speaker Douglass states

- a. Add specific wording to state many can work together.

25. Senator Martin is recognized.

26. Senator Martin asks.

- a. Shouldn't we make a limit so that people can't just float by?
- b. Possibly only up to two people working on the same one.

27. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.

28. Deputy Speaker Allen states

- a. I want to leave it open.
- b. I think the problem with that language is that it could encourage the max people working on one each time.

c. Multiple at discretion at deputy speaker

29. Historian Babcock is recognized.

30. Historian Babcock states

a. I like that language.

b. I think if we put a cap on it as it could prohibit big pieces of legislation that need those extra people.

31. Clerk English is recognized.

32. Clerk English states

a. Motion to modify language.

b. So moved second.

c. This passes.

i. add the language, "Multiple Senators may collaborate on one piece of legislation at the discretion of the Speaker or Deputy Speaker."

ii. Speaker Douglass asks if there is any discussion or debate.

iii. There is none.

iv. Speaker Douglass calls for a vote.

v. Vote passes language is added is moved.

33. Chairperson Jovanovich is recognized.

34. Chairperson Jovanovich asks.

a. Clarification on 20 days

b. Instead of prior to last day

35. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.

36. Deputy Speaker Allen states

- a. Sometimes things won't get pushed forward in Rules and Procedures.
- b. This is to make sure you actually make the legislation.
- c. 20 business days is a full month.
- d. Could add at discretion of speaker and/or deputy speaker.
- e. Could work on legislation of different sizes.

37. Speaker Douglass states

- a. 20 business is 4 weeks.
- b. The language is vague enough to allow for drafts to count.
- c. Legislation doesn't have to be perfect.

38. Senator Martin is recognized.

39. Senator Martin asks.

- a. For this bill for senators who work with others does it count

40. Speaker Douglass states

- a. It would count with multiple people.

41. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.

42. Deputy Speaker Allen states

- a. In meetings I've made a point to do work with senators to already do this
- b. I have one who can't complete but will still turning a non-finished.

43. Speaker Douglass asks.

- a. Was making the bill hard as one of the non-leaderships who has brought a bill forward.

44. Senator Woodward is recognized.

45. Senator Woodward states

- a. Yeah, it was stressful.
 - b. It was difficult to find something.
46. Clerk English is recognized.
47. Clerk English states
- a. Just a reminder for senators that this bill will not go into effect this session.
48. Speaker Douglass states
- a. It says effective immediately.
49. Clerk English is recognized.
50. Clerk English states
- a. My bad I rescind that comment.
51. Speaker Douglass asks if there is any discussion or debate.
52. There is none.
53. Speaker Douglass calls for a vote. 12 yays // 1 nays // 0 abstains.
54. This passes.

NEW BUISNESS

1. There was none.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

1. Clerk English is recognized.
2. Clerk English states.
 - a. Chairperson Rogers and I are working to write a new petition that addresses the concerns brought up in the previous two meetings. If you are interested helping write it, please reach out to me or ROG.
3. Chairperson Rogers is recognized.

4. Chairperson Rogers states.

a. I am more than willing to work with you on the next piece of legislation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.

2. Deputy Speaker Allen states.

a. In 1 on 1 we will talk about legislation that could be passed

b. Please have something prepared

2. Clerk English is recognized.

3. Clerk English states

a. Engineering exhibition is Friday March 31st from 6-8pm in the Duke Ellington Ballroom.

b. You do not need to be an engineer to go.

4. Historian Babcock is recognized.

5. Historian Babcock states

a. Clerk English please email to Speaker Douglass.

b. Museum of anthropology has a new curator, Jessica Cima.

c. She emailed me about Museum advocacy day on 2/28/2023.

d. If you have concerns about collections on campus, I have those materials.

e. Personal announcement I have been accepted to Art Institute of Chicago I have a 20% scholarship I am excited.

6. Deputy Speaker Allen is recognized.

7. Deputy Speaker Allen states

a. I met with Heidi Carlson who will be coming for announcement next week.

- b. I will also do Instagram stuff specifically organization stuff.
- c. If orgs want, please reach out.

ADJOURNMENT

1. Speaker Douglass calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
2. So moved.
3. Seconded.
4. Speaker Douglass asks if there is any discussion or debate.
5. There is none.
6. Speaker Douglass calls for a vote.
7. The motion passes and the meeting adjourned at 2:52pm.

CLOSING ATTENDANCE

1. **Voting Members Present:** Gibbons, English, Colvin, Senator Woodward, Allen, Olson, Perez-Hernandez, Kolawole, Jovanovich, Althoff, Musgraves, Martin, Corpuz, Douglass, Babcock, Rogers
2. **Voting members Absent:** Ramos, Rosales
3. **Voting members Excused:** Hensley, O'Brien, Ashton
4. **Candidate Members Present:**

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY

Clerk English on February 24, 2023