



Senate Minutes

February 14, 2024

Absent Senators: Fabian Lubis, Matthew Taylor

A. WELCOME

B. WORSHIP - Dain Ochoa

- a. SM Year in Bolivia
- b. He was in charge of a house of 13 boys, from 7-18
- c. Second semester, they had a boy named Marquitos. Very sad backstory
- d. Dain had to take care of him, and he was very rebellious. For example, Dain asked him to sweep the floor, and he ran out the door.
- e. Something in him told me to tell Marquitos, “just tell him you care about him.”
And he starts crying.
- f. Sometimes what people need is just love.
- g. People here need love too :)

C. Introduction of New Senators

- a. Jhoan Oganda
- b. Natalie Jacome

D. Student Voice Committee- Kristen Sihotang

- a. Still working on the two main projects (Brock Hall and Chemistry Departments)

E. Social Committee - Amanda Leitao

- a. We just had our Senate Surprise Day, and Valentines SA Smile today
- b. Thank you for your help
- c. Next Senate Surprise is March 2

F. Community Service Committee - Herve Kazembe

- a. Problem: so many options to pick from
- b. They created criteria such as distance.
- c. 3 Community Service Opportunities
 - i. Standiford Church - Rescue Project. They make food, clothes, and on Sabbath, they provide it to Chattanooga
 - ii. Helping provide for homeless people (different church)
 - iii. Atlanta focused on helping women who are being persecuted. Their medium is sending letters to these women.
- d. Theme: hope and let's embody that this semester here at Southern

G. Finance Committee - Chidi Onyeije

- a. Sent out club appropriations – two weeks is the deadline
- b. Finding their finance records to see what their financial history is

H. Scholarship Committee - Minha Yang

- a. Working on a new scholarship
- b. Logistic setback
- c. Creating a new scholarship or giving out a scholarship
- d. Working with different committees to give out a new scholarship

I. PR Committee - Matthew Taylor

- a. Staff Appreciation Week - give students a chance to thank alumni (week after spring break)
- b. Senator Highlights

J. Elections Committee - Samuel Mora

- a. The SA Candidates have been chosen
- b. Elections are happening right now
- c. Tomorrow at convocation, they are having the SA Speeches AND Press Conference
- d. Primaries for the Social VP. An email will be sent out to pick the top two out of three candidates. Then, next week the student body will vote between those two candidates.
- e. Come!

K. Safety Committee - Lauren Gerath

- a. Deciding what to do with the budget

- b. \$400 Sexual Abuse Awareness class - an important class offered here at Southern
- c. Sending out a survey with questions for feedback for next years committee
- d. Anyone who provides feedback will be put in to win one of two items – so look out for the questionnaire soon!!

L. Wage Increase - Voting

- a. Motion: Amendment of adding Senate to the proposal **Vote: Yes/No 12/8 APPROVED**
- b. Motion: Add Senators wage increase to the proposal (\$10/hour) **Vote: Yes/No 14/7 APPROVED**
- c. Financial VP's opinion, if we approve the Senate's hours, then will we have to improve the strawberry festival, memories, etc...
- d. The goal was to work on the cabinet first, and then to branch out to the Senate, Strawberry Fest, Memories, etc...

M. Cultural Liaison Position

- a. Reconsidering the need of this position on SA Cabinet
- b. If this position is removed, whatever Edvan's position completed by different SA Positions
- c. What does the Cultural Liaison do? Unite the cultural clubs and be in charge of international food festivals. Sit in the diversity committee, international committee, DEEP Retreat Weekend
- d. We have tried to unite the clubs, they do not need the help of the cultural liaison. In addition, Mrs. Grentz takes care of working with all the clubs.
- e. Position is important. Senator sits on the diversity committee – consider adding more things. For example, cultural credit. Do our events fully encompass all cultures?
- f. Simply because there is not a lot to do with the cultural clubs, that does not mean there are not issues on campus that should be addressed. It should be a main focus of someone's position.
- g. Having that position on SA let's the student body know that diversity is important on campus.
- h. Elections committee can revisit and rewrite the description of that role

- i. Removing cultural liaison position: **Vote: Yes/No 0/21 NOT APPROVED**

N. Announcements

- a. Giving Day - April 3
- b. Election Speeches - Convocation Tomorrow
- c. Rest of the Cabinet Positions (Secretary, Parliamentarian, etc...) - Open this February 16 – THIS FRIDAY