



Senate Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2023

I. Call to Order Joshua Freeman
Meeting called to order at 5:03 P.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance Levi Spiers

III. Moment of Reflection Rosemary Matthews

IV. Roll Call Victoria Verberne

Senator Alaina Appe

Senator Aliyah Henderson

Senator Bailey Milburn

Senator Bianca Domino

Senator Elizabeth Fontenot

Senator Kenneth Woods

Senator Landen Hinrichs

Senator Matthew Hayes

Senator Nataviya Owens

Senator Alex Soule

~~Senator Sierra Lewis~~

Senator Matt Matthews

Senator Levi Spiers

Senator Rosemary Matthews

Senator Micheal Hutchinson

Senator Victoria Verberne

15/16 senators present, quorum has been met

V. Approval of Minutes Joshua Freeman

Minutes stand approved.

VI. Guest Speaker Michael Beckner

I just wanted to come to give an update. From August to December, crimes were down 14%. Medical and mental health calls have been up by 400 and 600%. We have a bunch of new officers due to low pay, but we did just get them a raise. We have started being a bit more selective and are looking to do more screening measures to keep good officers. We are looking to get a CVSA which is a system used in Alaska in order to set our standards high. Our motorcycles are still at a shop getting fixed but hopefully will be getting them soon and we also just picked up a new car today. This enabled us to get rid of our oldest car. There is lots going on on campus (such as the presidential election) so be sure to put in your opinions. We are hoping to have a good semester. I am going to be sending my chief's brief soon and will address recent drug usage in Hammond.

Chief Justice Torres: Don't we do narcan trainings?

Michael Beckner: We do have those trainings and it is important especially with drug usage going up and fentanyl going up. Narcan will not hurt someone but it can save their lives.

Other than that we are doing well and the semester seems to be starting okay. Also, housing is looking for a new director.

Senator Milburn: You said the officer got a recent pay increase. Is that still lower than others around?

Michael Beckner: yes, we have new officers so we start pay at about \$17 whereas someone with one year experience makes up to 55,000 and has home vehicles. This does not allow officers with family to afford living expenses.

Senator Fontenot: I was wondering if you could give us an idea of mental health calls?

Michael Beckner: Lots of attempted suicide. I think it's the lack of people being able to get out. We are paying the price for having to be inside so I am advocating for events getting people

out and socializing. The rooms are not big and it wears people down.

Senator Hutchinson: How could we best help people in mental health crisis?

Michael Beckner: Counseling center and getting in touch with us so that we can give intervention and refer them to counseling. There is nothing shameful in asking for help, though it used to be looked down upon. Cognitive therapy is huge in relieving stress so we try to make sure that is provided instead of jumping straight to medications.

VII. Question of the day Victoria Verberne

How many meetings can senators miss before being opened for impeachment? (3 senate meetings)

Senator Domino receives an outreach point.

VIII. Reports

B. SGA Chief Justice Michala Torres

SGA co-sponsored Black History month event tonight at 6 in the student union theater. I have sent Josh lots of election code updates to make this year. Reach out if you have any questions. If you know someone that helped in big event last year and want to give a testament statement for marketing purposes, reach out to me or Lacey. Free speech alley is getting prepared. If you know anyone that wants to be on a panel, let me know. If you are attending ASGA this weekend, pay attention to groupme and pay attention to their website for updates.

A. SGA President Baileigh Picou

Please donate shampoos and conditioners for the ULS service project. We need 12 conditioners and 28 more pairs by Thursday at 5. This past weekend was our retreat. Thank yall for coming; I think it was lots of fun. I think we learned a lot. If you weren't at the retreat and want a copy of Dave Kelley's book, there are copies in the office so you can stop by and get one. I went to the momentum conference where we talked about increasing safety and getting students all the way to graduation. If you have any ideas for student safety, please let us know because this was a challenge brought up in the meeting. We want to prevent things like what happened at LSU and ensure that parents and students feel safe. SGA week is in about a month. Sign ups will come out shortly for your branch's day and for thursday. Please sign up. Swipe out hunger is still here. The last day to give swipes is February 17, but applications are open all semester. We are about to be at about 80 students we have helped. I am going this weekend to Lake

Charles for a student body president's meeting. Hopefully I will come back with a date for the University of Louisiana systems day which is a fun day. We get to go to Baton Rouge and the capital. Last year we got a private tour from a state representative and got to network with other universities. If you are interested in running for big 3 let us know. Interest meetings are in early March. You are welcome to come talk to us and shadow us. March 8, we are partnering with OSE and lion up recovery on different insecurities. We will have speakers and lots of different resources for students that may be struggling.

Senator Hayes: What happened at LSU?

President Picou: There was a student from LSU that was hit and killed a few weeks ago.

The Presidential search committee will meet for the first time sometime next week. All should be pretty out there. I encourage you to express your opinions. This person will make many decisions so we need to make sure that the person replacing him will be as loving towards SGA and our campus. Also the same for our housing director.

C. SGA Advisor Brendan Daigle

I do want to reiterate about the SGA elections. These are huge shoes to fill. Also senators and senators at large positions are out there. We want to have people running for this rather than being appointed. I encourage you to reach out to your fellow students as well as run for office. I would also like to remind our senators to get your outreach points and such. Let us know if you have any questions on how to fulfill this.

D. Internal Affairs Chair Bailey Milburn

No report.

E. Appropriations Chair Landen Hinrichs

No report.

F. Student Life Chair Bianca Domino

No report.

G. Senate Chair Joshua Freeman

We have several bills so these committees need to meet quorum. If you are interested in running for big 3 let us know so we can inform you about the position. Keep up the good work!

IX. Unfinished Business

A. SP23-10 A Bill To Amend The Student Government Association Bylaws To Remove

Title Xi: Election Code, Clauses 1-10

Bill withdrawn.

- B. SP23-11 A Bill To Amend The Student Government Association Election Code To
Clause 3: Guidelines For Dates And Times Of General Election

Bill withdrawn.

X. New Business

- A. SP23-12 A Bill To Appoint Javier Amador to the Student Government Association as
Justice

Referred to internal affairs committee.

- B. SP23-13 A Bill To Appoint Sabrae Nasset To The Student Government Association as
Senator for the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Referred to internal affairs committee.

- C. SP23-14 A Departmental Grant To Sponsor Accessible Tech Computer Lab D. SP23-15
A Bill To Sponsor The SGA Membership Scholarship Trial Run For The Spring 2023
Semester

Referred to appropriations committee.

- D. SP23-15 A Bill To Sponsor The SGA Membership Scholarship Trial Run For The Spring
2023 Semester

Referred to appropriations committee.

XI. Announcements and Remarks

President Picou: Everyone that isn't in internal affairs can go to the Black history month presentation that we sponsored. The speaker is very dynamic and will be great.

Senator Henrichs: Next Monday, TKE will be doing a fundraiser for St. Jude by selling carnations.

Senator Matthews: Lavender Lions are selling ring pops and fake marriage certificates on Valentines Day.

Vice President Freeman: Stick around for internal affairs if you can.

XII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:38 P.M.