

# Committee on Oversight

Senate of the Associated Students 87th Session  
Minutes for Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 9:00 AM  
President's Conference Room, Third Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Speaker Hughes called the Committee on Oversight to order at 9:00 am in the President's Conference Room on the third floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary, Bre Czerlanis.

## 2. ROLL CALL

Speaker Hughes, Senator Doyle, Senator Harvey, Senator Komanduri, Senator Murphy, Senator Prempeh, Senator Rogers, Senator Supple, and Senator Westerman were present.

A quorum was present.

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

## 4. CHAIR REPORTS

### a. **Chair, Committee on Academics-Senator Harvey**

Senator Harvey said the Committee on Academics has not had a meeting yet and their first meeting will be on Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> in the President's Conference Room. She said the Committee on Academics will have a meeting every other week.

### b. **Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance-Senator Prempeh**

Senator Prempeh said the first meeting for the Committee on Budget and Finance will be next Friday. He said he is working on scheduling financial reviews for this semester as well.

### c. **Chair, Committee on Civic Engagement-Senator Doyle**

Senator Doyle said the meeting time for the Committee on Civic Engagement may be changing to Mondays. He said for now and for their first meeting they will meet next Friday after the Committee on Oversight. He said he hoped the agenda for the Committee on Oversight is not long since it is the beginning of the semester. Senator Doyle said he is waiting to hear back from Senator Yang to see if the meeting time can be changed. He said the Committee on Civic Engagement will be meeting every other week.

### d. **Chair, Committee on Government Operations-Senator Supple**

Senator Supple said as she mentioned during Senate on Wednesday, the Committee on Government Operations favorably recommended two pieces of legislation which will be heard next Wednesday at Senate. She said at the next meeting for the Committee on Government Operations they will be hearing the legislation written by Senator Harvey and Senator Sivakumar regarding changing the gender pronouns in the constitution for the Association.

### e. **Chair, Committee on Public Affairs-Senator Westerman**

Senator Westerman said the Committee on Public Affairs will be meeting for the first-time next Friday at 8 in the morning before the Committee on Oversight. She said depending on the length of their agendas the Committee on Public Affairs may meet at 8:30 in the morning on Fridays. She said they do not have any legislation coming through the committee on Friday. She said Director Cailles will be coming into the Committee on Public Affairs during their meeting next week.

**f. Chair, Committee on University Affairs-Senator Rogers**

Senator Rogers said the first meeting for the Committee on University Affairs will be next Friday at 1:45 pm. She said Senator Donohue may have to run the meeting because she might be out of town. She said she is working on inviting Associate Vice President Nash to come to meetings for the committee. She said she is also working on figuring out where to go from last semester. Senator Rogers said the Committee on University Affairs will be meeting every other week and will have meetings on other parts of campus in order to outreach to students.

**g. Chair, Committee on Safety, Sustainability and Wellness-Senator Komanduri**

Senator Komanduri said the Committee on Safety, Sustainability, and Wellness had an informal meeting this week where they talked to police services about the red zone son campus. She said the first meeting will be next Wednesday at 9:00 am.

**h. Speaker Pro-Tempore, Senator Murphy**

Senator Murphy said he will send out information about the Senate Legacy Box soon.

**i. Chair, Committee on Oversight-Speaker Hughes**

Speaker Hughes said she has three things to talk about in her report. She said the Committee on Oversight will have meetings every other week, so the next meeting will be on February 7<sup>th</sup>. She said for the meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>, Steve Smith, who oversees IT for the University, asked they consider a fee increase for students. She said she would like to send him what the committee would like to see in his presentation when he comes into the meeting. She said they should be highly critical of any fees that may come to the table. Speaker Hughes said she would like to compile a list for what the Senators would like to see from him, so he knows what to discuss when he comes in. She asked for ideas and asked if they would like Steve Smith to present the budget.

The body said yes.

Speaker Hughes asked if the Senators would like line items on the budget.

The body said yes.

Senator Supple said she would like to see where Steve Smith got the numbers from for the fee and why that number was chosen.

Speaker Hughes asked if Senator Supple meant a justification.

Senator Supple said yes.

Speaker Hughes said she will ask Steve Smith for the exact amount he is requesting for the fee increase.

Senator Rogers said she would like to see what other funding IT receives.

Speaker Hughes asked if there was anything else.

Senator Prempeh said he would like to see something similar to when Counseling Services presented to the Committee on Oversight and Senate. He said he would like to see different possible outcomes.

Senator Murphy said he would like to know the last time IT asked for a fee increase and see the projected fee in the future.

Senator Harvey said she would like to know the motivation for the fee and why he is asking now.

Speaker Hughes said like their suggestions. She asked if there were anymore.

There were no further suggestions at this time.

Speaker Hughes said she will email Steve Smith the list and they should expect him to come into the meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>. She said he reached out to her about coming into the Committee on Oversight and she gave him the date of February 7<sup>th</sup>, but she has not received confirmation from him yet. She said she will let the committee know. Speaker Hughes said some Senators have also reached out to her to say they are not able to meet any of the current committee times and that is a problem. She said the chairs should consider moving their meetings to a different day since many of them are on Fridays. She said they should talk to their current committee members and others outside the committee to see if their times can be changed.

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to be discussed at this time.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Discussion of censuring**

Speaker Hughes said she sent out a message to the Senators saying if they had points, they thought they did not deserve they could send her an email to appeal them. She said she understands there has been a lot of transition this semester with the secretaries. She said Frida was new in her position and was a good secretary, but Andrea has been very experienced in the position. She said everyone has the opportunity to appeal their points until Monday. She said after that she will look at the points and if someone has over five, they will be called into the Committee on Oversight to be censured. She said they were given the opportunity to appeal the points to everyone. Speaker Hughes said she was planning on being lenient on the appeals and she wanted to be transparent and give everyone the opportunity to get rid of a possible censure. She said when a censure comes to the table, they should keep in mind the Senator was given the opportunity to appeal the points and thinks they did deserve them. She said everyone has the opportunity to appeal the points and find out how many points they have. She said they need to discuss what the committee would like to see in the censure process. She asked what outcomes they could like to see. She said they need to know what they are looking for from those who are censured, and they need to be direct with their questions. She asked if they had any ideas right now.

Senator Harvey said she had a suggestion but had a clarification question first. She asked if the Senators who are censured would come to the Committee on Oversight first and then to Senate.

Speaker Hughes said yes.

Senator Harvey said the committee needs to remain impartial since they are all essentially equal within the body. She said they should create a set of prewritten questions to ask each Senator who comes in for censure to be as impartial as possible.

Senator Westerman said she thought it is important to ask for an explanation as to why the Senator has accumulated points. She said they should focus on what can be done in the future to avoid this happening again. She said sometimes people can become too caught up

Speaker Hughes agreed.

Senator Murphy said they should ask the Senators how they can help them in the future. He said they should not blame them; they should support them.

Speaker Hughes praised the Senators for their suggestions. She said she will draft a list of questions and send it to them for approval. She said they can discuss the list and change anything if they need to. She asked if there was any further discussion.

There was no further discussion at this time.

## **7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Speaker Hughes asked if there was any public comment or anything else to be discussed.

There was no public comment at this time.

Speaker Hughes said elections for the Association are coming up and the Senators may be rerunning or have friends who are rerunning. She reminded them to keep things classy and she has no issue with them endorsing other because they are in the Association and would be able to judge who would best improve it. She said they should remember to endorse people for the right reasons, and they should do it because the person is a good candidate and not only because the person is their friend. She said they should do it with an ethical foundation. Speaker Hughes said that is her opinion on the matter and does not know what President Martinez would say about the issue. She asked if there was any further public comment.

There was no further public comment at this time.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

Speaker Hughes adjourned the meeting at 9:13 am.