

**TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH SESSION OF THE 2019-2020 GENERAL BODY
OCTOBER 6, 2019
Called to Order: 5:01 P.M.**

1) Preliminary Items

- a) Roll Call
- b) Approval of Minutes
 - i) Approved.
- c) Gallery Introductions/Business
- d) Membership Appointment/Resignation
- e) Oath of Office
- f) Changes to the Agenda

2) Auxiliary Reports

- a) Speaker of the Student Senate
 - i) I will always try to get the agenda out by Saturday at noon.
 - ii) We will be having a meeting next Sunday (Oct. 13) in this room at 7 PM.
 - iii) You are considered responsible for the agenda item that you send to me, and you will bring it forth to the floor.
 - iv) I am here to help anyone who has questions, concerns, comments.
- b) Faculty Advisor
 - i) N.A.
- c) Staff Advisor
 - i) Next monday Zach Berden begins as the coordinator of the ResLife.
 - (1) Mo Hall got a hall director starting next week. Other hall directors are moving.
 - ii) A career coach search is being conducted with Academic Affairs.
 - iii) Carol Bennet's last day is Wednesday.
 - iv) University is switching to health insurance, they have chose Aetna.
- d) SAB Representative
 - i) After fall break is Harvest Fest (Oct. 17th).
- e) Food Pantry Committee Student Government Designee
 - i) This committee is designated at assisting the distribution of food packs at the service center.
 - (1) The Food Bank in Columbia has mandated that students may only receive 2 food packs a month so we are now working to receive donations.
 - (a) The week before Thanksgiving break will be a food and security awareness week where we will try to receive donations of food and money. We have a sociology group who wants to help with advocacy that week. Also looking to go to faculty and staff meetings.
- f) Student Representative to the Board of Governors
 - i) N.A.
- g) Athletic Fee Accountability Committee
 - i) N.A.
- h) Environmental Sustainability Fee Accountability Committee
 - i) N.A.
- i) Academic Affairs Committee
 - i) We spent time talking about the commencement speaker, and we are hoping to get applications out this week before break.
 - ii) We are working on the Academic Integrity Brochure which is almost done.
 - iii) Questions:
 - (1) Alexander: Do you need help with the forms for data request?
 - (a) Meyer: Yes, I will talk to you after this meeting.
 - (2) Wuennenberg: What was the prompt we decided on?

(a) Meyer: We are learning towards how has liberal arts helped form your best self.

- j) Diversity Committee**
 - i)** Indigenous peoples day is next Monday (Oct. 14), there is a sign-up in the Important Links Slack channel.
 - (1) Posters and bookmarks have been sent to printing.
 - ii)** Admissions project focus group is happening October 21st, and there are invites going out this week. Advertising will be done through the CDI.
- k) Environmental Affairs Committee**
 - i)** Yesterday was the first Sustainability Festival, it was moved indoors to the Violette Commons area. The table was well received, people registered their bikes with DPS and looked at the info available.
 - ii)** Working on the Labyrinth.
 - iii)** The committee is looking at potential energy saving measures on campus (looking at what other colleges have done without augmenting major campus structures).
- l) External Affairs Committee**
 - i)** Last meeting talked about Homecoming, spending no more than \$100 on hot cocoa and apple cider. We are also giving away Truman pennants.
 - ii)** Still waiting on a response from Hope's Kitchen.
 - iii)** Looking at the possibility for a newsletter for Truman alum.
 - iv)** Reaching out for the Truman at the Capitol event
 - v)** Luke will be going to the first city council meeting on Monday (Oct. 7th).
- m) Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee**
 - i)** N.A.
- n) Student Affairs Committee**
 - i)** We wanted to look at finding a board for tips of the week and we made that happen, it is outside the StuGov office. We are going to be discussing content at our meeting on Tuesday (Oct. 8th).
 - ii)** We had an idea for the accessible printing, looking at getting keys for the maps that show where printers are located in academic buildings. Especially where they may not be easy to access.
 - iii)** Meeting with Laura tomorrow at 10 A.M. about picnic tables on the quad, and looking to see where to place those tables.
- o) Purple Friday Subcommittee**
 - i)** Spending no more than \$100 on popcorn and lemonade for (Oct. 18th) (in the Sub) Spike will be there, we need volunteers.
 - ii)** Bulldog shoutouts on Monday, Wednesday, Friday.
 - iii)** Drafting an email to send to organization presidents about Purple Friday and tabling.
 - iv)** Meeting with the Purple Pride president.
- p) Select Committee on Parking Appeals**
 - i)** Looked at over 20 parking appeals last week.
 - ii)** Don't leave your car parked in the wrong spaces over break, those tickets are unappealable.
- q) Sexual Assault Prevention Designee**
 - i)** Talked to Dr. Melot about a potential skit for Homecoming, we may need volunteers and I will send out a sign-up sheet.
- r) TEDx Ad Hoc Committee**
 - i)** Ticket reservation starts Oct. 21-25th from 10-2 P.M. in the StuGov office, I sent a reminder for someone to sit in the office during those days.
 - ii)** The third link I sent in Slack is about speaker critiques, times have changed so please look at that again.
 - iii)** Rachel and Tiffany will be the hosts for the conference.
 - iv)** We will advertise closer to the conference dates.
 - v)** Posters for ticketing have been sent to publications.

- s) IT Director
 - i) Planning to attend Excomm on Tuesday to work through some changes.
- t) Public Relations Director
 - i) Finally have access to Canva subscription. Cost was around \$33.
 - ii) I'm in the planning process for giveaways, I sent out some questions on Instagram.
 - (1) I have about \$150 left in my budget.
 - iii) Post reach has increased by 70% and post engagement by 208%.
 - iv) Use the communications spreadsheet for advertisement.
- 3) Executive Reports**
 - a) Treasurer
 - i) Next week we will be having an appropriations slate.
 - b) Secretary
 - i) No report.
 - c) The President and Vice President of the Student Association
 - i) We will be sending out a survey to the presidents after the round table in the next two days.
 - ii) We are getting prepped for the New Student's round table (Oct. 29th)
 - (1) Food has already been ordered.
 - (2) Sending an email out over break to the students attending.
 - iii) Podcast is on Spotify and Pocketcasts.
 - iv) Open positions left: representative to the U&I for the organization application committee, Athletic fee committee representative,
 - (1) BOG application closes Wednesday (Oct. 9th) at 5 P.M.
 - (2) /Trying to organize a group for Symposium (preferably Sophomores).
 - v) We will be appointing Women's Leadership Chair and the committee members next week if tonight's executive order passes.
 - vi) StuGov dinner on Tuesday at 5:30 P.M. at Ryle
 - vii) IM indoor soccer team was created.
 - viii) Trying to schedule a StuGov bonding (we were thinking a bonfire at the university farm on Sunday)
 - (1) Exploring other options as well.
 - ix) Working on apparel.
 - x) We have a committee of faculty members working on developing the Course Threads program.
 - (1) We are about to draft a resolution for UGC to initiate the program.
 - xi)
- 4) Old Business**
 - a) N.A.
- 5) New Business**
 - a) Discussion on the Fall 2019 Second Annual Presidential Roundtable (Schmidt)
 - i) We are going to go round by round. Please let us know the three biggest takeaways or any potential policies that we can take away.
 - ii) Discussion (Round I):
 - (1) Meyer: A big thing my table highlighted was how they thought they noticed a campus wide improvement of mental health and they've heard less of the typical truman student (TTS) attitude.
 - (2) Wren: At our table the students suggested an online program that students can anonymously submit mental health concerns. Basically an online resource for 24 hour support.
 - (a) Schmidt: Do you mean something were they can express personal concerns?
 - (i) Wren: Yes, something they can submit at any time and UCS can respond to them.

- (3) Bichsel: One thing I noticed was that they wished for more transparency about actions towards mental health topics.
- (4) Schmidt: Something that has come up in the past is that students have wanted to see an online UCS booking and it has ended poorly due to liability results. It can mean that if students have an emergency they might not be able to respond right away. This is something that I'm concerned about.
- (5) Schmidt: We get a lot of transparency issues and we always want more clarification on that word. We always ask what specifics people would like: social media event sharing, or weekly updates and those things are shared but there are also legal issues to think about.
- (6) Leppanen: A big thing was communication concerns. They believe this is the university's fault for not getting ahead of the situation and I explained that there are legal issues about disclosing details of the suicide cases.
 - (a) For my table there were three big takeaways for mental health:
 - (i) 1.) The atmosphere is improving.
 - (ii) 2.) Discussion of the typical Truman student is more in friend groups than organizations.
 - (iii) 3.) There is an information bottleneck between informed leaders and the average student.
- (7) Paris: My table believes Truman has spoken so much about Mental Health and that is creating an issue in the interest of the subject. They believe TTS is the fault of student's not knowing their own capabilities. They also believe professors aren't helpful in hard subjects and that is the end all be all. There is thought that talking to professors should be on the student; however, professors should be less strict on deadlines and attendance policy. They believe the GPA requirement for scholarships should decrease.
- (8) Rollings: Perfectionism is a symptom of the TTS. In terms of that, some of the president's thoughts we may need to have a different perspective upon our relationship to our academics. Pointed out that students need to use the resources that campus has. Finally, all of them agreed a Truman degree means more than other universities.
- (9) Smith: There's a website/system called 7Cups that works exactly as the program Jesse's table was describing. It is strictly non-emergency situations.
- (10) White: A thing that was mentioned was the attendance policy stated in the syllabi. They said that most professors skip over a lot of content in syllabi that is general info. In regards to attendance, they thought about making something structured around a mental health absence.
- (11) Costello: Our table talked about how an app can create a more destructive mood because it encourages a community that will attempt to help each other but might not since they might not be able to.
- (12) Holt: Talked about scholarship jobs and how students didn't really understand them.
- (13) Leppanen: Another idea our table talked about was something about GPA being too high to maintain scholarships, so maybe instituting a probation period for freshmen to get acclimated.
- (14) Nikitow: A big idea our table talked about was a mental health day for students sort of like Reading Day.

iii) Discussion (Round II):

- (1) Paris: Everybody mentioned that they are at Truman because they are in organizations but also organizations provide the most stress.
- (2) Meyer: My table discussed the difference between professionals and professors and talked about more training for professors on how to teach and maybe prevent students from becoming more stressed.

- (3) White: With the question of enrollment and retention, one person said that the questions don't apply to presidents but rather the students. He believed we should target uninvolved students in the round tables. Also, they said that Truman hires passionate people and that leads to great relationships. They also think we need a bigger physical presence in the high schools.
- (4) Rollings: As far as retention, they felt strongly that the fact their departments had great placement rates should be more advertised to high schools. Also said that getting connected early in the Truman career was important for retention.
- (5) Wren: The MAE program was a big thing that kept students here, and leaders said to stress/advertise that to students looking to become teachers.
- (6) Leppanen: One big thing was that some president's felt there is a divide between Truman and Kirksville and apparently that there is not a lot of services offered to Kirksville students and local opportunities. They proposed we try to bridge the gap with more outreach and services/local recruitment. Second, there was an interest with connection to faculty. Thirdly, a big reason people come to Truman is because of money/scholarships and over the past few years we have seen major cuts to those.

iv) Discussion (Round III):

- (1) Tabling discussion until next week.

b) [An Executive Order Establishing A Vision Document Ad Hoc Committee of the Student Government](#) (Schmidt)

i) Discussion:

- (1) Barker: Do we have a chair for this committee yet?
 - (a) Schmidt: Jared has advised me that we should create the committee before we appoint one. We do have one considering the position.
- (2) Wuennenberg: What is the purpose of the Vision Doc?
 - (a) Schmidt: A vision doc is a strategic plan set forth by the students for the university every five years.

ii) Ordered.

c) [An Executive Order Establishing a Women's Leadership Conference Ad Hoc Committee of the Student Government](#) (Schmidt)

i) Ordered.

d) [A Resolution Establishing the 2019-2020 Rules Revision Ad Hoc Committee](#) (Schmidt)

- i)** This came out of a discussion that has come out of our last meeting, we have decided that due to the state of the body, that being of a large portion of new members, that we don't feel comfortable completely rewriting the constitution but we do recognize the issues. As such, this committee will be focusing on the document into smaller pieces each week and bring it forth as a document in the spring ballot.

ii) Questions:

- (1) Wuennenberg: So this committee will make changes on the constitution and bring it to the body?
 - (a) Schmidt: Yes, we cannot completely change the document but the senate will vote and the student body will vote on the ballot (a large document) in the spring.
- (2) Bichsel: So this will change large portions?
 - (a) Kolok: Yes, it is a targeted approach.
- (3) Leppanen: Will the body be able to see updates/progression?
 - (a) Schmidt: Yes, it was difficult to bring all the proposed changes in chunks. This committee will be more focused and looking at smaller chunks of changes each week.

iii) Discussion:

- (1) Rascher: I was thinking that if things need to be moved around, it shouldn't be a one way relationship. If things are redundant between both documents (Constitution and Standing Rules) then things can be deleted.

- (a) Schmidt: I think that one thing I brought up to Jared is a clarification of the purpose of each document.
 - (i) Kolok: The constitution is our supreme authority and the supreme document that should include everything essential to the functioning of the student government. The Standing Rules will go more in depth with the fundamental procedures put forth by the constitution and largely focus on procedure. This resolution is taking a fluid approach stating we won't touch the documents outright but work with it until the issues are addressed.
 - (ii) Rascher: I just wanted to suggest that you can condense without sacrificing content or crucial details.
 - (2) Kolok: The intent of a lot of things we are doing are not there or are unclear. My aim is not to get rid of things, but rather to be transparent and facilitate an ease of process.
 - iv) Resolution is first read.
- e) [A Resolution Endorsing the Deans' Council Online Courses Policy and the Truman Quality Matters Initiative](#) (Schmidt)
 - i) Essentially there is a Deans' Council that reports to Provost Gooch and Provost Minch, that come together to discuss policy. They are bringing forth a policy to UGC concerning online courses. The current process requires professors to submit a new syllabus and course update form to the department chair, to the faculty senate, UGC, and it's usually a 2-3 month process. The Deans' Council is proposing, in order to enroll more students, a more streamlined process. They want current classes to submit the same documents to the Deans' Council and then directly to the Provost and once it is approved then it will be put on the books quickly. A concern that comes with that is that we need to ensure quality of the courses. The Provost office has been looking at the Quality Matters initiative that reviews syllabi and ensures quality. Provost office wants us to be involved in Quality Matters so that we can ensure that these classes are fair, beneficial, and high quality. We think this will increase enrollment. Another concern is that cheating is a big problem with online courses and Provost Minch didn't really address these concerns other than a differencing in structuring of questions.
 - ii) Questions:
 - (1) Wuennenberg: Should a faculty member want to make an online course, will the in class variation still be available?
 - (a) Schmidt: That is up to the professor.
 - (2) Rascher: Does the student association at large have access to this knowledge or the discussion?
 - (a) Schmidt: Yes it is available if they want to attend faculty senate or UGC meetings. It is not widely publicized though. We as Student Government are here to care for the students who might not have the time to receive that information and that is why we are elected to represent those students. This is also time sensitive.
 - (3) Wuennenberg: What do you think will be the most controversial portions of the documents?
 - (a) Alexander: From the perspective of the students we see very little controversy.
 - iii) Discussion:
 - (1) Paris: Delegates have no autonomy so I see this body as representatives that can act on our own decisions and we can use that to cover the wide variety of views.
 - (2) Leppanen: I am a huge supporter of this policy. I think we are behind on this front as a university but if you look at other universities they are offering a lot more classes online and that's a big market we can tap into. I also think this will help upgrade the current courses that are already available and make them

higher quality. This is also a more rigorous check on quality of courses as opposed to the current state.

- (3) Holt: We struggled last year to get direct student input on current issues, I cannot stress enough how hard it was to get student opinions and that's why we are charged with representing them.
- (4) Barker: The second bullet point of whereas, is there a more recent than a 2016 study? I found a couple that are more recent.
 - (a) Schmidt: If you have more please send them to me.
- (5) Montúfar: Say that a student needs an online course that's not available at Truman, other students go to other universities and transfer those credits in. I think a great way to sell this by advertising a higher quality course and not having to travel outside of Truman.
- (6) Schmidt: I didn't get to ask Dr. Minch about how this might be able to hold Truman's quality against other schools, but he offered to come to the next meeting for more discussion. I also think it's important to keep in mind that this does not mean we are becoming an online university.
- (7) Bichsel: Will these courses be on Blackboard?
 - (a) Nikitow: Professors get to choose which program they use, they are all different.
- (8) Wren: When is this going in effect? Potentially by the next spring/summer semester?
 - (a) Schmidt: Yes.
- (9) Rollings: Some people cannot get the classes they want for a major or minor and that is dissuading students from the interdisciplinary studies. I am a proponent of this as it will increase flexibility and potentially bring back classes professors have had to phase out.
- (10) Bichsel: Is there a requirement to the amount of brick and mortar classes professors have to teach?
 - (a) Schmidt: Faculty typically have to teach around 12 courses to reach their course load.
- (11) Paris: Would they go back and update past course catalogues which will lead this classes to satisfy requirements?
 - (a) Schmidt: The course catalogue needs to be updated and we can add that in as a point.

iv) Resolution is first read.

6) Announcements

- Rules Revision is meeting at 8 A.M. this Tuesday (Oct. 8th) all members are free to attend.

Adjourned: 6:45 P.M.