



Senate Minutes

02/14/2022

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

A. The following were not in attendance

1. Exploratory Studies Senator - Katherine Skinner
2. Athletics Representative - Jonah Babbel
3. Center for Diversity and Inclusion Representative - David Nguyen
4. Disabilities Representative - Madison Neugart
5. Non Traditional Representative - Dylan Tippetts
6. Greek Representative - Patrick Ullrich

III. Reports

A. Approval of Previous Senate Meeting Minutes

1. Minutes approved unanimously

B. Budget Update - VP of Finance Makayla Brown

1. \$26,930.70 remaining in our budget

IV. Business

A. Public Comment - VP of Academics Mitchell Zufelt

1. No public comments made

B. Funding Requests - VP of Finance Makayla Brown

1. Ginger Club wants to break a world record for largest hand drawn line maze requested they have requested the maximum amount of \$2000 to go towards \$5000 needed to bring Guinness Book of World Records here. Club president has ideas for fundraising in mind. We do have the option of waiting until they acquire the rest of the funding before supplying our funds.
 - a) Rep Nguyen expressed concern about how this will benefit students. He also said that he thinks that we could use the funds for more beneficial causes.
 - b) Senator Francis shared that he is also not in support of this request.
 - c) Senator Steele stated that it would not really benefit the students as a whole as much as
 - d) Senator Harrison said this would be an option to spend the money on this if there are not any alternatives so the money doesn't go to waste but believes there are better ways to spend our budget.
 - e) Senate Assistant Barlow called for a point of information; Can we table it and have him come represent the club and tell us how it would benefit the students. Chief Spencer stated that we can approve the request or table it for now. Though we will not have a meeting until March 14th.
 - f) Senator Shirts thought this would be a fun way to interact with students since they could come and watch. We do have the funding available to do so and we could make this a free event for students to attend.
 - g) Rep Nguyen asked if a student or professor was requested. This was requested by the ginger club president Jordan.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION

- h) Senator Mercer asked if we can approve it with some requirements along with the approval. Yes we can approve it given that they do come up with the funding for it.
 - i) Senator Smith believes that the president is requesting this for themselves and not to benefit the club. VP Brown added that she cannot distinguish whether this is a purposeful way to spend the money.
 - j) Senator Steele said he would love for the club president to come and defend his case and would be more comfortable voting after hearing more about it.
 - k) Funding request is tabled until the next meeting
2. The National Association for Music Educators is requesting 1,821.60 total for their trip to the conference in St. George. This would cover registration fees, travel, etc.
- a) Senator Mercer believes we should not be paying for traveling to and from the event since he and others drove themselves. VP Brown stated the event has already happened and the department paid for it and we would be reimbursing them for these costs. It would cost \$1122.04 without travel reimbursement included.
 - b) Senator Steele doesn't think we should be reimbursing them for travel since Senator Mercer believes that all students paid for their own gas.
 - c) Approved the amount of \$1122.04 unanimously
3. Pacific Islander Club is having a showcase and they want to request \$2000 to use the auditorium and for other needs for rehearsal and the show. \$1950 would be used to rent out the space but the remaining would be used to pay for other needs such as costumes and other necessities.
- a) Assistant Director Garcia is in full support of approving the requested amount but requested that rather than paying every single year we should change that this space is available for any clubs free of charge when requested far enough in advance. This has become a hurdle to clubs and students since it requires so much funding.
 - b) Rep Nguyen said that the club has worked hard to make this event happen and encourages the senate to support the club in this event.
 - c) VP Zufelt said that this is in alignment with our goal as student leaders and these students have worked hard to make this show happen and this would help those students showcase their culture.
 - d) Senator Mercer said that we could address this issue by altering student fee in the future and give the music dept more funding to allow free use of the space.
 - e) Funding request approved unanimously
4. The Women's Rugby Club were invited to a national qualifying tournament and requested a total of \$509 for registration, travel, hotel stay, etc. so they get a chance to represent SUU and maybe even become a nationally recognized team
- a) Senator Francis asked for clarification of the total amount of \$509
 - b) Request approved unanimously



**C. S.B. 014 Commissioning and Original Work for SUU's 125th Anniversary -
Performing and Visual Arts Senator Zachary Mercer**

1. Senator Mercer read the Bill as written. Reference SB 014. Senator Mercer also thinks this will enrich the culture of our school and community as well as recognize the history of our school.
2. VP Zufelt supported this bill and believes that this would be a vital way to enrich our university and make it worth our money. It would be good to create a monument and legacy to represent our school and students.
3. Senator Francis questions if the amount is known with certainty and Senator Mercer stated that until there is a definite composer and piece that is an estimated cost. Senator Francis also added that this would be a meaningful way to leave a legacy here.
4. VP Brown was concerned that the fee wouldn't benefit students now and wouldn't be applicable to graduating students and Senator Mercer said that this would live on forever and this does benefit students from here on until forever since it will leave a legacy.
5. VP Bleak added that his high school did something similar and believes that it would create a big contribution to our school and it will benefit students greatly. He also believes it will be a legacy that we can leave behind and will benefit past and future students. He stated that this would make a wonderful parting gift to SUU from graduating class and a tribute to past alumni. Senator Mercer added that anytime anyone in the future reads or uses their music SUU will be receiving recognition for this piece since their name will be stamped on the music forever.
6. Senator Steele asked if this has been discussed among students in the music department and Senator Mercer stated he received a lot of support towards the bill and this bill will be paying the composer. Senator Steele thinks that this would help create a good legacy for our university and will be worth the money.
7. Crittenden asked if they did go over their budget of \$7,500 where would any additional costs come from. Senator Mercer believes that if they did go over budget he would work with the music department to find a solution.
8. Senator Shirts thinks that it would be very beneficial to create this piece and fund it since it would be a great way to leave behind a legacy.
9. Senator Francis supports this bill and wants to be a part of this legacy.
10. Director Fitzpatrick added that this should also be memorialized that this was created in the year of 2022 to recognize who funded it and make sure they get recognition for what their student fees went towards.
11. VP Washburn was wondering when this piece will be ready to be performed and if it will be ready by the 125th anniversary that is kicked off by founders week coming up soon and if not when will this be displayed. Senator Mercer added that it will be ready to be performed by fall of 2022
12. Rep Nguyen stated that the students in attendance now will be served since this is an experience that can live on forever and thinks it should benefit students past present or future.



13. VP Brown wanted this to be used more frequently than once for the celebration and asked that we film it so everyone in support of suu could hear it and enjoy it regardless of whether we are current students or alumni.
14. Senator Steele asked if the bell tower would be able to play the piece but definitely thinks that is something they should consider but Senator Mercer does not think it would be possible since there are only about nine bells in the tower.
15. President Kante was concerned that this money will be set aside and asked whether we could bring this to the committee in charge of the celebration and have them fund this piece of music instead of taking it from our budget. He also added that this would make SUU feel more welcoming to students. Senator Mercer said that it won't be only used for the event exclusively but in celebration of the university as a whole.
16. Bill passes unanimously

D. Bills in Progress - VP of Academics Mitchell Zufelt

1. Added that we still have some money left and there is still a lot in the works and you can reach out to who is working on the bill to make some more things happen this year.
2. Bill/changes in Progress include
 - a) Creation of student jobs that would be in charge of sustainability
 - b) Working on ways to get alternative funding for events put on by clubs like the Polynesian club event we are funding
 - c) Student nursing program thank you
 - d) Large scale campus wide service project in late april
 - e) Committee that can make recommendations to update campus maps

E. Close - VP of Academics Mitchell Zufelt