University of Iowa Student Government

STUDENT SENATE SESSION

October 29th, 2019

A.) Call to Order (7:00)

B.) Quorum Call – Roll Call

C.) Public Access (20 minutes)

✓ Jacob Heid- Demographics Survey
  ▪ Presentation – Senator Heid
    o Please take out your laptop to take the demographics survey.

D.) Old Business

✓ S.S.B#12- IMU Waste Receptacles
  ▪ Presentation Senator Heid, Emily Manders
  ▪ Questions
    o Senator Qi: Is there a document where all the questions that were asked and answered before the meeting?
      - Yes, I will pull it up on the Sharepoint. You can access it through the sustainability page under the documents
    o Senator: Can we go through all the questions that were asked?
      - Yep I can go through them
      - Can we partner with the college of engineering to get the students to create the waste bins instead of getting them from an outside source?
        • No because the IMU is particular of what they want plus the printers at the college of engineering can’t print something of this size.
      - Why do the colors matter?
Because they are what Waste Management who do all the trash and recycling in Iowa City have standardized the colors. Plus it is what most of the states use as standardized colors for recycling, compost, and trash.

- Senator Dickens: What is the cost of the small vs. the large bins?
  - Small unit is $1,898 Large $2,172
- Senator Folkers: What is the estimation of how effective the changes will be? Do you think it will be effective immediately?
  - They should be effective because of all the research that we did in the past, but we don’t have a percentage. Once we get the bins, we are going to be doing a lot of marketing around the bins.
- Senator Haider: Is there a specific budget to what is in the legislation for the bins, itemized.
  - Emily has it and she can email it to everyone.
- Senator Khassai: Is our recycling being recycled?
  - For the recycling technically yes, but we don’t actually know because other countries are no longer accepting our recycling. So yes it’s being accepted but we can’t actually be sure if they are really recycling.
- Senator Khassai: Has there been any thoughts about buying only the composting bin?
  - No, because the trash cans come in a trio. The university is paying for all three services, so we want to try improving all three and not just one or two.
- Senator Caleb Smith: What’s going to happen if this doesn’t get passed?
  - Basically, we will keep trying out other tactics to try and get people to be better at composting and recycling but our efforts in the past have not been successful.
- Senator Caleb Smith: How much is in contingency?
  - Senator Hamstreet: Around $30,000

### Debate
- Senator Dickens: Thank you for everyone on sustainability. After the meeting I did some research on why the bins are so expensive. I found some stuff that went against the bins that we are voting on and so I am not going to be in support because
- Senator Roeder: Senator Heid, did Senator Dickens actually talk to you about it?
  - Yielded to Emily, we were given the bins from Senator Dickens and we looked at them and found a lot of problems with them.
- Senator Roeder: Emily, what were the problems with the bins?
- Lid was too small for recycling; colors were not throughout the whole trash can and that is what we want. The signage was also too small and not what we were looking for.
  
  o Senator Verry: We passed a bill last year where we included composting and recycling in Success at Iowa and this would be a good next step because once we educate students, we will be able to
  
  o Senator Caleb Smith: I will not be in support of this legislation even though they would be good. But just acknowledging that it is going to be a lot of money and we don’t have a lot of money in our contingency. I think this is something that the next administration can do.
  
  o Senator Heid: I think the comment that Senator Smith just made is reflective of what the conversation around sustainability that it can just be pushed back. The next generation can handle it and that is harmful rhetoric. The university makes a lot of trash and we need to do something to make sure that we are recycling and composting wisely.
  
  o Senator Stucky: I think this is a question of what we value. I think it’s time for us to put our money where our mouth is. We just declared a climate emergency and we need to do something about it. The senators that have presented this legislation have put in so much effort and time into this.
  
  o Senator Dickens: I do not think that we need to spend the money in order to support a cause. I think we need to spend our money more sustainably. There are cheaper ways to do this and I think we need to make sure that we are giving into something that can be done differently and cheaper.
  
  o Senator Haggerty: There is a meeting on Thursday where we are meeting with a lot of higher ups in the University. This meeting has to do with the joint legislation we just passed, and we want to make sure that we are doing everything that we can do to make sure that we are upholding this legislation. If we passed this, we can show that we actually care. This is the right thing to do because this small change can spark a larger change.
  
  o Senator Turnquist: I think we need to keep in mind that this is an investment. This will extend far beyond our administration and this is a large
  
  o Senator Rodriguez: I will be voting aye because we want to claim that we are leaders of sustainability we need to actually
  
  o Senator Khodor: I think it is important to take into account what Senator Turnquist said. It’s not just the cost of the bins, it’s also the cost of what the university is already spending on waste management. It’s not a lot of money considering what we are already paying for waste management.
  
  o Senator Schnack: I think a lot of this legislation is coming from a great place but we don’t know if it’s actually going to work. We can hope all day but in the end do they actually work? We don’t know that.
o Senator Qi: I’ve been a part of the UISG for 3 years and we pat ourselves on the back a lot for passing legislation without creating actually structural change. Passing this legislation can actually create structural change.

o Senator Miller: I want to speak on my own experience with food composting. It is something that we can all do because it’s so easy. If we can help people at least compost their food, they can take that practice outside of the university and make a larger impact.

o Senator Heid: Previous question
  - Seconded by Senator McGovern
  - Move to voting.

- Voting
  - Passes

E.) New Business

✓ S.S.B#20- Student Athlete Representative (READ ONLY)

- Presentation – Senator Qi
  - Just some amendments to this part of the bylaws to change some of the wording. Since this is a new position, we needed to make sure that all the wording is correct, so it doesn’t jeopardize the eligibility for being a student athlete.

- Questions
  - Senator Haider
  - Senator Verry

✓ S.S.B#13- Constitution Updates

✓ S.S.B#14- Clarity Bylaw Updates

- Presentation - Senator Correa
  - All about grammatical changes and small word changes.

- Questions
  - Senator: Is the University Emblem on it?
    - Yes

- Debate
  - Senator Rodriguez: Previous question
    - Seconded by Senator Kerst
    - Ayes have it
    - Move into voting.

- Voting
  - Passes

✓ S.S.B#15- Definitions, Acronyms, and Article I Bylaw Updates
• Presentation – Senator Correa
  o Talking about the definitions and the acronyms.
• Questions
• Discussion
  o Previous question was called
• Voting
  o Passes
✓ S.S.B#16- Article II Bylaw Updates
• Presentation – Senator Correa
  o Has to do with the legislative branch and how senate works.
• Questions
• Discussion
  o Senator Verry: I would like to propose an amendment to change the wording for “Senate shall be on Tuesdays from 7pm-10pm” and change it to “go no later than 10pm”
    - Seconded by Senator Heid
    - Senator Harvy: Amendment to change it to “At 7pm and until no later than 10pm”
      • Previous question has been called
        o Aye to the amendment to the amendment
          • Aye Amendment to the amendment
    - Senator: Call previous question
      • Aye to the amended amendment
        o Passes
  o Senator Heid: Call previous question
    - Seconded
      • Aye
• Voting
  o Passes
✓ S.S.B#17- Article III Bylaw Updates
• Presentation – Senator Correa
  o Changes to the executive part of the bylaws
• Questions
  o Senator Verry: Why did we get rid of the office of administration committee?
    - We have been wanting to change that for a while. We want there to be more senator oversight in executive selection.
• Discussion
Senator Verry: I have a few concerns about this. Especially section C, I understand the issues we have to this section. But I don’t think that the solution provided is the best way to go about this. Every effort should be made to make the selection as fair as possible. I think that there should be a senator sitting on the interviews and I don’t like how the only thing we are getting is a report. This solution doesn’t solve anything.

Senator Khassai: I think we should explain what OAC was to new senators
- OAC is comprised of the President, VP, and the top 3 senators. They’re the ones that eventually decide who gets hired in the cabinet position.
- Technically the cabinet is elected by the president and VP and we thought that they should have the most say as to what

Senator Smith: I do like the appointment because I do think that the president and VP should be able to appoint their own cabinet. But there is nothing to prevent bias in case it happens.

Senator Roeder: I’d like to propose an amendment on the VP section. Rephrase “In case of an equal division of senate legislation the VP is able to vote on that piece of legislation”
- Seconded by Senator Meyer
  - Debate over the amendment
    - Previous question was called
      - Aye
    - Voting on the amendment
      - Passes

Senator Harvey: Previous question
- Seconded by Senator

Senator Verry: Propose an amendment, delete points 5-8 and keep what it was at before.
- Seconded by Haider
  - Debate
    - Senator Correa: In the future if all the ideas could be brought up before in order for us to know what is actually happening
      - Senator Heid: Call previous question
  - Voting
    - Does not pass

Senator Correa: I’m not saying that we are not open to changing this but I am uncomfortable keeping it the way that is it without any changes at all. We can propose more changes in the future but I think this should be okay with this bylaw change.
o Senator Thompson: I was on this last year, and I don’t think that I was really qualified to be there since it was my first year and I didn’t know what I was doing.
o Senator Roeder: I agree with Anna that we can propose another change once there is an idea on how to fix this portion of the bylaws but right now, I don’t feel comfortable keeping it the way it is.
o Senator Heid: Previous question
  - Seconded by Senator Drahos
    • Aye have it
✓ S.S.B#18- Articles V-VII Bylaw Updates
  ▪ Presentation – Senator Correa
    • Covers articles 5-8 cause nothing changed in article 4
  ▪ Questions
    o Senator Verry: How does the
      - The actual procedure to how to propose amendments to the bylaws has not actually changed but it was written to clarify the language in the bylaws.
    o Senator Miller: under article 7 I think we talked about eliminating number 3 do we know why we didn’t remove it?
      - We didn’t remove it because it’s good and we can do it later.
    o Senator Miller: under appendix a can we put a description?
      - There’s already a description in the section on top.
    o Senator Verry: I’m confused there needs to a 2/3 majority vote to present?
      - Yes, you need 2/3 majority for it to go to the floor and get discussed.
    o Senator Miller: Should we change CSIL?
      - It hasn’t been renamed yet so we wanted to leave it.
  ▪ Discussion
    o Senator Roeder: Friendly amendment there is an improper spacing between internal reallocation.
      - Accepted
    o Senator Haider: Friendly amendment change majority 2/3 to 2/3 majority vote.
      - Accepted
    o Senator Verry: Can it say, “affirmative two-thirds majority vote”?
      - Accepted
  ▪ Voting
    o Passes
F.) Announcements

✓ Herky’s Hero

G.) Adjourn and Move to Committees (30 minutes)