November 09, 2020 – SGA Joint Session

Neches 120

Start Time: 5:30 pm

Facilitator: Trevion Wilson, President of the Student Government Association

I. Call to order
   a. 5:31 PM

II. Roll call
   a. Quorum has been met

III. Approval of the minutes from Last Meeting
   a. Last meeting minutes have been approved

IV. Officer reports
   a. President Trevion Wilson

   i. Aquatics Diving Board Update
      1. The diving board has been refurbished
      2. There will be a grand opening next semester until then the pool will stay closed

   ii. Relocation of the Mirabeau B. Lamar statue
      1. Takes Legislative action on the state level to get relocated
      2. The Executive Cabinet will be filming a video about Mirabeau B. Lamar to inform students about the history
      3. Planned to be ready tomorrow and should be sent out soon
4. A survey including the new statue options below will be sent out soon
   a. Big Red and Lou standing back to back
   b. A globe surrounded by pillars (pillars will display prominent people)
   c. A fountain with a stack of books
   d. A Cardinal head
   e. Big Red holding books

iii. Transparency Template
   1. Has been updated and posted to social media

iv. Resource Guide
   1. Has been working with Amanda Toups on the design
      a. Will be using the Cardinal Cadence as a reference
   2. Working to secure funding to cover physical copies, otherwise it will only be electronic for now

b. Vice President Jasmine Patin
   i. Flying Cardinals Mentorship Program
      1. Launched October 31st
      2. Goal: To create a sustainable program that will help increase the retention rate in underrepresented students and expose the students to SGA
      3. Mentors and Mentees have been paired and will have their first meeting soon
ii. Inclusive Palettes

1. Goal: To improve and diversify the food options, especially in the dining hall, and to better cater to the needs of Lamar’s diverse student body

2. Scheduled a meeting with Mr. Boyd and waiting on a response

iii. Safety Event

1. Partnering with CAB and LUPD to put on a safety event

2. Purpose: to bring awareness to student safety concerns

iv. Will be helping Senators finalize their projects

c. Sec.-Treasurer Taliah Belcher

i. SGA FAQ Page

1. Emailed Elizabeth and she will be putting up the FAQ Page

ii. Sustainability Committee

1. Met with the Sustainability Committee

2. Established Goals

   a. Re-established Recycling

   b. Implement a Department Sustainability Program for Spring 2021

   c. Identify operational areas on campus that could implement sustainable practices

   d. Plan for Earth Day

3. Department Sustainability Badge Program

   a. Ready to be launched
b. Student volunteers will be helping to get the word out to each department

V. Senator reports

a. Senator Tiffany Tran

i. Beautification of SGA Suggestion Box

1. Working will LU Artist Common club to make SGA suggestion box stand out

2. They recently released a survey to see who is interested and will be receiving design proposals soon

ii. College of Arts and Sciences Survey

1. Working with the Associate Dean to get a list of all the students in the college and then the survey will be sent out

2. Looking into possibly creating a College of Arts and Sciences Student Committee

b. Senator Caleb Love

i. Greek Plaque Proposal

1. The resolution is complete and the project is ready to be voted on

2. Details: will be 4x6 and include the org name, chapter name, and the date they were chartered at Lamar

ii. A Hundred Men in Suits Event

1. Goal: To foster confidence and create a sense of unity

2. Will be scheduled for next semester
iii. PR committee
   1. The flyer for Study with SGA has been posted

iv. Education Certification Test
   1. Working with the faculty advisor over the Proficiency Preparation Test to put together a study guide for each concentration

c. Senator Mya Lincoln
   i. College of Business Survey
      1. Finalized survey to 10 questions
      2. Will be put out during the second week of February

d. Senator Caroline LeBlanc
   i. FAQ Page
      1. Waiting to be uploaded to the SGA website
   ii. Resume Workshop
      1. Has been helping Alexia with the event
      2. Will be located in the Mcdonald's gym
   iii. Fish Tanks in the dorms
      1. Met with Dr. McNeil and she was not on board
      2. Will be working with the Execs to see if it can be pushed for next semester
   iv. Contacted IT about the poor camera quality
1. They said the poor camera quality could occur when the camera is too far away and recommended it be within a certain distance of the designated target

2. Sent out emails to the professors that were getting complaints and recommended that they move their cameras closer

e. Senator Katelynn Haynes
   i. Working to get captions on TVs, especially in COMM building
   ii. Currently researching unfinished projects to see if they are feasible for completion by the end of this semester

f. Senator Jasmine Martin
   i. Graduate Studies Survey
      1. Purpose: To see what resources, concerns, or needs graduate students may have
      2. Sent it out to the Deans of the Graduate Department and they will pass it along to the graduate students
   ii. Has a meeting scheduled with the Assistant Director of Admissions and Graduate Recruitment for Domestic Students to discuss how SGA can better assist the needs of the graduate students

g. Senator Leonardo Lopez
   i. STEM Building
      1. Working to get it open on weekends and printers installed
         a. It was open this past Sunday - will confirm if the hours have been changed
2. Looking to get two rooms reserved for students (who cannot go home) to take proctored exams

h. Senator Kaylee Goodspeed

i. Course Cost Survey

1. Purpose: To give incoming students an accurate estimate of how much they will pay for classes
2. Will function similar to a course evaluation
3. Current students will self-report the extra fees they incurred during the class (separate from tuition)
4. Has drafted a resolution and will be scheduling a meeting with Dr. Nichols soon

i. Senator Maurio Stevens

i. Card-IN-al Plan

1. Will be sending out an email to the orgs soon to see which time and date work best
2. Everything is set, the only thing to do is put in a room request

j. Senator Alexia Morgan

i. Resume workshop

1. When: November 19th at 6:30 PM
2. Purpose: to help students with their interest letter and resume
3. Will be offering free headshots
4. In partnership with NSBE and the Alphas
5. The Career Center will be presenting
a. Topic: What your resume should look like during COVID times

6. Flyers will be coming out soon

k. Senator Mykayla Johnson
   i. Not Present

l. Senator Tyler Martin
   i. Not Present

VI. Old business

a. None

VII. New business

a. None

VIII. Open forum

a. Caleb:
   i. Q: Is there a way to make sure every camera is working to ensure safety?
      1. Received a concern from a student about the camera’s in the dorms
   ii. Q: Is there anything we can do to help students grasp the material better when they are forced to learn from a video?
      1. Leo: There is a tutor for every subject
        a. Alexia: STARS only tutors for an hour
      2. Caroline: Students can contact their TA for help
iii. Q: Is there any way to look at the statistics between the grades this Fall (during COVID) vs. the grades during a regular semester?

b. Alexia:
   i. STARS isn’t open on weekends
      1. Idea: possibly get tutoring services available on weekends or STARS available for longer than an hour; possibly look into creating a Lab for every subject like the Math Lab (available for tutoring during multiple times of the day)

c. Jasmine:
   i. We need healthier food options
      1. Food goes a lot into mental health and the current options Lamar has are not inclusive
      2. They will be trading a healthy food option (Jason’s Deli) with a smoothie place when we already have a Juice Bar
      3. Question from Caleb: What's feasible for that spot?
         a. Jasmine: There should have been more student input, possibly through a survey
         b. Todd: Chartwells is responsible for determining contracts and it is a complicated process; Recommends inviting William Boyd or Jack Spurlock to an SGA meeting so they can talk about the process and how to get more student feedback

d. Leo:
i. Q: Is the pass/fail grading option going to be possible for this semester?

1. Trey: During the summer Dr. Nichols said students were aware of the circumstances before attending and that it wouldn’t be an option for the Fall; The teachers were told to be lenient and work with the students

2. Cade: There isn’t really an alternative to not attending because of COVID

e. Cade:

i. Q: What is the reason for not having fish tanks in the dorm?

1. Caroline: Potential water damage and odor issues

2. Idea: There could be a form/contract students have to sign; students could protest by getting kiddie pools or tanks with robotic fish (because the rule is against pets, not water)

ii. Everything with Chartwells will be an uphill battle and their primary concerns will be profit; amending contracts with the University will take a lot

f. Tiffany:

i. The library hours will be extended to 1:45 AM during finals

ii. Q: Is there a way to determine which students who visited Starbucks were exposed to COVID?
1. Received a concern from a student who was wondering how she would know if she came in contact with the worker at Starbucks who had COVID

2. Idea: Possibly put out an announcement providing the time when the worker worked so that students know if they were exposed
   a. Will increase transparency

3. Caleb and Trey: Advise the student to get tested

4. Alexia: They are supposed to call everyone the worker was in contact with so maybe they can go down the list to see

IX. Advisor Comments
   a. Recommends to collect student feedback through surveys
   b. Dr. McNeil is the primary person over housing; Mr. Todd (and then Dr. McNeil) would be people to go to about The Set
   c. It’s important to know there is a legislative process required to relocate the Mirabeau B. Lamar statue
   d. Around finals, almost every room in the Set will be dedicated to studying

X. Announcements
   a. The Library hours have been extended to 11:45 PM from Sun - Thurs
   b. Study with SGA: November 10th at 5:30 PM in Maes 102
   c. The Office of Global Diversity and Inclusion is working on cultural ceremonies for the Latinx and African-American communities
      i. Will be separate events - both in December
XI. Adjournment

a. Adjourned at 6:29 PM