



AUBURN UNIVERSITY
Student Government Association

Student Senate Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 7, 2024

Open Forum

Senator Troutman: addressing Oct. 6 protests on Toomer's corner, thanking Auburn faculty and police.

Roll Call at 7:32

I. Approval of Minutes

A. Approved.

II. Reports of Officers

A. Jack Hilton, President

1. Shared Governance meeting
2. One-on-one with Dr. Woodard this week
3. Update on the Auburn app and class registration

B. Will Goodner, Treasurer

1. Still working toward financial guidance counselors
 - a) Had a meeting with Business Schools Council President
2. Ring Night is December 5

C. George Turner, EVP of Outreach

1. Hey day is next week!
2. Campus Roundtable - thanks to Phedra and her DEI team
3. Voter registration drive

D. Forrest Ann Watson, Chief of Staff

1. First forum meeting was last week and the retreat was Sunday; they are incredible!
 - a) Mentees for the forum coming in the next few weeks
2. BBFD can drive competition
 - a) Competition between the branches
 - b) Cans due Oct. 28

E. Thomas Treadwell, EVP of Initiatives

1. Student Center monthly meeting report
2. Dr. Han MCAT meetings tomorrow
3. Athletics meeting
4. University operations team working on a safety walk

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III. Reports of Standing Committees and Liaisons

A. Senator Marino, Academic Affairs

1. Met with CADC Dean
2. Setting up Grad School fair
 - a) If your school has a grad school at Auburn, volunteer for the event!
3. AI statement in syllabi

B. Senator Inman, Budget and Finance

1. No report.

C. Senator Laney, Code of Laws

1. A couple of bills are coming across the floor tonight
2. Madelyn met with Dr. K about improving the scientific supply store

D. Senator Peter, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

1. Looking into underrepresented student populations at Auburn and across the SEC
2. Still working on clothing closet initiative

E. Senator Jones, Student Affairs

1. Feedback from the new Inked Taco
2. Met with Eric at the Rec
3. Have a meeting with Dr. Kam and cabinet counterparts tomorrow

F. Senator Zellner, Executive

1. Utilize open forum for office hour feedback

G. Ashley, Honors Congress

1. Next Monday is the monthly family dinner
2. Hosting its 2nd interest meeting about travel opportunities for Spring 2025

H. Hawkins, BSU

1. No report.

I. ISO

1. No report.

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IV. Current Orders of Business

- A. PSSB: 24-0930-01
 - 1. Approved
- B. PSSC: 24-0930-01
 - 1. Approved

V. Future Orders of Business

- A. PSSB: 24-1007-01
 - 1. No questions.
- B. PSSB: 24-1007-02
 - 1. Senator Jones: What was the motivation for the change?
 - a) Senator Yohn: The motivation is to make the electoral system more consistent through ranked-choice voting. This change would allow for a candidate to be elected that a majority of the students would be content with.
 - 2. Senator Inman: Are you scared about people abusing it?
 - a) Senator Yohn: The only reason you would rank the person after your #1 candidate is if you believe #2 might lose. You only get your 2nd and 3rd choice if your #1 choice has the least amount of votes.
 - 3. Senator Zyreik: How do you feel about the ranking system making the race completely different?
 - a) The rank choice option will allow candidates to succeed in the system if they interact well with people on campus. This creates a better opportunity for success for a positive candidate that a majority of students feel comfortable being represented by.
 - 4. Senator Marino: How are we going to educate the entire student body about this new system?
 - a) Senator Yohn: With this new system, people will feel like their vote matters more than the current system.
 - 5. Senator Zellner: Is there a way that the person who does not get the most votes in the first round can win?

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- a) Senator Yohn: Yes, because if the original #1 does not appeal to the majority of people, so once the votes are transferred to the next choice, the other candidates can gain votes. The person who wins will always have 50% of the vote, just not in the traditional way you might be used to.
6. Senator Jones: Why do we currently not do rank-choice voting?
 - a) Senator Yohn: We used to do it for Miss Auburn and Miss Homecoming, but it might have gotten too confusing in past races. This could have been an electronic issue or an emotional issue.
7. Senator Jones: Was the change made by the Senate?
 - a) Jamie Calvert, Advisor: Will get official information, but the change was more than likely made by the Senate.
8. Senator Jones: Is there any data of how many people truly did rank their choices during president run-offs?
 - a) Senator Yohn: There had to be people who ranked because no one got 50%.
9. Senator Jones: If no one had ranked what is the outcome?
 - a) Senator Yohn: In today's world, it is statistically probably very impossible for this to happen.
10. Senator Inman: Miss Auburn is guaranteed 5 candidates?
 - a) Senator Yohn: The code would change it from Major Candidates which is any amount to Miss Auburn too which is 5.
11. Senator Zyreik: Do you feel like it is necessary to change it if it will be the same results always?
 - a) What this does is show that a candidate would get 50% instead of around 20% of the votes.

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Announcements

- *Have a great fall break and represent Senate well!*
- *Work on minor candidate recruitment moving forward*

Adjourned at 8:21

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