2nd SESSION OF THE 44th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, April 18th, 2019

I. Call to Order - 6:49pm Thursday, April 18th, 2019

III. Senator Swear In
   A. Avin Longoria

IV. Mission Statement Reading
   A. Alicia Moreno

V. Approval of the Minutes
   A. Minutes from 4/11/2019 & 3/28/2019 Approved with no objection

VI. Invited Guests
   A. none

VII. Announcements
   A. none

VIII. Open Forum
   A. none

IX. Advisor Reports
   A. Drew Shelnutt
   B. Drew.Shelnutt@utsa.edu
      i. Day at the Capital Reminder
      ii. Email if interested or wanting an absence excuse request

X. Executive Reports
   A. President - Jack Rust
   B. john.rustsga@gmail.com
      i. University-Wide Committees
         ● Opportunity for Students to Express Opinions on various University interests
         ● Reach out to me if interested
      ii. Appointments
         ● Still looking for someone to fill Director of Calendar and Events position
         ● Reach out to me if interested
         ● If you receive an appointed position from me, please be ready to set up a one-on-one to craft a by-law regarding the expectations of your position
         ● Katherine Rico - Have you considered splitting Director of Calendar and Events into two positions covering each of those items? The positions can each take up a lot of time and putting them both into one role may be placing too much on one person. This was recognized by previous administrations.
            i. Jack Rust - A lot goes on in the Spring and maybe around that time the
responsibilities will call for a second person, but for the Fall it will remain as one person.

- **Claudeth Garcia** - Do you have a list of open positions in the University-Wide committees?
  i. **Jack Rust** - I do have a list and I can send those out minutes.

- **Aileen Montana** - The chairs of these committees are Deans and Vice-Presidents and they have very busy schedules. They often don’t seek the availabilities of people interested in serving on the committees. They simply list the time of the committee meeting and expect those interested to conform around those times. They typically finalize committee times in the Fall. If you guys can make those committees, you should do them. In my four years, I have made the most impact on campus by serving on those committees.

**XI. Director Reports**

- **SHAC Director**
  i. **Anjali Shah**
  ii. [anjali.shahsga@gmail.com](mailto:anjali.shahsga@gmail.com)

- **Reminder**
  - for stress Down Days
  - We were invited to this event.
  - Sign up sheets have been in last minutes as well as slack
  - Please come out if you are available

**XII. Standing Committee Reports**

- **Business Affairs Committee**
  i. **Kaitlyn Law**
  ii. [Kaitlyn.lawsga@gmail.com](mailto:Kaitlyn.lawsga@gmail.com)

  - Meeting with Dave Riker
    i. All are invited
    ii. Jose Escobedo can be the point of contact for that
  - We had Safety Walk with Chief Lewis last Tuesday
  - Get in contact with Jose Escobedo (jose.escobedosga@gmail.com) for next Safety Walk this coming week
  - We just put out an Umbrella Rental Initiative Survey
  - Planning on putting out the Navigation Act soon
    i. more way finders and popout signs along the Paseo
  - Flag Pole Initiative
    i. Flags purchased - 50th anniversary and UTSA
  - Feminine Hygiene Initiative - Partnered with Period
    i. We need volunteers to drop off baskets on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6 pm
  - UTSA Day at the Capitol
    i. Next Tuesday

- **Student Affairs Committee**
  i. **Katherine Rico**
  ii. [katherine.ricosga@gmail.com](mailto:katherine.ricosga@gmail.com)

  - We went over Rachel’s resolution regarding support for UTSA crisis helpline
XIII. Old Business
A. None

XIV. New Business
A. Speaker of the Senate Elections
   i. Carlo Garcia - Candidates will speak for 3 minutes. Followed for ten minutes of questioning from the Senate. Taylor Edwards will start and the other candidates will set out.

B. Taylor Edwards - 3 Minute Speech
   i. Carlo Garcia - Senators will have 2 voices to have questions
   ii. Jose Escobedo - If you lose, will you drop out of your Senator Seat?
      ● Taylor Edwards - No
   iii. Dylan Delgado - How do you plan to build relationships with the Senators and the people you haven’t met yet?
      ● Taylor Edwards - I aim to make myself available to all and put emphasis and getting to know everyone
   iv. Claudeth Garcia - What kind of changes would you like to see?
      ● Taylor Edwards - I aim to not push a specific agenda. But I aim to enable the initiatives of others. I really enjoyed learning about Rachel’s crisis helpline initiative
      ● Claudeth Garcia - Is there anything you’d like to see happen specifically?
      ● Taylor Edwards - Maybe an initiative relating the LGBTQ community

v. Azfar Budhwani - What goal do you have for new Senators?
   ● Taylor Edwards - I want Senators to get involved where possible and get to know their Constituent Senators

vi. Unknown - (Indiscernible)
   ● Taylor Edwards - I feel the Speakers should know the Rules of Order and evaluate the role of the Speaker

vii. Jennifer Perez - What is your biggest strength and weakness
    ● Taylor Edwards - The liaison aspect is suited to me due to my experience. I was a liaison between a district judge and her campaign. I was also the liaison between student-body and administration in high school. My biggest fault, I am kind of a pushover. If you ask me to do something, I am most likely going to do it

viii. Dylan Delgado - To the New Senators, I know you may not feel fully comfortable in your new role, but if you have something you wish to say or ask. You should do so. I would hate to see you ask a question to the later candidates and not this one simply because you are warmed up.

ix. Gage Martin - Pol - Are we given two voices per candidate?
    ● Carlo Garcia - Yes

x. Azfar Budhwani - Would you be willing to have a focus group with new senators to teach them how to write legislation and perform other duties of the like?
   i. Taylor Edwards - I would be open to holding a workshop for these tasks so Senators can better understand how to perform.
xi. Amber Barbosa (Sponsored by Salman Sakib) - What would your incentive for senators to attend workshops for the senators look like?
  ● Taylor Edwards - It could be as small as offering Pizza to even asking Exec to make a recommendation

xii. Salman Sakib - Have you gone through the duties and responsibilities of the Speaker in the Constitution?
  ● Taylor Edwards - Yes
  ● Salman Sakib - Do you feel comfortable fulfilling the duties of the Vice-President in the event that they can no longer serve in their position?
  ● Taylor Edwards - Yes

xiii. Kaitlyn Law - After you ran for Speaker and lost last year, you ended up exiting the organization. How can we expect to see you remain in the organization in the event of losing this election given your track record?
  ● Taylor Edwards - I learned my lesson. I am accountable to all of yall. I am better positioned to manage time commitments.

xiv. Jack Rust - If you have a question, be sure to speak loud so we can all hear you.

C. Claudeth Garcia - gives a 3-minute speech
i. Dylan Delgado - When you said that you went to Mexico and met with “their” SGA, you meant the University of Monterrey, right?
  ● Claudeth Garcia - yes
  ● Dylan Delgado - Can you talk about at least one of your initiatives?
    i. Claudeth Garcia - I was thinking of having a casual meet up with the Speaker. A time and place could be arrived at via doodle poll. Just so ensure that senators are accommodated. Also, I know we did Weekly Senator Reports last semester. I was thinking that each GA we could have each cohort give a brief rundown of their latest doings. That way senators could be giving updates. I also feel having a google drive file for senator resources that all senators could access for their various needs.

ii. Azfar Budhwani - I like the pyramid idea and the prize incentive, where would that prize incentive come from?
  ● Claudeth Garcia - Right, I was more so thinking a casual prize like a lunch or something of like.

iii. Alicia Moreno - You mentioned the accountability board in the office, Do you envision the board to be an external accountability mechanism for students to see the ongoings of SGA?
  ● Yes, I think it would be a good access point for students to learn about SGA and get them involved

iv. Jose Escobedo - Would take input on the nature of your role?
  ● Claudeth Garcia - It should be noted that I can only be as good a Speaker as Senator interact with me. I need people to communicate with me so I can do my job.

v. Alex Sexton (Sponsored by Unknown) - You mentioned sharing the exec folder with
senators so that senators may be more privy to the exec’s decisions. In the past, there were many ongoings of the Exec that Senators did not get the opportunity to know about. In what ways would you as a speaker bridge the gap between the Senate and Exec?

- **Claudeth Garcia** - It’s a lot about transparency. I think making clear our vetos and our current considerations would be helpful. Instead of having that information be communicated in unofficial ways.

vi. **Gage Martin** - You mentioned creating an incentive for the Senate to complete their duties. Do you feel that the Senate necessarily needs an incentive to fulfill their duties?

- **Claudeth Garcia** - I feel people work best with incentives. I feel if we are all trying to reach a goal, we can see more participation. In the past, I have seen an “oh, somebody else can do it” mentality. I feel a little push would be beneficial.

vii. **Salman Sakib** - Sometimes there are decisions taken in the exec that senators feel should be carried out with their consent. An executive decision requires a ⅔ vote and the executive board is comprised of 5 people. Where do you stand regarding this?

- **Claudeth Garcia** - I would source as much input from senators as possible so my vote is as informed as possible. That’s why senators participating in communication with their Speaker is very important.

viii. **Carlo Garcia** - We have reached our ten-minute question limit. If more time is sought, such a movement can be made.

- **Dylan Delgado** - I motion for 3 more minutes to allow for any other questions
  i. Seconded
  ii. Motion failed to pass a verbal vote

D. **Luke Gonzalez Ruiz** - gives a 3-minute speech

i. **Azfar Budhwani** - Would you be open in creating special workshops for senators to learn about legislation and other processes? How would you incentivize senators to show up?

- **Luke Gonzalez Ruiz** - I would like to see the current Senators help educate new senators on how to use Robert’s rules. As for workshops, some people may not show up as they are busy. But I would be open to setting up one-on-ones to educate senators. I would be open to going outside my role if needed to help give senators what they need.

ii. **Dylan Delgado** - What is unique to your candidacy in comparison to the other candidates?

- **Luke Gonzalez Ruiz** - I would definitely say my passion. It really shows when someone speaks or engages with other people. I can say my passion often carries me to listen deeply to others. Student Government is not new to me. I was the founder of my student government my high school. It may not have been on the same level as a university, but it was important.

iii. **Jennifer Perez** - Do you have any initiatives that you would like to see completed as Speaker of the Senate?

- **Luke Gonzalez Ruiz** - The Beautification project is currently something I working on here on campus. I already have it typed up it just needs to be brought forward. Basically, organizations could “adopt” a plot on campus a beautify it as a flowerbed. Facilities will provide flowers.
● Jennifer Perez - Thank you for that. But I meant initiatives as they relate to bridging the gap between Exec and the Senate
● Luke Gonzalez Ruiz - Workshops and weekly or biweekly informational sessions with senators

E. Discussion

i. Azfar Budhwani - How will voting on the candidates take place?
   ● Carlo Garcia - We will be voting on all three at once. Runoffs will be held.

ii. Gage Martin - How was the order of the candidates chosen?
   ● Carlo Garcia - As per the constitution, it was random

iii. Carlo Garcia - Dylan, given that Candidates will be allowed to vote for themselves, what is needed for a majority?
   ● Dylan Delgado - 11 as we had 21 at first call

iv. Carlo Garcia - During Discussion, please keep all statements to “I am in favor or I am not in favor”

v. Jose Escobedo - I am in favor of Claudeth Garcia. She seemed to have more goals in mind with a plan to initiate. I think we could collaborate well with Claudeth, and have a better foundation to start off with.

vi. Cynthia Lopez - Friendship aside, I am in favor of Claudeth. Her plans for workshops are amazing. When I was a senator we had no workshops, no nada. I think she is a great choice for you guys. Just know that the person you choose will be with you for a year so be sure to choose wisely.

vii. Gage Martin - I am in favor of Taylor. It is important to remember that he was able to step back and self reflect on his past conduct. He was in SGA before and stepped away. He seems to bring good perspective.

viii. Dylan Delgado - I am in favor of Claudeth Garcia because I feel she brings a lot of energy, perspective, and experience. Titles in any organization are just stupid titles until someone behind them makes them greater than as described. I feel she has great energy that would be helpful to the Senate.

ix. Katherine Rico - To add to what Dylan said, I am in favor of Claudeth. She mentioned that it is not about me it is about we. I feel she really embodies that. She clearly wants to be helpful and do her best to represent you guys.

x. Jose Escobedo - If there is no more discussion, I move to previous question.
   ● Seconded
   ● Motion passed to move to previous question by verbal vote

xi. Carlo Garcia - We are now voting by means of secret ballot.

xii. Carlo Garcia - Please write the name of the candidate you wish to have as speaker of the senate, if you wish to have none of the candidates, write abstained

xiii. Carlo Garcia - Upon tallying the votes, we are now in a runoff between Luke and Claudeth

xiv. Dylan Delgado - I motion for discussion
   ● Seconded
   ● Motion to enter discussion passed by verbal vote

xv. Gage Martin - I am in favor of Luke. I think he brings strong energy which is very important. I do not know Claudeth well, but I do worry about professionalism.
xvi. Jose Escobedo - I would like to say that having worked closely with Claudeth, I think she possess great capacity for professionalism. She was Internal Affairs committee. It was a serious job that involved discussing sensitive topics with colleagues. I think she is what we need.

xvii. Gage Martin - Thank you for vouching for her

xviii. Dylan Delgado - I am in favor of Claudeth. I believe a high energy individual is what this organization needs in the role of a speaker, especially starting out. Luke as a brand new senator has accomplished more than I in my entire SGA career and so he is a great candidate too. Claudeth is so kind and makes people feel special and is also passionate. I do think she would be the best candidate.

xix. Tyra Allen - I am in favor of Senator Claudeth. Initially, I too had concerns about professionalism, but it should be known that her bubbly and personable personality does not get in the way of her having a business mentality. When it comes do being responsible. she is that person. I am in favor of her.

xx. Salman Sakib - May I address the general assembly?
   ● Carlo Garcia - You may

xxi. Salman Sakib - Seeing the discussions, we have seen a lot of veteran senators give their input on the candidates. I would ask the newly elected senators to give their opinion. Just because you are new does not mean that your voice means any less.

xxii. Azfar Budhwani - I move to previous question

xxiii. Dylan Delgado - May I address the General Assembly?
   ● Carlo Garcia - you may

xxiv. Dylan Delgado - To the new senators, your value comes from your different opinions that you hold. We cannot harness that value unless we hear from you. Y’all are well dressed and spiffy, I just wanna’ hear what y’all sound like.

xxv. Spencer Palmer - I am in favor of Luke. I have seen his involvement in this organization, he asked me to come around. Just off some first impressions, I have some professionalism concerns about Claudeth.

xxvi. Regina Kinnard - I am in favor of Claudeth. When you think about the Speaker being the liaison to the Exec, she seems to fit that bill. I met her early in my SGA involvement and she was so approachable. While Luke does have a lot of passion, I also see that from Claudeth.

xxvii. Dylan Delgado - I move to previous question.
   ● Seconded
   ● Motion to move to previous question not passed

xxviii. Lucy Schoolfield - Speaking about professionalism and the role of the liaison, you should consider if this person is approachable and can meet your needs personally. Claudeth can be professional and Luke is compassionate, but please know that it may be hard to judge a individual’s professionalism solely upon experiences in casual settings.

xxix. Gage Martin - The first time I met Luke, he had come into the food pantry and asked to speak to the director of the food pantry. And I was curious. He told me that he was partnering with SGA to expand some of the resources of the food pantry. I think that is admirable. I think it makes him an outstanding candidate. He learned I was running for a position in SGA and set up a meeting with me. I never thought I needed guided when
making the decision. He talked to me about campaigning and initiatives. It stood out to me. Maybe he doesn't seem as energetic at first, but you can really feel his passion when he interacts with you. I would just like to say that I wasn’t targeting Claudeth about professionalism, it was just a concern I had.

xxx. Katherine Rico - I am in favor of Claudeth. Just because someone is bubbly, doesn’t mean they can’t get the work done. Claudeth walks the walk. She helped connect UTSA to UDEM. She accomplished her goals and emphasized a team dynamic.

xxxi. Unknown - I am in favor of Luke because I feel is his approachable and will hear people out. I first came here in January. I was never introduced to him, but about a week out passed the second GA, I got a text from him saying he got my number from a mutual contact and wanted to let me know that if I needed anything, I could contact him. I had never even met him. I think he is the best candidate for this position.

xxxii. Taylor Edwards - I am in favor of Luke. While Claudeth seems like a great candidate, I am concerned about her capacity to follow through on tasks. I think Luke has demonstrated that he always follows through on his words with his initiatives.

xxxiii. Alicia Moreno - We have two great candidates. We have never had a pair so capable. Both candidates had connected with me on their own time. However, I support Claudeth. Several weeks ago, I had lunch with Claudeth, she asked me some really specific questions about what I would like to see in the next speaker. I heard from other senators that she had asked them the same. The fact that she was willing to go to senators and seek out their needs, that’s exactly what we’re looking for.

xxxiv. Anjali Shah - I think both candidates are very approachable and professional. I think Claudeth has more experience and that comes into play when performing the liaison role. Both of them have come to every one of my events. You can’t lose with any of them. I am in favor Claudeth. She has more experience under her belt.

xxxv. Cynthia Lopez - I know both of are great. I will just say that I have seen two speakers before these. I know how important building connections are. Luke was very professional when he introduced himself to me. He sought to enable me and those around him. Please pick the best pick for you.

xxxvi. Azfar Budhwani - I am in favor of Claudeth, I liked her idea of the folder for senator resources. Luke is undoubtedly a great candidate, but I think Claudeth will get the senate excited and help us succeed.

xxxvii. Salman Sakib - May I address the General Assembly?
  ● Carlo Garcia - You may

xxxviii. Salman Sakib - To those who have not spoken up yet, I urge you to share your opinion because you will be voting and we would all benefit from hearing what you have to say.

xxxix. Jazmin Ramirez - I am in favor of Senator Claudeth. I think she is the most qualified candidate and I like that she emphasized the team mentality instead of her.

xl. Unknown - I was new here both candidates introduced themselves to me. I think what stands out about Claudeth is her concern for what ideas others have at the moment. I am in favor of her.

xli. Dylan Delgado - I don’t mean to beat the dead horse of my support for Claudeth, but I like to share a brief story. I had to go to New York recently for an office visit, and on my down time I visited museums and went to a rave. I had very little concern for what was
When Claudeth went to Mexico, she thought to visit the SGA at the University of Monterrey and interview them. She set up a Facetime call with their exec and ours. You can see screenshots of those today on the SGA Instagram. Even in her time away from home, she was still concerned with her role back home and how she can benefit SGA.

Unknown - If there is no further discussion, I move to previous question
  ● Seconded
  ● Motion to move to previous question passed via verbal vote

Carlo Garcia - We are now in the vote for Speaker with the candidates Claudeth and Luke. Please vote using the same method as last time.

Claudeth Garcia - Sworn in as Speaker of the Senate

Presidential Appointments

A. Academic Affairs
   i. Chair - Salman Sakib
   ii. Vice-Chair - Regina Kinnard

B. Business Affairs
   i. Chair - Jose Escobedo
   ii. Vice-Chair - Azfar Budhwani

C. Student Affairs
   i. Chair - Alicia Moreno
   ii. Vice-Chair - Jenesis Montemayor

D. SHAC Director
   i. Anjali Shah

E. Downtown Director
   i. Cynthia Lopez

F. UTSSAC
   i. Dylan Delgado

G. Executive Director
   i. Amber Barbosa

H. Chief of Staff
   i. Kaitlyn Law

Resolution

A. Gage Martin - I motion to move remaining matters to next GA
   i. Not recognized

B. Full Reading

C. “Support for the Crisis Helpline at UTSA”
   i. Rachel Jendrzey

Takeaways

A. Kaitlyn Law - Please be on lookout for new slack channel, lookout for new committee meetings times and dates

B. Gage Martin - PoO - According to Robert’s Rules of Order, my previous motion should have been heard for a vote
   i. Jack Rust - It should be noted that the Chair reserves the right to acknowledge or not acknowledge motions
ii. Gage Martin - Thank you for that clarification

XVIII. Open Seats


XX. Adjournment - 9:49pm