

**Texas A&M University**  
**64th Session of the Student Senate**  
**Committee Reports**  
**November 16, 2011**

**Academic Affairs**

11/9/11 @ 9pm

The following Senators were in attendance:

Brody Smith (Chair)  
Crystal Usher Exec AA  
Kevin Markowski  
Jessica Castilleja  
Chris Esparza  
Hunter Dansby (Fish Aide)  
Mark Womack  
Cody Davis (absence forgiveness)  
Taylor Sessions (student)  
Tyler Mandry

Alex Moor Van Dyke and Seth Toups did not attend this meeting

**In New Developments,**

- Dr. Lisa Crupton Young had first Q-Drop task force meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup> discussing different options for FYGE and Q-drop advancement
- A new Senate meeting forum has been discussed in one for the bills being brought up in RR to allow for only new business bills to be discussed as requested and the rest to be sent in bulk to their committees.
- General Studies is still being discussed as to its viability as a college here at Texas A&M University and no decision has been reached toward its dissolution.
- Announcements: any senator can come to the AAC meetings and give announcements regarding upcoming events or organization projects if they wish

**Old Business:**

- SB 64-10 The Student Success Bill was postponed indefinitely
- SB 64-11 The Degree Plan Initiative Bill was amended and passed out of committee.
- SB 64-20 PASS Certificate Program Requirement for Students on Academic Probation Bill remains in committee
- SB 64-21 The FYGE Elimination and Q-Drop Policy Reform act remains in committee pending further amendment
- SB 64-27 The Syllabi Availability Bill passed out of committee
- SB 64-33 The International and Cultural Diversity Bill remains tabled on the Senate floor

**New Business**

- SB 64-41 The Scholarship Common App Bill was amended and passed out of committee
- SB 64-47 Change the Current Q-Drop System Bill is tabled on the Senate floor
- SB 64-56 The Veterans Academic Standards Bill was amended and passed out of committee

**Upcoming Meetings-**

- Next AAC meeting will be November 21, 2011 at 9pm in Koldus SGA office.

Adjourned at 10:16pm

### **Appropriations**

No report.

### **Community Relations**

The legislation was passed out of committee with a 4-0 vote (Lahutsky, Brown, Kelly, VanDine). The only change made was bill author Cody Vasut to re-codify the bill in the statutes. As per the request and consultation of Bryce Bender, we placed the responsibility on the VP of LR (or whomever fills such a position in the future). Sen. Esparza's original intent was kept intact, and I believe this is the most effective way of accomplishing our goal. Also, many thanks to my counterparts on the executive for their work in Killing Prop 1. This is a tremendous win for the student government association. CR will NOT be meeting next week. As always, be checking your emails.

Gig 'Em!

### **Constituency Affairs**

Howdy Senate,

The C.A. Committee finalized the opinion table schedule, shifts will be as follows:  
MWF of next week Tables will open at 10:00am and Close at 4:00pm,  
TR they will open at 9:35 and end at 3:30pm

The locations are as follows:

Main Campus: Blocker, Zachery, Harrington plaza, Duncan, Commons

West Campus: West Campus Plaza, West Campus Library, Allen building

Please go to this link to sign up (all senators have to get 3hrs. additional hrs. will count for absence forgiveness.)

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Ap1qDg\\_5Vm6dGtsaTR6RkRSSnJhbHFFaV9CNXBWYVE](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Ap1qDg_5Vm6dGtsaTR6RkRSSnJhbHFFaV9CNXBWYVE)

There are senate polos available to barrow in the SGA office.

T-Shirts: during the last Senate meeting roughly 60 senators raised there hands saying that they would buy a t-shirt, If you were one of those people please go online and buy one.

Thanks and Gig'em

Jody Harris'13

Update: Opinion booths have been cancelled.

Howdy Senate,

Due to the fact that almost nobody signed up to do opinion booths, (and the fact that everybody hates them) opinion booths have been canceled. I have consulted with the Internal Affairs Committee and all members were in agreeance that this was the best course of action. If any of you are signed up to do opinion booths you may still do them, just make sure you let me and Amanda

know. You will receive absence forgiveness for any tabling hour or speaking tour that you do. Also I do intend to attempt to get rid of the opinion booth program and would appreciate any and all "opinion" that you may have.

Thanks and Gig'em

Jody Harris'13  
Constituency Affairs Chair.

### **Legislative Affairs**

We had our last Legislative Affairs Committee on November 9th. We discussed Senator Jancaric's new bill regarding the Texas A&M anti-discrimination policy. Senator Esparza was in attendance to discuss his bill, The Financial Aid Bill, which remains in committee. Our next committee meeting will be on Sunday night at 8 PM in Koldus.

### **Rules and Regulations**

Last week was one of the most productive evenings for the RR Committee. We met for over 3 hours and passed 5 bills out of committee. One was including the Constitutional Modernization act. The big amendment that was made with SB64-30 was that we changed the number of Senators needed to change Judicial Courts Operating Procedures. This helped solidify J-courts inability to be 'man-handled' by the Senate and Executive branches. We will have many other bills to look forward too including Election Regulations. This will be a Statute and will take sometime to enact the changes that the Election Commission and the RR committee see fit. If you would like to help with the Election Regulations please come by our committee meeting or email me with your Suggestions. Please stay posted on the time and location for next weeks Committee Meeting.

Gig 'em,

Paul Boehm

### **Student Services**

Howdy Ags! The Student Services Committee is fighting for students and making their voice heard by administrators on campus. We have had an extremely high percentage of bills passed on the floor. This is evidence that we have been doing a precise job of preparing proper and effective legislation in committee and presenting them to the body as a whole. In order to get student opinion we have been visiting organizations on campus and talking to constituencies . Our next committee meeting will be held next Monday at 4:30PM in Koldus. All are welcome, to come and sit in on our meetings.

Thanks and Gig 'Em.

Thomas McNutt  
Student Services Chair  
Texas A&M Student Senate

Attendance:

Thomas McNutt, Matt Struble, Mark Jessup, Grant Kingsbery, Jake Riley, Caroline Cyrier, Fernando Sosa, Tyler Moquin, Natalie Schuck, Kristen Bonner, Chris Esparza, Alex

Bransom, Cody Vasut, Omar Ghannoum, Amanda Hatheway, Andrew Quesada, Liz Andradi(?) (MSC), Tyler Mandry, Jonathan Spencer, Brody Smith, Luke Cowsar

Call to Order:

University Center Complex Presentation:  
Facility Rates (MSC)

Bill Discussion:

SB64-09- Amended to add “under \$10” in Enacted Clause 2.  
Passed out of committee.

SB63-57-R64- Amended to add the following enacted clause (2):

Let it be

Further

Enacted(2): That the Texas A&M Student Government Association supports this move so long as no additional student fees are required.

Passed out of Committee

SB64-25- passed out of committee with no changes

SB64-28- Amended to add the following enacted clause(5):

Let it be

Further

Enacted(5): That a copy of this bill be sent to Executive Director of Transportation Services Peter Lange and Associate Director Debbie Hoffman within 5 days of passage.

Passed out of committee

SB64-29- Amended to add the following enacted clause(2):

Let it be

Further

Enacted(2): That a copy of this legislation be presented to Executive Director of Transportation Services Peter Lange and Associate Director Debbie Hoffman within 5 days of passage.

Passed out of committee

SB64-31- Amended to add “within a reasonable amount of time” to enacted clause(1).

Passed out of committee

SB64-36- Multiple Amendments made.

Tabled in committee

SB64-42- Following parts amended:

Whereas(5): In 2009, approximately 85% of on campus residents voluntarily purchased a plan averaging \$1,190; and,

Whereas(6): Beginning with the Freshman Class in the Fall of 2012, The students of Texas A&M living on campus will soon be required, by recent University regulation and against the opinion of the Student Body, to purchase meal plans from University Dining.

Therefore

Let it be

Enacted(1): The students of Texas A&M request that no maximum or minimum limit regulate the amount of Dining Dollars in a meal plan that are transferred within the academic year; and,

Passed out of Committee

SB64-46- Amended to add the following persons to distribution clause (enacted clause(4)):

- President R. Bowen Loftin
- VP of Student Affairs Lt.Gen. Joe Weber
- VP of Administration Dr. Rodney McClendon
- Executive Director of University Dining David Riddle
- Executive Director of Transportation Services Peter Lange
- Executive Director of Facilities Rod Weis
- Executive VP for Student Affairs Dr. David Parrott

Passed out of Committee

SB64-48- Multiple Amendments made in the following areas:

Authors, Whereas Clauses(2,3,9, 14), and enacted clauses(1,2,4,5,6,7)

Voted out of Committee

No discussion on Fee Bill

Miscellaneous Discussion:

Subcommittee-Senator Communication  
Reports