Senate Minutes  
March 20th 2018

Chair: Alan Lee  
Secretary: Brigitte Kelly

1. **Call to Order**
   a. 6:43pm  
   b. Quorum 30  
   c. Quorum Met with members

2. **Roll Call**
   a. Card Swipe for All Senators Present

3. **Approval of Minutes**

4. **Announcements**
   a. Elizabeth Tiddy
      i. Link on senate page for Faculty Staff appreciation awards  
      ii. Please nominate faculty and staff
   b. Tomiwa
      i. Senate Service Day  
      ii. This saturday! Get excited! It’s only an hour and a half is at Watauga high school and its partners with Hospitality House
   c. Travis O'Shell
      i. Record voting yesterday, voting slowed down a lot today  
      ii. Shoutout to Walt, Travis, and Jeff  
      iii. Please vote regardless of who you vote for

5. **New Business**

Franklin - I move to send all new business to rules

Chair - sent to rules

Franklin - Do you want to go over it again or

Williford - Let’s get it over with

Franklin - Remember, if you have an idea for the amendment that you have the exact language, if you have any questions at any point just let me know
Chair - the goal is to finish the bill tonight, I’ll let you off early once it’s over, please don’t rush though

Moody - I motion to amend senate bill to include a student senate president as a chair
Strike 1 and 2 of subsection C article 5
Move section 3 article 5 to executive below section 2 article 4
Insert electoral procedure of first section of article seven
Student senate president will be in place of the vice president chairing the senate
The student senate president will chair the senate

Mark - Second

Franklin - Object - need to discuss

Moody - I withdraw my motion

Franklin - I move to start discussion for an unlimited amount of time

Motion passes

Franklin - this amendment, alan leads the meeting, he is president of the senate, this amendment would saying the vp no longer serves as the senate president and a senator would be elected to be the president of the senate, this would not change the structure of the senate but just that we elect them, this is completely feasible

Chair - when you feel like discussion is over end it

Wilkes - my discretion is not about the disability, my problem is the basic understanding of what the bill does, creating a new position, a majority of the vice president's role is due to the job of being president of the senate, I have a problem with the election procedure, the vote is at the end of each sessions but not all of the senators who vote at the end do not come back, we get to choose who stands there but we do that in general election

Strahan - I agree, the problem is a list of duties, we can eliminate is as a whole, some schools do that

Steckbeck - Voting, instead of a general election, we know more of the inner workings of the senate and we can more effectively elect someone to lead the student senate
Mark - I agree with Greg Steckbeck, it is important to have a larger say, electoral college that’s what we are

Davis - Are you aiming towards having the elections for the senate president at the beginning of the senate term

Chair - there are outlined duties for the vice president

Wilkes - I would rather it be voted on in the session they’d lead not at the end of the year before

Mercado - the only thing that I foresee happening is I know at other schools they have this system, during the election the VP is used for a popularity tool instead of someone who is going to lead the senate, this may happen also if this changes

Cummings - I agree with Joe Wilkes and Michael Davis, is this going to be a person coming from the senate or from the general body?

Moody - the student senate president will be a senator

Franklin - VP is elected by student body, as our constitution stands, there is a requirement on the VP to have a certain amount of semesters to run, when I was in the SGA office someone walked in and wanted to run for student body president, the guidelines to be from student body vice president required sga participation, it is important to have experience in student government, a senate president being elected would mean allowing anyone in the student body to run for an elected office, once inside it would be better

LaRocca - I agree that senate should be able to vote into power but I don’t believe it should be the president or vice president,

Moody - I mentioned, my original amendments holds the powers of the vice president, the majority of the student governments in unc system if not all have a student president, NC State and UNC have this system and they have some of the most productive senators

Wilkes - Prior statement about putting up a wall, I don’t see it as a wall but as a standard for someone who would be running student government, how can we trust an individual who has never seen our student government, my only barring statement about putting up a wall

Franklin - I believe we should have experienced students, if they are elected then they should serve in this capacity, this amendment would give the best of both worlds, after someone has
been elected into student government then we can put requirements on it, in the current
constitution, if the vp doesn’t have two semesters of senate experience then that's the bottom
line, our system now that works, but for what it could

Markovich - Point of personal privilege

Cahill - I like a student senate president but my only concern is what is the vice president going
to do?

Moody - can we take a second just to read these

Hughes - Point of information, point five on second page, are we missing some of this document

Chair - ah yes that is an incomplete sentence

Lago - enumerate responsibilities and special projects

Turner - potentially could the vp be voted into student senate president, for the general elections
people elect someone who they think would be a great senate president

Moody - I don’t see why that would be necessary

Turner - because this is the way it’s been done, those who have been in the senate vote a certain
way

Moody - so a pres and vp run, this system is in place, could the elected vice president be elected
to be senate president?
I believe i have in here, but it says the student senate president must be a senator

Hughes - One thing a previous speaker mentioned, one thing to remember with the bill is it is not
supposed to be implemented next year but the year following, think about “do you trust the
people around you” I personally believe that senators could do this, this is an empowering thing
for the senate, this is an unique power that is being granted here, currently stated the vp could
come from the boy maybe the cabinet, I don’t think we should deny the will of the people, it was
heartbreaking to see that girl standing there unable to run, I don’t think the best leaders are
limited to this room, opening this up to the people would be a great change

LaRocca - I have a question about senate president powers, if they are a senator how will their
powers be restricted
Moody - If i don’t have this in here, sorry, I think I currently have it so they can not write legislation

Hughes - does it state currently that it has to be a senator?

Moody - yes

Hughes - then they have to

Moody - then they can write legislation

LaRocca - can they vote as well? Having VP as president of senate means he can’t vote

Moody - I think they are a voting member, the VP still serves as a tie breaker

Wilkes - this runs into issues with prior bills that have been passed, the VP is now an exec branch member yet has the ability to (VP Duties) vote on motions on the floor and tie breaking bill, doesn’t that counteract a bill written earlier this year limited cabinet members speaking during senate meetings
Also student senator also voting on and writing bills but also having the objectively writing bills

Quorum - 32

Moody - VP voting in case of a tie is constitutional, student senate president voting and debating is only allowed to vote or participate after turning leadership over to president pro tempore

Steckbeck - For anyone sitting weird with senator being senate president, we can make an amendment to change that

Hughes - I call for a straw poll on this amendment

18 voted yes (58%0)
12 voted no (39%)
1 abstained (3%)

Franklin - the bill passes by ⅔

Moody - Point of information, I changed this to have student senate elections
I motion to end discussion and vote on this amendment
Wilkes - objection

Steckbeck - objection

Hughes - RObert’s rules, is moving to end discussion non-debatable

Chair - objection requires two thirds votes, objection does not pass, now we will vote on the amendment,

Insert voting numbers

Brown - I thought abstention does not count for the

Cahill - if we don’t have these amendments, that document is without these amendments

Hughes - I move that we add to senate apportionment that we expand senate to ten seats

Franklin - second

Moody - consent

Hughes - I don’t believe it’s fair that the consistent amount of senators who show up, the number is seats is going from 12 to 5 and that is not fair, I believe in more representation, each class would have 10 seats instead of the current five

Quorum - 33

Larocca - if this motion would go into effect in two years

Hughes - Two thirds have to approve tonight, then it goes to referendum for the student body, if the referendum could be help next week then it could be applied, it could be added as a resolved clause that the senate seat apportionment would be applied next year and not in the next two years

Strahan - I am extremely opposed to this, the junior and senior class in particular, 5,6,7 people have wanted to be involved, the freshman and sophomor should have them,

Wilkes - senate seats, I was thinking about raising them to be proportional to class size
Hughes - there is value in that, I have issues with statistically appropriated seats, I have an issue about being a senator and making a decision about constituents

Davis - I move to extend debate or another five minutes

Cummings - Why exactly were the seats decreased?

Quorum - 32

Franklin - last year’s senate was very different from this year’s senate, they chose to cut it down from 12 to 5, there was a lot of empty seats, looking back this is a very different situation from last year

Cummings - When it comes to senate, I have an issue with people wanting to be senators but not wanting to put in the work, I’d rather you show up and do work

Hughes - I can understand concerns here, I’m looking at members is a 50/50 chance of getting the seat back, Korbin I hear you, there is an attendance policy and the updated version, I look around and am utterly disgusted

Cummings - you said you were trying to increase the student seats

Hughes - all class seats

Wilkes - 10 or 11 people who aren’t here are class seats

Cahill - I wanted to second Korbin, she mentioned everything I was thinking

Cahill - I agree, senators need to show up and do their job, it says something in us decreasing those classes and decreasing those seats, those junior and senior class

Hughes - extend discussion

Steckbeck - Objection

Hughes - I retracted

Waller - I motion to suspend rules for cabinet to speak
Steckbeck - I move to vote on this amendment

Cummings - Objection

Steckbeck - rescind

Hughes - I want this bill done one way or another, let’s go

Chair - side chatter to a minimum, we are backed up

Franklin - this is a great amendment and I move we vote on it

Chair - all those in favor to make the class seats

20 voted yes

⅔ voted yes

AMENDMENT PASSES

Moody - I extend for a revote, I don’t think people knew what an abstention counted as a no

Chair - She did not say this to sway your vote in convincing those who abstained to vote

Franklin - As parlimentarian I should have told you that

Steckbeck - Second

Moody - Consent

18 voted yes

3 abstentions

Brown - I have an amendment, article 5 section for subsection A, adding an ex officio seat category, I was approached by a faculty senate member and they want an ex officio member in their senate, hey we would love to have an ex officio
Brown - I move to amend article 5 subsection 3, add point 2 and define ex officio seats

Hughes - Second

Steckbeck - Consent

Abstention - Wilkes, Cummings, Lago

AMENDMENT PASSES

Steckbeck - I motion to take a straw poll vote on this bill for this amendment

Waller - Consent

Iclicker vote: Quorum 31

Hughes - I move we vote on this bill

Wilkes - objection - there are a lot of things that still need to be fleshed out and grammatical errors

Hughes - the grammar issues were amended in rules committee

Franklin - there are more amendments that I want to make to the bill

Hughes - I retract my motion

Wilkes - art four section 6 to article 7

Franklin - accepted

Wilkes - section 7, amend to state and executive director to be ex officio, instead of it being an option it should be a requirement

Franklin - if you want to make it required then make it required

Hughes - SEcond

Franklin - consent
Quorum - 31

Vote via voice vote
No nays or abstentions

AMENDMENT PASSES

Franklin - add a final resolved clause
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Hughes - second

Wilkes - strike f, leave senate pro tem

Brown - two section fours in article two

Franklin - I move to make all necessary amendments to change the bill

Wilkes - art five subsection e
Student senate president
Having the senate committee chairs being nominated by senate president

Franklin - in the bill, the referendum will take place is wrong, I move we need to change the dates, change resolved clause to be fall election of 2018

Hughes - second

Cahill - consent

Steckbeck - what vote does that include

Franklin - everyone

Chair - the whole student body has to pass this referendum is has to be approved by the student body

Voice Vote:
Cummings
Wilkes
Waller
Abstain

Franklin - I’d like to move to vote on the bill

Wilkes - amount of people voting on the referendum?

Davis - Second

Steckbeck - Consent

Cummings - Objection - there is a lot going on right now, we need more senators that are going on right now

Hughes - I move to vote on this via voice vote

Cummings - I object lets just vote via voice vote

20 NO
10 YES

OBJECTION PASSES

*clerk leaves the room in hurry*

FRANKLIN - we have spent forever. Need to vote now.

DAVIS - we’ve been waiting for people to be here for two weeks

CUMMINGS - need more people here. Should not vote.

DAVIS - we should not wait - whats chances these absent people come to next meeting.

JOSEPH - We should table bill when we have an entire senate of senators.
WILKES - some bills have been held hostage. I would vote now - we need more time and I cannot vote yes until we have more people. Big changes, everyone should be here. They must be on the sheet flushed out. Grammar must be correct.

BROWN - If people had something to say they would’ve made sure they would be here.

MOODY - We will not fill this room. Alan sent the email. He sent a notification.

LAGO - Agrees with Lauren.

STECKBECK - If people were absent they should’ve let us know.

CUMMINGS - clean up bill. Same people who have been skipping will continue to skip.

CAHILL - The 17 bills are more important.

HUGHES - Straw poll passed - we have voted this is a delay tactic.

CHAIR - non-germane comments.

HUGHES - So they are attacking statements.

TRIVETTE - New amendments - so much more discussion to be had.

FRANKLIN - move to vote

FRANKLIN - adjourn meeting.

ADJOURNMENT 8:31 pm