



**72<sup>nd</sup> Student Senate  
Rules & Calendar  
Date: January 29th, 2020**

**Call to Order:** 6:05 p.m.

**Members Present:** President Pro Tempore Harmon, Chair(s) Cohen, Dean, Gnanam, Leckie, Murcia

**Members Tardy:** Chair(s) Daraldik

**Members Absent:** Chair(s) X

**Guests:** Vice-Chair(s) England, Porter, Villacorta Senator(s) Sojos, Long

**Announcements:**

- President Pro Tempore - We have lots to do today and a short amount of time. Glad you are all here and this week has been a productive one so continue all your hard work! I just would like to ask for y'all to encourage your committee members to write legislation much like Judiciary and SLAA. Also, if they do change rules for an organization please remind them to speak to the people that their rule changes directly effect. Other than that, good job on reorganizing this week and communicating a lot better.
- Judiciary - Had two meetings. There are two sets of minutes if you are trying to find them.
- Internal Affairs - IA is meeting at 8:15
- Budget - X
- Finance - Finance is switching to 7
- Student Life & Academic Affairs - X
- Guests - X

**Committee Business:**

- **Suspended Senator Hearing**
- **Bills 12, 15, 17, 23**
- **Resolutions 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17**

**Old Business:**

- **Suspended Senator Hearing:**
  - **Kellen Long**
    - **Opening:** I take full responsibility for failing to turn in the absentee form, I never missed a Senate meeting when I had a choice, I realized at the beginning of the semester that I bit off more than I could chew, part of IFC and managing mens tennis thus taking most of my time.
    - Dean moves to enter Roundtable, Daraldik seconds, enter **Roundtable**
    - **Roundtable:**
      - Leckie: Why haven't you come to Rules earlier?

- A: I have been using Canvas to check my email, and I have been missing seeing emails
- Dean: If you are suspended, you know you can't miss any other meetings, right?
  - A: I'm aware I can't miss
- Daraldik: Are you planning on running for reelection?
  - A: No
- Daraldik motions to enter deliberations, Gnanam seconds, enter **Deliberations**
- **Deliberations**
  - Daraldik: I don't see the value of trying to impeach him when he already said he doesn't plan on running for reelection
  - Dean: I don't think he should be impeached.
  - Leckie: I disagree, this is an important job, and neglecting to check your email shouldn't excuse excessive absences, people would die to be in these seats
  - Villacorta: I can see both sides, being absent for a sixth of your term is excessive when you consider the close votes we've had, or how the chairs have struggled to meet quorum
  - Cohen: I think considering how long the process will take, I don't think whether or not him re-running should be considered. What's important is the student body.
  - Leckie: Again, this is a solemn and serious thing. I also think it's significant. When you're suspended your job is on the line and you have an opportunity to come to committee and explain why they've missed Senate. I think with something that important and you miss two of those opportunities, I don't know how I feel. I think there are students who really want to be in these seats.
  - Leckie moves to let a non committee member speak
  - Villacorta seconds
  - England: Please remember the elections are three weeks away from today.
  - Leckie: I don't think this has anything to do elections.
  - Porter: I do understand it shouldn't be the overriding concerns in regards to the election, but I think it's reasonable to accept the fact that if Rules were to forward him for impeachment, the length of time the impeachment process takes and the amount of time that it would take with finding a replacement, nobody else is going to get that seat before the election and inauguration.
  - Villacorta: We should do this based off of statues and instead of weighing other factors, we should just look at whether rules have been violated. Has the person adequately taken their suspension seriously and gone through the proper channels to have that overturned?
  - Dean: Everyone's been saying correct things. At the end of the day, he came and presented his case, gave us valid (not the best, but valid) reasons and at this point of the semester he'd like to continue serving his term and finish his term representing his parts of campus. Next time he does have an absence, I would then want to forward him to impeachment wholeheartedly.

- Leckie: The only thing I wanna say is that I think the process is very important and to look at the facts and statutes correctly. This is an objective process and is whether or not people can do their jobs correctly.
  - Dean moves to call the question
  - Daraldik seconds
  - Vote:
    - Cohen: No
    - Daraldik: No
    - Dean: No
    - Gnanam: No
    - Leckie: Yes
    - Murcia: No
    - Villacorta: Yes
    - Motion **FAILS 2-5-0**
    - Senator Long is hereby **UNSUSPENDED**
- **Bill 12 - Sponsored by Senators Leckie & Absten (P):** Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 401.1A regarding denouncing individuals or organizations.
  - Opening - Leckie: If you want to commend someone, you have to meet certain requirements. For denouncing someone, you don't. I think we should fix this.
  - Technical & Non-Debatable:
    - Villacorta: Can you write a resolution or would you have to come to rules first?
      - A: Nope, but at some point it would have to come to Rules.
  - Dean moves to enter round-table.
  - Murcia seconds.
  - Round-table discussion:
    - Daraldik: For example, the Nazi resolution a few weeks ago would have to come through rules if we were to have something similar?
    - Leckie: Yep.
    - Dean: Kudos to the sponsor for catching this.
    - Villacorta: I'm a huge fan of finding obscurities in statutes.
    - Leckie: I know it may seem like a small thing, but we had the Bobby Bowden and other controversial items on the floor and this can affect how Senate is presented resolutions
  - Murcia moves to call the question.
  - Villacorta seconds.
  - Closing - Leckie: Sponsor waives.
  - Vote:
    - Cohen: Yes
    - Daraldik: Yes
    - Dean: Yes
    - Gnanam: Yes
    - Leckie: Yes
    - Murcia: Yes
    - Villcorta: Yes
    - Bill **PASSES 7-0-0**
- **Bill 15 - Sponsored by Senators Gerdts & Blackthorne (P), Dean & Diaz (Co):** Amending Student Body statutes Chapter 607.1D regarding graduate student senate seats.
  - Daradik moves to table.

- Dean seconds.
- Bill is **TABLED**
- **Bill 17 - Sponsored by Senator Slimak (P):** Amending Student Body Statutes Chapter 400.2, 405.2, and 413.2 regarding senate officers.
  - Opening - Slimak: Hello all. I've been working on this for a while now. I believe we need more important information on what we're doing inside Senate to communicate with the student body. This would create a Press Secretary for the Senate to show the student body as a whole what we're doing. People need portfolios to do real PR work and it's really hard to get off of the ground, so this will create a door and an opportunity for a student to grow a portfolio and get some experience. I yield. 1:29 to closing.
  - Technical & Non-Debatable:
    - Villacorta: Would they have to attend Senate meeting?
      - A: That would be decided by the President, Pro-Tempore and Press Secretary
    - Dean: Have you spoken to Senate Leadership about this?
      - A: Not recently as it's been stuck in committee but in the past, yes.
  - Murcia moves to enter round-table.
  - Dean seconds.
  - Round-table Discussion:
    - Leckie: Passed by acclamation in Judiciary.
    - Villacorta: I do like getting rid of the Sergeant of Arms. I definitely like giving the Parliamentarian part of the job in regard to maintaining order. The Press Secretary isn't required to attend Senate meetings which I feel means it's hard to hold them accountable and I think that the Press Secretary's work would most likely be done at Senate. I think they should come to Senate. Senate Clerk is in support of this, but I think it's something the Clerk to do. Hesitant to create a new position. People come to SGA hoping to do something and I feel like we let the former Sergeant at Arms down. I would consider amending to remove section (e) and subsection (e1).
    - Daraldik: I disagree. I think having a Press Secretary would be essential. The Clerk is doing a lot and this would be adding a lot to his work. I do think this would be a beneficial position. I don't agree in the sense that we don't need it. Even if they don't come to every meeting, even if they're just recapping. I do think they should come to Senate though.
    - Leckie: I disagree because I think the Press Secretary can do a lot of what former Senator Dobbins did. That would boost engagement with Senate and with specific organisations.
    - Gnanam: I was also in Judiciary when this went through the committee. I'm a big supporter of creating positions in SGA for people to get involved in. Even if people aren't doing much, people pick up skills and get knowledge and understanding as how SGA works. I think a person designated to advertise what we as Senate do would be great. Making a direct accountability makes it hard to work on this position as we go on, but Pro-Tempore Harmon surely wouldn't let them not come to Senate. Someone in this position should want to come to Senate.  
Dean: There's a lot of people who have no clue what goes on in the Senate. I don't think attending Senate is always necessary for this position. As Senators, we were elected to do this position. Someone in Public Relations is going to be in charge or reaching the student body and

maximising engagement. We should recruit someone who's interested in student government and interested in public relations. I am in full support.

- Villacorta: I don't like the general vagueness of the position. It's then difficult to judge people's success. If something is going into statutes it needs to be clear cut. I don't like portion (e) and (e1) is because we already have someone who would already like to engage with the student body. He would like to be able to take up this role in some capacity. He's expressed interest to me in regards to managing the Senate Social media. If we do keep the Press Secretary position in, I think they should have to attend Senate as that's where all of the work they'll be doing is going on.
- Leckie: Clerk Roy is great, but future Clerks may be a little overwhelmed. I actually do like the vague language because the Press Secretary would serve at the pleasure of the President and Pro Tempore. The job can change, the position can change and the vague language would allow flexibility. They do have to be confirmed by the Senate, so there is some accountability.
- Baxter: Took the words out of my mouth! To add on to what you said, I genuinely enjoy the vagueness of the language. As someone who does PR, you need that flexibility. We can argue on attendance if possible.
- Villacorta moves to amend (e1).
- Murcia seconds.
- Sponsor does not find it friendly.
- Opening - Villacorta: Just like the Clerk positions, if you're handling something that's communicating with the student body, I believe you should be in Senate. It worked well with former Senator Dobbins and I believe we should be doing social media posts in real time. We should be reaching out at the time it's happening for the purpose of transparency. If they're going to be working for the Senate, they should be there to make sure we're getting publicised. Yields 1:52 to closing.
- Technical & Non-Debatable:
  - Cohen: For the current two other appointed positions, is there any attendance requirement?
    - A: Yes, there is.
- Dean moves to enter round-table
- Murcia seconds.
- Round-table:
  - Dean: Would you be open to letting the Senate Clerk take on this role if the spot is vacant?
  - Villacorta: I would also like to see an amendment like that, but this is my focus.
  - Murcia: I think this is a good idea because as Pro-Tempore Harmon and Chair Leckie were saying, their mums were looking at Twitter in real time. For that reason, I think they should come to Senate.
  - Cohen: If we're going to make this appointed by the Senate president, I think it should be held to the same responsibilities and expectations of the Clerk and Parliamentarian, in that they should have to attend Senate.
  - Slimak: I am in full support of the Press Secretary being present at Senate. If we want the Press Secretary to go on behalf of Senate to represent us somewhere during a Senate meeting, this wouldn't let them. I always thought this was going to be an expectation but at the same time, this position is new and still being tried out. I'm interested in looking

at making all 3 positions mandatory to attend Senate, but I don't think we should slap this on right now. I do fully believe in having them there though.

- Gnanam: I think accountability is important. I think keeping the Clerk and Parliamentarian accountable is very different to keeping someone who does social media accountable. I would like to see the vagueness allow for creativity of the position and allows the student who comes into it to have a greater idea of what they want to do.
- Leckie: I think that the statement is too vague. There's no consequence. For appointed officials, the process of removing them is impeachment. I don't think "impeaching" a social media person is a good idea. I don't think the statement of the amendment is enacting in and of itself and doesn't add anything.
- Villacorta: There isn't language for impeachment for the other two positions. This is at the discretion of the Senate President. I'm not sure the Press Secretary should be the mouthpiece of Senate. If they're going to be doing this job, I don't think them being there is going to affect their creative license. I do think they should be there as things happen. If we're going to take this as seriously as the other appointed positions, they should be held to the same standards.
- Daraldik moves to call the question.
- Leckie seconds.
- Closing: I would like to see another amendment added allowing the Clerk to take over the role while the position is absent. I really think if we're going to hold this position to the same standards as the other two appointed positions, they should have to come to Senate. Several people found Senate through Twitter/Instagram and I think we need a strong social media presence if we're going to ever have a full Senate.
- Vote (on the amendment):
  - Cohen: Yes
  - Daraldik: No
  - Dean: No
  - Gnanam: No
  - Leckie: No
  - Murcia: Yes
  - Villcorta: Yes
  - Amendment **FAILS 3-4-0**
- Daraldik moves to call the question
- Dean seconds
- Vote (on the bill):
  - Cohen: Yes
  - Daraldik: Yes
  - Dean: Yes
  - Gnanam: Yes
  - Leckie: Yes
  - Murcia: Yes
  - Villcorta: No
  - Bill **PASSES 6-1-0**
- **Resolution 9 - Sponsored by Senator Sojos (P):** Amending Senate Rules of Procedures 10.12 regarding amendments.

- **Resolution 10 - Sponsored by Senator Slimak (P):** Amending Senate Rules of Procedure 15.3 regarding Senate Officers.
- **Resolution 13 - Sponsored by Senator Leckie (P):** Amending Senate Rules of Procedure 15.3 regarding subcommittees.
- **Resolution 14 - Sponsored by Senators Cohen and Lavender (P):** Recognizing and adopting the majority opinion of the AdHoc Naming Committee.
- **Resolution 15 - Sponsored by Senator Cohen (P):** Amending the Senate Rules of Procedure regarding the Naming procedure.
- **Resolution 16 - Sponsored by Senator Lavender (P):** Approving a retroactive payment from Executive Projects to the SLC.

**New Business:**

- **Bill 23 - Sponsored by Senator Cohen (P):** Amending Chapter 413.7 with regards to Senator of the Year Award.
- **Resolution 17 - Sponsored by Senators England (P), Villacorta (C):** Amending Senate Rules of Procedure regarding voting process during Committee of the whole.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**Final Announcements:** None

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 6:30 pm

**Adjourned:** 7:05 p.m.



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Signature of President Pro Tempore