



**72nd Student Senate
Rules & Calendar
Date: March 4th, 2020**

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

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

Members Tardy: Chair(s) Baxter, Dean

Members Absent: Chair(s) Daraldik

Guests: Vice-Chair Porter, Villacorta, Senator England

Announcements:

- President Pro Tempore – We have lots of work to do today. Thank you for being here.
- Judiciary - None
- Internal Affairs - None
- Budget - None
- Finance - None
- Student Life & Academic Affairs - None
- Guests - None

Committee Business:

- Senate Candidate Confirmations
- Suspended Senators Hearing
- Resolution 31

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Senate Candidate Confirmations
 - Jason Blackthorne - Graduate Studies: Fall Seat 3
 - Opening: Applying for Graduate seat 3. Take this opportunity to show how this whole situation of me jumping from seat to seat might be undemocratic but I would like to adjust that in the future. I am more than welcome to answer any questions about my application.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - Villacorta: When does your current term end?
 - When the next spring senate comes in
 - Villacorta: Why did you not run for reelection?
 - There would be no contest either way I just felt this was easier.
 - Questions about Character:

- Point of Clarification (Porter): There were no graduate students on the spring ballot. There were not people running for the even seats.
- Murcia (Point of Inquiry): Did we not pass something that barred people from jumping from seat to seat?
 - Villacorta: Jake is checking
- Villacorta: The ability to switch seats is an undemocratic process. So you wanna do it but then change that after you used it?
 - No my bill has not been signed or approved by Dr. Hecht. I wanted to show that this is still a problem and would like to fix it. This is more of a PR stunt to fix this.
- Questions about position
 - Seeing none
- Moving to forward the candidate
 - First Porter
 - Second gnanam
- Closing
 - I hope I answered all your questions, at least going through the processes involved with reelection rather than just being confirmed. I hope that I get to continue to serve the student body.
- Roundtable
 - Murcia: While I do think the senator the candidate is a great senator, I don't think that senators should be able to jump from seat to seat.
 - Leckie: I supported the apportionment bill, I just believe that if we are gonna pass a bill we (senate) should follow it as if it is signed. I recognize you drawing attention to it but I am unsure about how I would vote, I just think there are multiple pieces of legislation.
 - Dean: How come President Steinberg forwarded the candidates?
 - Leckie: I just think this exists completely separate from the legislative body.
 - Villacorta: There was legislation in place that went through the senate at some point, it's buried somewhere. But essentially there were rules in place that did not allow a senator to apply for a seat unless they have finished out their term.
- Call to Question (Murcia, Dean)
 - Dean: Abstain
 - Gnanam: No
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Murcia: No
 - Porter: No
 - Villacorta: No
 - Result: 1,4,1
- Renee Wang - Dedman School of Hospitality: Fall Seat 1
 - Opening
 - As you all know the school of hospitality the senate seat has not been filled in a while and the voices have not been heard in a while. Many members of this school do not know that this seat is available and I would also like to voice the concerns of asian american students and the students of out of state students.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:

- Dean: Are you financially certified?
 - Yes
 - Questions about Character:
 - Baxter: Can you describe a prior leadership role that you were in and how you committed your time to that role?
 - I currently work as a wedding planner and I think this is a really great experience working with other members of the school. I committed my time to this because I love event planning and I don't take on time commitments that I don't have time for.
 - Baxter: How do you handle conflict
 - think it is just taking it one step at a time and realizing what everyone wants and how to get there.
 - Questions about position
 - Murcia: What are some of your goals within your time in SGA
 - I just really want to be the voice of the school of hospitality as well as a voice of pedestrian safety within SGA.
 - Dean: Would you see yourself reapplying for senate
 - Yes
 - Dean: Do you have time
 - Yes, I don't take on anything I don't have time for.
 - Questions from non-committee members
 - Porter: What is your definition of fiscal responsibility
 - I am also a business major. Not going over the allocated amounts and set budgets.
 - Moving to deliberation
 - Closing
 - Like I said I just wanna be the voice for my school, which is not something we have had for a very long time. And be a representative for them and everyone on campus.
 - Roundtable
 - Leckie: Full disclosure, we are roommates. She puts a lot of effort into what she gets involved with and she gives a voice to a group that has yet to have a voice for.
 - Call to Question (Dean, Baxter)
 - Baxter: Yes
 - Cohen: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Leckie: Abstain
 - Murcia: Yes
 - Result: 5,0,1
- Suspended Senators Hearing:
 - Senator Jungers
 - Pro Tempore Harmon representing: Senator Jungers, Engineering Seat 2 has 2-3 weeks left in his term. 2 excused, 7 unexcused absences for a total of 9. His absences start in September and his most recent absence was January 28th. He is a member of the Finance committee. He has been contacted multiple times in regards to coming to this committee through both texts and email. This is the 3rd time not coming to rules.
 - Question:

- Leckie: When you contacted them, did he reply to your email to say he was not going to be here today?
 - Harmon: No
 - Roundtable
 - Leckie: If your job is on the line and you don't come to the meeting that's going to save your job -- you're going to lose your job. It's been a month and he hasn't been here. If he was sick, or had a bunch of homework, or even had the courtesy of responding to the email it would've been different.
 - Murcia: Last time he was here he said he wouldn't miss anymore meetings
 - Baxter moves to forward the candidate. Murcia seconds.
 - Vote:
 - Baxter: Yes
 - Cohen: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Murcia: Yes
 - Result: 6,0,0
 - Senator is forwarded to the Judiciary committee.
- Senator Culver
 - Pro Tempore Harmon representing: Senator Culver is in Graduate Studies Seat 9. He has 1.5 excused absences and 7.5 unexcused absences. He is on the Finance committee. He missed 7 consecutive meetings before February 5th. He has not contacted me at all. He is aware of the fact he is suspended.
 - Questions
 - Leckie: When you contacted them, did he reply to your email to say he was not going to be here today?
 - Harmon: No
 - Baxter: Has he been to committee before?
 - Harmon: Yes but not since last November
 - Roundtable
 - Baxter moves to forward the candidate. Gnanam seconds.
 - Vote:
 - Baxter: Yes
 - Cohen: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Murcia: Yes
 - Result: 6,0,0
 - Senator is forwarded to the Judiciary committee.
- Senator Toussaint
 - Pro Tempore Harmon representing: He is a fall seat 1 for the College of Communication and Information. He is on Internal Affairs. 1 excused absence and 8.5 unexcused absences. 9.5 total. He has not contacted me and I know he has been made aware of it as he came to an IA meeting while he was suspended.

- Questions
 - Leckie: When you contacted them, did he reply to your email to say he was not going to be here today?
 - Harmon: No
 - Baxter moves to forward the candidate. Dean seconds.
 - Vote:
 - Baxter: Yes
 - Cohen: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Murcia: Yes
 - Result: 6,0,0
 - Senator is forwarded to the Judiciary committee.
- Resolution 31 - Sponsored by Senator Porter, Villacorta and Murcia (Co)
 - Opening: This is a very simple change. It just says that if we're debating an issue on the Senate floor and someone objects to something, they have to briefly explain why they object before the person making the original motion is asked if they want to withdraw. I look forward to answering any questions you may have.
 - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
 - Leckie: I believe something is accidentally underlined and shouldn't be included in statutes
 - Porter: Correct, that is a mistake
 - Villacorta: In the last part, are you aware there's a grammatical error?
 - Porter: I'm an Economics not an English major but yes, that is an error.
 - Dean moves to enter roundtable. Murcia seconds.
 - Roundtable
 - Cohen moves to strike the word "wishes" and replace it with "if they wish". Murcia seconds. Sponsor finds the amendment friendly.
 - Leckie: So, I think that this makes sense but the only issue I have with it is making things codified in rules. There're contingencies we should have, but there's also some things we should just usually do. I don't know if this needs to be put in rules and instead could just be enforced by the Senate President. We may want to think about not putting absolutely everything into Rules.
 - Murcia: I get what you're saying but I do believe this should go in rules. There's just been times where people haven't been asked why they object, and people then don't withdraw their motion. I think it's going to help make debate go a lot smoother.
 - Dean: I feel like it's good to make the President ask the reasoning behind an objection. I feel like it'll help us be more efficient. I will be voting in Pro.
 - Cohen: I think that allowing the presiding officer is good, I think objections happen often enough that we should codify this in rules and for Senators that aren't as vocal or aware this will help make them more aware of what's going on.
 - Villacorta: If someone wanted to limit a Senator from taking a certain action, they can technically do that right now. I think that it could currently be weaponized against a Senator so having this in rules helps prevent that. Any Senator that objects can then make themselves heard and fully utilizing their rights as a Senator.

- Gnanam moves to call the question. Murcia seconds. No objections.
- Closing: Sponsor waives.
- Vote:
 - Baxter: Yes
 - Cohen: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Murcia: Yes
 - Result: 6,0,0
 - Resolution 31 **PASSES as amended.**

Unfinished Business: None

Final Announcements: None

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 11th, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Adjourned: 6:59 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Harmon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Signature of President Pro Tempore