



**72nd Student Senate
Rules & Calendar
Date: March 11th, 2020**

Call to Order: 6:07 p.m.

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

Members Tardy: Chair(s) Cohen, Dean

Members Absent: Chair(s) Baxter

Guests: Sasha Martin, Senator England, Vice-Chair(s) Porter, Villacorta,

Announcements:

- President Pro Tempore - We have some bills, resolutions and a candidate confirmation! In regard to impeachment, I have to write the articles of impeachment. Once written they'll be sent to Judiciary.
- RTAC - School is shutting down for 2 weeks after Spring Break. Hope you're all aware!

Committee Business:

- Candidate Confirmations
- Bills & Resolutions

Old Business:

New Business:

- Candidate confirmations:
 - **Sasha Martin - Fall Social Work: Fall Seat 1**
 - Opening:
 - I'm Sasha, she/her pronouns. I'm currently in PeaceJam! I serve as a coaching staff member so I help the coaches go into high schools and middle schools and teach their stuff. I'm an RA for azalea/magnolia. I want to join the Senate because I have seen that my college of Social Work doesn't have much representation in student government. I want us to have a better presence so we can link better with SGA. I want people to know that someone's there to help them and I would love to be able to get to know our students more. Hannah Primozic told me to join and said it was a great opportunity. Networking is very powerful! Yields 3:11 to closing.
 - Technical Non-Debatable:
 - Leckie: Are you financially certified through SGA?
 - A: Not yet! I was waiting for this.
 - Questions regarding position:

- KP: What ideas do you have for your position?
 - A: I've heard about your idea for Senators to be GreenDot certified and I think that's a great idea. I also want people to be more aware of everyone's identities in general. I've looked into committees too and I'm interested in Student Life & Academic Affairs (SLAA) as that looks like what I've been doing already.
- Murcia moves for a non-committee member to speak. Gnanam seconds.
 - Porter: What is your definition of fiscal responsibility?
 - A: Being responsible for money that is given to you, keeping track of where money is being spent.
 - Daraldik: Do you have any initiatives for bettering the student body since you're interested in SLAA?
 - A: I've been part of the NCVI training as an RA and it was great bonding as a staff. I think this would help us interact and communicate better with the student body.
 - Daraldik: I know we haven't had someone from Social Work -- what issues within the school have you heard of that you want to advocate for?
 - A: Good point! That's why I wanted to apply because there hasn't been someone in a while. A lot of people in the school focus on 1:1 interactions with people rather than macro aspects involving interactions on a larger scale. I want to be visible to them and show them that you can do Social Work on a macro level too. I haven't seen anything that necessarily needs doing yet.
- Questions regarding character:
 - Daraldik: What do you mean by being collaborative in your response to "What is your leadership style?" on the application?
 - A: Sometimes when you come up with ideas on your own, you don't really know how to go forward with them. Within PeaceJam we all have our different ideas and we bring them together to make one big idea. So I think collaboration and allowing everyone to speak is great.
 - Leckie: You say you're collaborative -- are you willing to accept conflict with people when necessary?
 - A: Well I'm also an RA so absolutely. People always try to contest quiet hours and having to explain that they signed their contract in regard to that kind of stuff.
 - Villacorta: So in general, what's your approach in regard to conflict resolution in general and those you work with?
 - A: I find conflict resolution better when you talk with a group of people as opposed to one on one. Communication is key. If you're not communicating with someone, how can you know something is wrong?
- Leckie moves to enter deliberation. Daraldik seconds.
- Closing:
 - Thanks everyone for some good and insightful questions! I don't think I've had these questions before so it's definitely been a different interview experience. I'm looking forward to having the

opportunity to learn more about SGA and keep up the great work in committees!

■ Deliberations:

- Daraldik: I think it's important to consider what Ryan Hopely said about candidates being a 'build vs. by'. I think personally she'll be more of a build. I think if she does come to SLAA I can help her but as of now we might have to pour into her to help her.
- Leckie - Point of Information: How many other applicants were there?
 - A: There was one other applicant.
- Dean: Did she mention potential plans?
- Murcia: Senate is also a great learning opportunity. Some of us didn't come in here with concrete goals and we came in here to learn and to collaborate. I think this is a way to build up more leaders, I just want to put that out there.
- Dean: Did she mention why she wanted to run for Senate?
- Harmon: I know that Senator Primozic and Thomas Driscoll referred her to do this.
- Porter: She's coming from a historically underrepresented division and that's the primary reason why I came into the Senate. Just making sure my constituents have a voice and once I was in the Senate that's when I started bouncing off of people and learning. It's tough to have someone be the whole package right away. I might not be able to vote tonight but I do think she'd be a good candidate.
- Villacorta: Given that there were 2 applicants, I'm a little curious as to the other applicant. I think it's interesting how some people come in with a lot of ideas and concrete goals. We're sometimes a little weary of those who don't come in with concrete goals and that has me a little weary too. If there aren't a lot of plans for the outset, what's representation for the college look like?
- Leckie: I came in as a Freshman -- new to the Senate and new to the university. Some of these things people don't understand until the second half of their term. While I do understand looking for someone who knows what they want to do, I think it's a little hypocritical of us to look for that in people because some of us didn't even come in knowing what we wanted to do. I'm probably going to vote yes because she told us the committee she was interested in, what she does around campus, and most people don't go through the whole application process unless they're interested but these things aren't black and white.
- Gnanam: I came into the Senate not knowing what this was. I was in IRHC so I had a little bit of an idea of what went on but I didn't come in with concrete plans or goals. I learned things from other Senators. I think it's a worse thing to be uninformed and ignore it. She recognises this is an environment she's not familiar with and embraces it. I will be abstaining as I know her as a personal friend but I do think she'd be a good candidate.
- Daraldik: She definitely has a lot of unique perspectives which I will consider too. I think that even though she's a 'build' I don't think that's necessarily a bad thing. She'll be part of the learning

curve with the other ~20 new Senators coming in after inauguration.

- Leckie moves to forward the candidate. Daraldik seconds.
- Vote:
 - Daraldik: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Abstain
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Murcia: Abstain
 - Villacorta: Yes
 - Vote reads 4-0-2. **As >25% of votes are abstentions, a re-vote must be cast.**
- Vote:
 - Daraldik: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Abstain
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Murcia: Yes
 - Villacorta: Yes
 - Vote reads 5-0-1. **Candidate PASSES** Rules & Calendar committee.
- Bills & Resolutions:
 - **Resolution 31 - Sponsored by Senator Porter(P), Murcia & Villacorta(Co):** Amending Student Senate Rules of Procedure 11.16 regarding debate.
 - Opening: You've already seen this. I didn't realise it'd be as controversial as it would be. Each individual amendment on the floor wasn't too much of a change but after all the amendments it was severely changed which I didn't realise. If you choose to table it and rewrite it, that's okay, I will respect whatever decision you make.
 - Technical & Non-Debatable:
 - Daraldik: Is the version we look at the updated version?
 - A: Yes.
 - Murcia moves to enter roundtable. Gnanam seconds.
 - Roundtable:
 - Leckie: I spoke against it on the floor and it's not that big of a deal but I don't think it's necessary. The president already does this and I don't think it needs to be a codified rule.
 - Daraldik: I just want it to be known I'm going to vote no.
 - Dean: I wrote an amendment.
 - Harmon: Dr. Acosta's comments are that it's long and is lacking grammar.
 - Murcia: My personal opinion is that we table this and have an amendment for next week. Then we can have a discussion about it without having to worry about the wording.
 - Gnanam: I echo the sentiments of Chair Murcia.
 - Daraldik moves to call the question. Leckie seconds. Murcia objects.
 - Daraldik withdraws.
 - Dean moves to amend to read: "When a senator objects to a motion made during debate, the presiding officer shall ask the objecting Senator for a brief explanation.". Murcia seconds.
 - Sponsor *does* find the amendment friendly. *Resolution 31 is amended.*

- Daraldik moves to call the question. Gnanam seconds.
- Closing:
 - Thank you to Chair Dean for fixing the wording. I appreciate that it's now clear and concise. I know some Senators have expressed concerns however people object to motions all the time and the president doesn't always ask for reasoning. This comes up often enough that I feel we should make a rule about it.
- Vote:
 - Cohen: Abstain
 - Daraldik: No
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Leckie: No
 - Murcia: Yes
 - Villacorta: Yes
 - Vote reads 4-2-1. **Resolution PASSES.**
- **Resolution 34 - Sponsored by Senator Acanda (P):** Amending Senate Rules of Procedure 202.7 regarding Town Halls.
 - Opening:
 - Basically I wrote this because we need more student involvement with the Student Senate. I feel this is the best way to do it. People can have a more direct connection to us. Most people care most about the Executive Branch more than the Senate. It'd be great for us to explain to people how the different committees work and be able to answer people's questions.
 - Technical & Non-Debatable:
 - Leckie: Who did you talk to in regards to the structure on how they'd operate?
 - A: Just President Denton.
 - Dean moves to enter roundtable. Villacorta seconds.
 - Roundtable:
 - Leckie: I like the idea and I think we should have Town Halls but I think this is something that needs an Ad-Hoc committee. I think we need more input and spend more time on it. Input from a lot more people including students. I don't know if you want to table it or anything but if we vote on it now I think i'd have to vote no because I think it's such a big change.
 - Daraldik: I agree with the sentiments of Chair Leckie.
 - Daraldik moves to amend to strike (c) and (c) 1. Murcia seconds. Villacorta objects.
 - Daraldik does not withdraw.
 - Opening:
 - I waive.
 - Technical & Non-Debatable:
 - None
 - Leckie moves to enter roundtable. Murcia seconds.
 - Roundtable:
 - Villacorta: So this was an amendment I suggested SLAA make. The way it's currently written the President only has to host 1 town hall per semester. I thought it'd be a good idea to allow the Senate to call for another town hall if

needed. Just how Senators can call for a Senate meeting if necessary, I think this should be able to be done too. Rather than just having the presiding officer only hosting one per semester. The Senate should be able to compel the officer if necessary.

- Daraldik: I think this section is unnecessary. I think if the President thinks a town hall is necessary, I trust they'll be able to make the decision to host another.
- Murcia: I'm in agreement with Chair Daraldik, I just don't think it's necessary.
- Cohen: The Senate President also couldn't stop a Senator from booking a room and having a public meeting to hear student thoughts and questions. I think it's unnecessary and we should keep rules simple.
- Leckie moves to call the question. Gnanam seconds.
- Closing:
 - I waive.
- Vote:
 - Cohen: Yes
 - Daraldik: Yes
 - Dean: Yes
 - Gnanam: Yes
 - Leckie: Yes
 - Murcia: Yes
 - Villacorta: No
 - Vote reads 6-1-0. **Resolution is AMENDED.**
- Murcia: I like this piece of legislation. I think it's a great way to reach out to students on a broader level not just on individual pieces of legislation. So if we decide to vote on this, I will be voting yes.
- Leckie: We always like to say in the Senate "did you talk to the people this affects?". Us as Chairs will have to be at the town halls, I think we should have a hand in how it's structured. I know we can amend but it's more realistic to sit down and write a structure that we all agree on. I think it's something we need to do and I applaud the efforts of the sponsor but I think we should have an Ad-Hoc committee on it.
- Daraldik: I think we should table it because it's not clear as to what "every semester" means.
- Harmon: Dr. Acosta did have a question about that actually. Does it include summer, etc?
- Aconda: It's meant to be just Spring and Fall. If the Summer Senate chooses to host one as well they can do so. Summer could be optional perhaps.
- Daraldik moves to table. Gnanam seconds.
- Resolution 34 is **TABLED**.

Unfinished Business: None

Final Announcements: None

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Pending due to classes being moved online.

Adjourned: 7:06 p.m.

Alex Harmon

Signature of President Pro Tempore