



**74<sup>th</sup> Student Senate  
Judiciary Committee  
[January 11, 2022 | 7:00 pm] | [938 6379 6079]**

**Zoom recording:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14KDDXpnje4IPAIqJnQ-ywktTVwy3HK-R/view?usp=sharing>

**Call to Order:** 7:02 pm

**Members Present:** Chair Myers, Vice Chair Beall, Senator Little, Wang, Stewart, Moriah, Reeves

**Members Tardy:** Senator Destinie

**Members Absent:** Senator Guillamont, Wills

**Guests:** Director Abhari, Chair Murray

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Announcements:**

- Chair: welcome to judiciary powerpoint
- Vice Chair: None
- Senator Stewart: asked for a preferred method of getting attention. Also announces that the college of social sciences is holding fundraising events all this week.

**Committee Business:**

- **Adopt rules of procedure**
- **Bill 1-** Sponsored by Senator Murray- To update Student Body Statutes to reflect the mission and operations of the Office of Governmental Affairs more accurately.

**Old Business:**

- None

**New Business:**

- **Judiciary Committee Rules of Procedure**
  - Senator Wang moves to adopt ROP as they are
  - Senator Little seconds
  - No objections
- **Bill 1 -** Sponsored by Senator Murray- To update Student Body Statutes to reflect the mission and operations of the Office of Governmental Affairs more accurately.
  - Opening Statement:

- Chair Murray: Written in collaboration with the director of OGA. Changes names of the director to various names, also fixes typos and small errors. Main change is crossing out redundancies as well as adding in OGA's mission statement. Yields 0:53
    - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
      - None
    - **Senator Wang moves to enter round-table discussion; Senator Little seconds; no objections**
    - Round-Table Discussion:
      - Senator Little: Could the sponsor clarify what the reasoning in taking out the requirement that students have to be enrolled in a minimum credit hours to serve in the position
        - Chair Murray: Is already in statues, so is not needed in the bill
      - Senator Wang: In 908.5 A2, did you guys mean to strike out the phrase "during the absence or" or was that intentional?
        - Chair Murray: asked Senator Wang to clarify which section and statement she was referring to.
      - Chair Myers: Will double check the legislation on Canvas due to confusion regarding the section Senator Wang was referring to.
      - Senator Little Point of Information: In section 908.3 Subsection 2, the formatting is not cohesive in formatting with the other sections.
        - Chair Murray: The statute might be wrong so it probably should be formatted to letters.
      - Senator Little: Asks if we should move to amend to fix right now
      - **Senator Little moves to amend section 908.3 to strike out number 1 and replace it with an A and to strike out the second number 2 and replace it with a B; Senator Wang seconds. No objections. Sponsor finds it friendly. Amendment passes**
      - **Senator Little:** For the sponsor, would it be ok to striking out chapter 231.1
        - Chair Murray: It is up to the committee
  - **Senator Stewart: proposes an amendment to 9.08 point 4 section B3 in adding a section proposing the position of assistants when the director is in need of help in the OGA. In B, in the case that the assistant chooses to drop the position, the executive board of OGA shall be notified. Also in the C section, said assistants will not have voting rights. All the pronouns should be changed to them. Vice Chair Beall Seconds. Senator Little Objects.**
    - Opening statement for amendment (Senator Stewart): Amendment was brought by an OGA Executive board member. The position of assistant proposed in the bill would have very limited power, no voting rights, and would be there to help out with extensive work done by the OGA board of directors. Yields 1:56
    - Technical Non-Debatable Questions:
      - Senator wang: Why are we putting assistants under the committee sections
        - Senator Wang moves to allow for a non-senator to speak
        - Vice Chair Beall seconds
      - Director Abhari: The committee section has always allowed the board of directors, so Jason naturally thought it should go under this section.

- **Senator Little moves to enter round-table discussion; Vice Chair Beall seconds**
- Round-Table Discussion:
  - Senator Little: Are these assistants sworn into OGA or are they from the outside public?
  - Senator Stewart: They are not sworn in, that would defeat the purpose as a whole.
  - Senator Little: The first concern is that these people haven't been sworn in by the senate and they second don't have to be approved in order to be in the position.
  - Senator Stewart: To my understanding the position doesn't have voting rights and the position is not very important so they don't need to be sworn in
  - Senator Little: If these people aren't subject to approval then why does the position need to be created
  - Senator Wang: I'm confused as to why we need to put these in statutes
  - Director Abhari: There is a lot of work to do in OGA and wanted to make sure it was cleared by the senate and put it into writing so there are no issues for the future. Also for longevity sake.
  - Senator Wang: Concerned that these assistants are not sworn in and are working with people we had to swear into position. Should possibly be brought to the senate.
  - Senator Little: Agrees and these assistants should be confirmed by the senate.
  - Senator Little: The name that is produced in the amendment should be called executive assistants instead of just assistants.
  - Senator Wang: What if we did this in 908.2 A instead of doing 9 members at large we could say that the members at large can help and we could make it more than 9
  - Senator Stewart: Point of clarification, the senate can at times be a little bit slow and this would help out the board in the immediate without having to go through the senate
  - Senator Wang: There is still an issue of people doing stuff that are not confirmed by us and will be voting no
  - Senator Little: I agree with the previous speaker, I think these people need to be confirmed and I will be voting no
  - Senator Wang: Point of information, would it be 3C or 3B?
  - Senator Stewart: At the end of 3B
  - Senator Little: I think the language mentioned in the chat is too broad and it doesn't clarify who is being appointed. There should possibly be another section stating that any assistants appointed by the OGA director should be approved by the senate.
  - Senator Wang: There should possibly be an amendment changing the wording in 3C striking unilaterally to appointed by the director and approved by the senate
  - Senator Stewart: Point of information, what are the thoughts of the approval of the position going straight to Senate instead of going through IA

- Senator Wang: I'm not sure we can even do that
    - Senator Stewart: I'm assuming because of a contradiction elsewhere in statutes
    - Senator Wang: yes
    - Senator Stewart: If anyone else wants to propose an amendment
  - **Senator Little moved to amend the amendment in subsection C subsection I to strike out unilaterally and read “Be appointed by the director subject to the approval by the student senate.” Seconded by Senator Wang. Sponsor finds it friendly.**
    - Chair Murray: There are other positions across organizations like in the mental health council that have assistant-like positions that don't go through the senate and are not written in statutes.
    - Senator Little: I believe that violates statutes and I will be looking into that but we shouldn't be going off of other organizations.
  - **Senator Wang moves to call the question; Vice Chair Beall Seconds**
  - Closing Statement: Senator Stewart waives
  - Vote:
    - Yes: (1) [Senator Stewart]
    - No: (6) Vice Chair Beall, Senator(s) Little, reeves, Wang, Noel, Moriah
    - Abstain: (0)
    - **Senator Wang moves to call the question; Senator Little seconds, Senator Stewart Objects. Senator Wang withdraws the motion**
- **Senator Stewart: proposes an amendment to 908.4 B and adds a section to read that the executive director shall be responsible for the duties and be granted privileges outlined in the student body statutes 301.6A. Seconded by Vice Chair Beall. Senator Wang Objects. Senator Stewart withdraws her amendment.**
- **Senator Stewart: proposes an amendment to 908.4 B and add a B to read “The Executive director shall serve as the chair and preside over all official activities of the office of governmental activities executive board” No Seconds. Amendment fails**
  - Senator Little: Wanted to explain that the previous statements were redundant and is classified elsewhere
- **Senator Little moves to call the question; Senator Little seconds**
  - Closing Statement:
    - Thanked everyone for their work, waives the rest of his time
  - Vote:
    - Yes: (7 Vice Chair Beall, Senator(s) Little, reeves, Wang, Noel, Moriah, Stewart
    - No: (0)
    - Abstain: (0)
  - **RESULT: BILL#1 PASSES**
    - Chair Murray: Point of Information, Could I add co sponsors right now
    - Senator Wang: Was that a previous passed bill? It needs to be written and approved that that is allowed
    - Chair Murray: It would be better to make that amendment tomorrow and not break statutes

**Unfinished Business:**

- None

**Closing Announcements:**

- Chair Myers announced and thanked everyone and is super excited. She also noted that even though it was a small amount of people, much was accomplished
- Vice chair Beall thanked everyone for their patience as she is still learning rules and procedures.
- Senator Murray found the statues stating the procedures pertaining to writing in co-sponsors, Chair Myers added said co-sponsors to bill

**Next Meeting:** January 18 at 7:00

**Adjourned:** 8:17 pm

*Camila Myers*

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**Signature of Chair**