University of Houston - Downtown



General Assembly

First Summer Session

Wednesday, June 24th, 2020

Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Location: Zoom Meeting – Code: 921-1259-9181 (https://uhd.zoom.us/j/92512599181)

I. Call to Order by SGA President Modrow

a. Roll Call by Secretary Ortega-Calvillo

PRESENT: President Modrow, Vice President Chavez, Chief Justice Rasheed, Senator Karra, Senator Torres, Senator Del Toro, Senator Ware

- b. Quorum Check by SGA President Modrow
- c. Approval of General Assembly's Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by Senator Karra. Second the motion to approve by Senator Torres.

d. Explanation of General Assembly Structure.

II. New Business

- a. Legislative Board Selection of Pro-Tem Speaker of the House
- b. Swearing in of Pro-Tem Speaker of the House (Chief Justice Rasheed)
- c. Executive Board Nomination of New Executive Board members
 Senators will be allowed to ask any questions, but will not vote for Prospective Members of the Executive Board

Prospective Senators will not be sworn in

- i. Shay Tatum Chief of Staff
- ii. Kassandra Aparicio Director of Community Outreach
- iii. Xiomara Herrera Director of Student Engagement
- iv. Sheila Ortega-Calvillo Executive Secretary
- v. Camila Sandoval Director of External Affairs
- d. SGA Training (President Modrow and Pro-Tem Speaker)
 - i. Planning and Preparations

III. Open Forum

a. Position Nominees introduced themselves and were asked questions by senators.

IV. President Report Time

- a. President Alan Modrow
 - i. Tentative Dates for SGA meetings (subject to change)
 - 1. July 8, 2020: SGA Training
 - 2. July 21, 2020: General Assembly
 - 3. July 29, 2020: SGA Training
 - 4. August 11, 2020: SGA Training
 - ii. Spoke to SGA leadership from other Institutions
 - 1. Ideas from meeting are being run by with Advisor and Dr. Tamez
 - iii. Member of UHD Covid-19 Work Group
 - 1. We made recommendations to President regarding return to campus:
 - a. Recommended that most classes moved online
 - i. Exceptions: Classes unable to go virtual (i.e. Science, Labs)
 - iv. Made a to student body regarding George Floyd tragic death
 - 1. Worked with BSA to create joint statement
 - v.Emailed Houston Mayor regarding budget changes
 - 1. Listed actionable items that we expect he consider
 - 2. Worked with BSA to create requests
 - vi. Held several meetings with Faculty/Staff
 - 1. Discussed how the institution, faculty and SGA can to best serve its Black students at UHD
 - vii. Met with BSA
 - 1. Discussed how to best serve Black students at UHD
 - 2. Discussed how to empower students and support their organization
 - viii. Made nominations for Shared Governance Committee
 - 1. Student Conduct Committee referred to Dr. Tamez, Interim Dean of Student Affairs
 - ix. Plan on meeting with Senators
 - 1. Regarding goals they have with student body, 2020-2021 agenda x.Met with Faculty Senate President Elect
 - 1. Discussed how to collaborate moving forward this year
 - 2. Communicated that they are directly at stake with student success
 - xi. Member of Covid-19 Task Force
 - Discussed how to best return staff/faculty and students to UHD safely
 - 2. Will be giving ongoing recommendations

- xii. Met with TX Student Regent
- xiii. Discussed how to best serve our institutions
- xiv. Met with SGA Presidents from UHD Clear-lake & UHD Victoria
 - 1. Discussed how they have been re-opening
 - 2. Discussed what has worked for them that we can implement in our institution?
- xv. Met with Rice University former SGA President
 - 1. They are great examples of cultural advocacy
- xvi. Working with College of Public Service
 - 1. On how to help answer any new students' questions
- xvii. Working with UH
 - 1. To pass joint resolutions against Racism
- xviii. Meeting with Center for Critical Race Studies
 - 1. Discuss actionable Goals
 - 2. Fellows from center
 - 3. Other members from UHD community as well
- xix. Attending Diversity & Inclusion GatorLEADERS Workshops
 - 1. I get to hear student concerns
 - 2. Discuss how to advocate for students feeling marginalized
- 3. <u>President highly recommends senators attend these workshops</u> xx. Attending Thursday Meetings by Critical Race Studies
 - 1. President highly recommends senators attend these workshops
- xxi. Meeting with Director of Transitions Program
 - 1. Eugene Bernard
 - Participated in Transfer and Freshman Orientation Marketing Material
- xxii. Initiated an SGA Weekly Presidential Newsletter
 - 1. Sheila has been assisting in this task
 - 2. Students are reaching out in response to the newsletter content
 - 3. Shares resources and lists out our current efforts
 - 4. Includes Faculty/Staff Highlights
- xxiii. Reached out to Departments
 - 1. Student Affairs
 - 2. Diversity Equity
 - 3. Veterans
 - 4. Disability and more
- xxiv. It has 23 days into this administration, my approach has been to sit and listen
- xxv. Have been appointed to represent Texas Institutions in the THECB
 - 1. Gives guidance to Higher Ed institution

V. Executive Report Time

- a. Vice President Leboriah Chavez
 - i. Reminder of our Values and Goals
 - ii. Meeting with Xiomara regarding:
 - 1. Student engagement
 - 2. Mental Health, Personal Development
 - 3. Calendar for virtual events
 - iii. Meeting with College of Business
 - 1. Internships experiences available
 - iv. Meeting with Student Organizations via Instagram
 - 1. Planning collaboration efforts
 - v. Meeting with Camila Sandoval regarding:
 - 1. Virtual Opportunities for students
 - vi. Working with Health Services
 - 1. Initiative to include Exercise Medicine to improve mental state, guidance
 - vii. Creating a survey for students
 - 1. What they would like to see in Health Services?
 - viii. Meeting with Vice President CPA
 - 1. Discussing collaboration with other University Business students
 - 2. Looking for opportunities and employment

VI. Judicial Report Time

- a. Chief Justice Ameena Rasheed
 - i. Looking to build rest of Judicial Branch
 - 1. Been interviewing candidates
 - ii. Online Constitution by laws and clearer language needs updating
 - 1. Uploaded to Microsoft Teams

VII. Legislative Report Time

- a. Marilyn Davies College of Business Senator Carlos del Toro
 - i. New to this position, looking forward to it
- b. College of Public Service Open
- c. College of Humanities and Social Sciences Senator Meghana Karra
 - i. Looking forward to this new administration and this position
 - ii.Dean Guillory has virtual Zoom series every Thursday 6-7pm
 - iii. CHSS will be getting a new Dean
- d. College of Science and Technology Open
- e. University College Senator Beth Ware
- f. Senators at Large Open

VIII. Open Forum

a. Exiting Role Call by Secretary Ortega-Calvillo

PRESENT: President Modrow, Vice President Chavez, Chief Justice Rasheed, Senator Karra, Senator Torres, Senator Del Toro, Senator Ware

IX. Adjournment