



Senate Meeting Agenda  
March 4th, 2024

I. Call to Order

**At 5:05 PM**

Matt Matthews

II. Pledge of Allegiance

David Fender

III. Moment of Reflection

Cameron Cockerham

IV. Roll Call

Kyle Hidalgo

Senator K. Hidalgo

**Senator Savario**

Senator DiMartino

Senator Fender

Senator McGehee

Senator Soule

Senator Day

Senator Richards

**Senator Smedley**

Senator Sawyer

Senator Cloud

Senator Gaudin

**Senator A. Hidalgo**

Senator Spiers

**Senator Cockerham**

Senator Davis

Senator Becnel

**12/16 quorum has been met**

V. Approval of Minutes

Matt Matthews

**Approved**

VI. Reports

SGA President:

Lacey Johnson

President Lacey wants to thank the Senate for their incredible work ethic and drive. Big Event is mandatory for SGA members, it is being held on April 20th and all hands are needed for the event to work. Lacey asks that senators attend weekly meetings.

SGA Chief Justice:

Chastity Partlow

1st secondary appeals meeting was held last week. The last Interest meeting is being held on Wednesday at 5:00 PM.

SGA Advisor

Dr. Taneshia Drake

No report

Director of Financial Affairs

Austin O'Brien

SGA has spent a large portion of its budget on travel grants and purchases. SGA still has money to spend but overall spending is up. For a detailed explanation of the SGA budget, please reach out to Austin through Slack.

Internal Affairs Chair

Levi Spiers

Four bills were discussed

SP24-13 A Bill to Revise the Standing Rules was referred favorably to the Senate for the following reasons; The current rules do not reflect the operations of the Senate, small changes made to gendered language, dress code, food regulation, and senate protocol.

SP24-14 S bill to appoint Druid Gibson as a Senator for the College of Science and Technology was referred favorably to the senate for the following reasons; the applicant feels that the senate is more in line with their interest, the applicant has goals and direction, and the applicant has SGA experience.

SP24-15 a bill to appoint Maria Necheava as Chief of Staff was referred favorably for the following reasons; The applicant is a positive influence, the applicant has executive branch experience, and the applicant is active and goal-oriented.

SP24-16 A bill to appoint Kayla Edwards as Assistant Director of Marketing was referred favorably for the following reasons; The applicant has marketing experience, the applicant has SGA experience, and the applicant still wants a role in SGA.

Appropriations Chair

Bryce Gaudin

These fee bills were returned favorably and for the following reasons:

1. Art Student Student Fee; will help attract more outside guests, increase student worker salaries, enhance campus culture
2. Magazine Student Fee; Will help students publish their work, teach students to edit, increase interdepartmental collaboration
3. The Shuttle Student Fee; Will help student accessibility, offer more transportation options for students, and increase engagement.
4. The Spirit Student Fee; Boost morale for the spirit teams, fair compensation for work, and lighten the financial burden on the spirit teams.
5. The Theater Student Fee; Saves the department costs, will allow for more student workers, and will assist in keeping equipment up to date.

The Opera Student Fee bill was tabled

Student Life Chair

Estelle Savario

Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion tabling ROA was approved. More supplies are needed for people with periods.

Senate Chair

Matt Matthews

Standing committees are doing fantastic. Study abroad scholarships are being read and graded. Expect those recipients to be awarded soon. Matt asks senators to run for their positions and branch head positions. The positions are being run unopposed.

VII. Programs

A. No Program

VIII. Old Business

A. SP24-13 A Bill To Revise The Standing Rules Of The Student Government Association  
Senate

These standing rules must be updated as they last touched in 2014. A major issue is the gendered language as well as changes to the standard operation procedure.

The bill was amended to rule M24 to include business casual. Another amendment to M25 is to say "Eating is strictly prohibited".

**The bill is passed with one abstention.**

- B. SP24-14 A Bill To Appoint Druid Gibson To The Student Government Association As Senator For The College Of Science And Technology

**The applicant feels that the Senate is more in line with their skills and interests and wants to make the full switch to the branch. After questioning the applicant expressed interest in changing the concrete around campus.**

**The Senate passes the bill unanimously.**

- C. SP24-15 A Bill To Appoint Maria Nechaeva To The Student Government Association As Chief Of Staff

**The applicant feels they fit into this role, are passionate about SGA, and will put their best into it. The bill is passed unanimously.**

**The senate moves to suspend the standing rules and move to proposed fees.**

- D. Proposed Fee Increase Bills

- a. SP24-20 Spirit Student Fee

**The fee hasn't been updated in 12 years. The current fee covers all expenses of the Spirit teams. The teams attended many school events which is important for the face of SELU. The applicant feels an increase will help the teams better support their activities. Currently, they fundraise for the remainder of their expenses. The new fee will increase to 9.00. The Senate refers the bill to favorably.**

- b. SP24-21 REC Student Fee

**The fee hasn't been touched since 2001. With inflation and, a drop in student enrollment, the budget of the REC has been stretched then and needs an increase. Currently, SLU has the lowest rec fee among UL system schools. The equipment is severely old, and the parts have been discontinued. This fee will allow the REC to purchase new equipment, floor coverings for events, and overall expansions of services and upgrades across the board. This increased funding will help SLU continue to set the bar when it comes to student services.**

**The Senate refers the bill unanimously.**

c. SP24-22 Theater Student Fee

The fee hasn't been touched for about 12 years. The increase will be \$1. The theater program has been on tour since Devicker's renovations. The equipment costs as well as the Theatirical Rights associated with touring have left the budget thin. The touring also limits the revenue and events that the program does. Because of this, an increase in the fee helps cover the costs of the tour. They plan to hire more student workers, increase production values, and new technology, and increase student engagement.

The Senate refers the bill favorably unanimously.

d. SP24-23 Magazine Student Fee

The fee hasn't been touched for over 14 years and will be increased from .25 cents to \$1.00. Student magazines include *The Pick* and *The Manshack Review*. Both magazines help students publish work and become a catalyst for life after college. An increase in the fee will help Student Publications develop a new objective for *The Manshack Review* into a visual art and English collaborative effort. As for *The Pick*, a new design is being worked on to better the journal. A website is being worked on to promote Student Publications. This fee will also help with the creation of new magazines, as well as create a financial incentive to publish work. The fee will also help with the distribution of materials.

The Senate refers the bill favorably and unanimously.

e. SP24-24 Opera Student Fee

This bill has been tabled.

f. SP24-25 Art Student Fee

The fee will increase from \$1.50 to \$2.00. The gallery does multiple types of shows and workshops for those interested. The art collection has grown substantially and the fee hasn't grown for over a decade, and inflation has stretched the budget thin and limited the events put on by the department. An increase can put the program back on track and set a high standard.

The Senate refers the bill favorably and unanimously.

g. SP24-26 Shuttle Student Fee

**The shuttle fee hasn't moved since 2012, compared to comparable schools SLU has by far the lowest. The lines are very popular and the costs of shuttles and benefits awarded to staff have increased. The buses are the largest expense for the shuttle program. With the service outage, the department has had to buy tech to monitor routes. An increase of the fee will allow for the growth of the program to support to body that is growing with it. The Senate refers the bill favorably and unanimously.**

IX. New Business

- A. SP24-17 A Finance Bill To Sponsor A High-Performance Computer Cluster For The Computer Science Department
- B. SP24-18 A Finance Bill To Send Camryn White And Jacob Averett To The Lsu Discover Day Undergraduate Research And Creativity Conference
- C. SP24-19 A Finance Bill To Sponsor Meta Quest 3 Virtual Reality Headsets And Protective Cases For The Tinsley Learning Center

**All bills have been sent to their respective committees.**

X. Announcements and Remarks

**Matt thanks the Senate for their patience and work.**

XI. Adjournment

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 PM.**