Spring 2014 Regular Session
January 22, 2014
2nd Legislative Week

Call to Order

The meeting of the Thirty Fifth Regular Legislative Session was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Speaker Grashoff. Senator Boudreaux led a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

There were 45 senators present. They included:

Miranne, Maximilian       Schwartzzenburg, Trey
Johnson, Ryan              Boudreaux, Jacob
Baumgardner, William       Smith, Eleanor (Ellie)
Fertitta, David            Mullet, Andrew
Grashoff, Alex             Ales, Tyler
Zerkus, Norman             Bevan, George
Grotte, Nathan             Grashoff, Adam
Hunt, Jay                  DeBlieux, Alexandre
Bourgeois, Brianna         Latham, Katherine
Smith, Emily               Wright, Courtney
Kraeuter, Laura            Boudreaux, Drake
Hauth, Catherine           D’Arcangelo, Nikki
Stipe, Mary                Loupe, Blaine
Guillory, Brandon          Do, Joshua
Vallot, Raina              Gore, Wesley
Hilton, Chase              Hurtado, Daniela
Muehleman, Kevin           Boudreaux, Matthew
Stewart, Taylor            Frink, Helen
Knight, Hannah             Sanderson, Ty
Becnel, Abigail            Mahtook, Andrew
Reeves, Colin              Lancon, Robert
Loga, Tyler                Tarleton, Grant
Taylor, Morgan             Walker, Therese
Public Input
T. Graham Howell

- Provided clarification on the Jindal administration announcement for higher education funding
- Clarified that the state is giving $54 million to fund higher education schools, while student fees and increased will provide $88 million
  - $40 million of this money is going toward a “grant” available to universities once they garner partnerships with private entities that will front 20%

Questions:
Senator Frink asked if schools would be choosing how much they will charge students, or will the state decide?
Answer: T. Graham answered that schools will decide and in proportion to the 2010 Grad Act, only up to 10% can be increased.

Senator Bevan asked where this information is from?
Answer: Verified by governing boards

Point of Personal Privilege – Senator Do was present

New Business

SGCR No. 10 by Senator Miller, a Concurrent Resolution to approve Jack Zeringue as the Solicitor General of the University Court. SGCR No. 10 was referred to Rules.

SGCR No. 11 by Senator Hauth, a Concurrent Resolution to approve Vernon Dunn as a Senator for the Graduate School. SGCR No. 11 was referred to Rules.

SGCR No. 12 by Senator Taylor Stewart, a concurrent Resolution to approve the Humanities and Social Sciences College Council’s appointment the vacant Humanities and Social Sciences Senate Seat. SGCR No. 12 was referred to Rules.
SGCR No. 13 by Senator Miranne, a Concurrent Resolution to approve the Agricultural College Council’s appointment to the vacant College of Agriculture Senate Seat. SGCR No. 13 was referred to Rules.

SGCR No. 14 by Senator Miranne, a Concurrent Resolution to approve the Agricultural College Council’s appointment the vacant College of Agriculture Senate Seat. SGCR No. 14 was referred to Rules.

SGCR No. 15 by Senator J. Karam, a Concurrent Resolution to approve the Business College Council’s appointment to the vacant College of Business Senate Seat. SGCR No. 15 was referred to Rules.

SGCR No. 16 by Senator Bryce Bourgeois, a Concurrent Resolution to approve the Business College Council’s appointment the vacant College of Business Senate Seat. SGCR No. 16 was referred to Rules.

SGCR No. 17 by Senator Fertitta, a Concurrent Resolution to approve the Coast and Environment College Council’s appointment the vacant Coast and Environment Senate Seat. SGCR No. 17 was referred to Rules.

SGCR No. 18 by Senator Taylor, a Concurrent Resolution to approve the Music and Dramatic Arts College Council’s appointment the vacant Music and Dramatic Arts Senate Seat. SGCR No. 18 was referred to Rules.

SGR No. 4 by Senators Mullet and Latham, a Resolution to urge and request Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College (LSU) to explore options to provide additional seating in the LSU Student Union during lunch hours. SGR No. 4 was referred to Student Auxiliary Services.

SGR No. 5 by Senator Lancon, a Resolution to urge the Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College Office of Parking and Transportation to improve the temporary parking lot behind West Hall. SGR No. 5 was referred to Campus Affairs and Sustainability.
SGR No. 6 by Senators Lancon and Frink, a Resolution to urge and request the LSU Board of Supervisors to take action against tuition increases. SGR No. 6 was referred to Student Life, Diversity and Community Outreach.

**Committee Reports**

*Academic Affairs* – Senator Muehleman  
- No meeting  
- Reminds senators to check emails about the next meeting

*Budget and Appropriations* – Senator Loga  
- No legislation this week  
- Reviewed finance rules at the committee meeting so members can help other senators with finance bills

*Campus Affairs and Sustainability* – Senator Taylor  
- No meeting, no Report

*Rules* – Speaker pro tempore Schwartzenburg  
- Three appointments heard and all passed favorably

*Student Auxiliary Services* – Senator Baumgardner  
- Discussed tobacco legislation at meeting  
- Dining committee is using SAS to do a tasting for dining food ideas  
- Icee machine update- costs Coca-Cola $12000 for a machine and its own electrical needs, but the Auntie Ann’s will have the Icee machine when it opens

*Student Life, Diversity and Community Outreach* – Senator DeBlieux  
- Two resolutions that went through committee  
  - SGR No 2 and SGR no 3  
- Talked about the idea of organizational visits from Senate to other organizations  
- Changes to SO points  
  - New SO Google form being sent out next week and as SO point opportunities come  
  - Explained this new system
Senator will need authentication code to prove that they attended SO point opportunity activities

Temporary Student Government Document Revision Committee – Speaker Grashoff

- Meeting Thursday at 6 to discuss by-laws

Executive Officer Reports

Executive Director Rhodes

- Name tags will be ordered again and will cost $8. Must be finalized by February 4
- Legislative tracking document will be sent out

Question: Senator Lancon asked if senators bought a nametag last semester and didn’t get it, what needs to be done?
Answer: Executive Director Rhodes answered that is probably at the Executive office so email her to get it.

Judicial Officer Reports

Deputy Chief Justice Scalco

- Mock trial done at retreat
  First official meeting will be January 27th in Caddo Room.

Unfinished Business

SGCR No. 7 by Senator Mullet, a Concurrent Resolution to approve Thomas Naquin as the Judicial Aide of the University Court.

Senator Mullet yielded time to Chief Justice Crabtree, who spoke on Thomas’ accomplishments.

Author’s closing comments: Senator Mullet urged favorable passage.

100% in Favor SGCR No. 11 Enrolled

SGCR No. 8 by Senator Walker, a Concurrent Resolution to approve Nicole Exnicios as the Clerk of Court of the University Court.
Senator Walker yielded time to Chief Justice Crabtree, who said Nicole had an amazing resume and seems very organized.

Favorable passage urged

100% in Favor SGCR No. 8 Enrolled

SGCR No. 9 by Senator Vallot, a Concurrent Resolution to approve Stanley Kaufman as the Director of Communication of the Executive Branch.

Senator Vallot yielded time to Stanley Kaufman, current Director of Athletics, who said he is looking forward to serving as the Director of Communication.

Favorable Passage urged

100% in Favor SGCR No. 9 Enrolled

Senator Bevan moved to suspend the rules and place SGR No. 3 before SGR No. 2, seconded by Senator Stewart with no objections.

SGR. No 3 by Senators Zerkus and Brianna Bourgeois, a Resolution to urge and request the 2015 Bayou Country Superfest to seek Garth Brooks as a headline act.

Author’s opening comments by Senator Zerkus who stated that Brooks’ past has shown his charitableness and “Callin’ Baton Rouge”, which the university holds to heart, would be great to have live in Tiger Stadium.

Debate by Senator J. Boudreaux, who said he thought that this is not something Senate deals with.

Debate by Senator Latham, who was not in favor of the resolution because she does not believe it deals with Senate jurisdiction.

Debate by Senator Loga, who said that Senate is a body of representatives and this is in the jurisdiction.
Author’s closing comments by Senator Zerkus. He said that when he saw that Brooks’ was going back on tour, he believed it would be cool if he would sing at Tiger Stadium, especially “Callin’ Baton Rouge.” Favorable passage was urged.

79% in Favor SGR No. 3 Enrolled

SGR No. 2 by Speaker pro tempore Schwartzenburg, a Resolution to reject the proposal of a campus wide tobacco ban at Louisiana State University.

Author’s opening comments by Speaker pro tempore Schwartzenburg. He stated that according to Act No. 211 the state is mandating that smoke free policies must be put in universities, but it does not mandate completely tobacco free. A committee has been created and the main debate in the committee was tobacco ban along with smoke-free. A survey went out that shows the overall student population is against a tobacco ban, while 69% of faculty is for the ban. Speaker pro tempore Schwartzenburg continued by reading comments left on surveys. These comments were against the ban.

Senator J. Boudreaux moved to extend time, seconded by Senator Knight.

Speaker pro tempore continued by saying that all institutions are different and just because other campuses have tobacco bans, does not mean LSU must follow. He said that the most important reason why there should not be a tobacco ban is because students do not want it.

Debate by Speaker pro tempore Schwartzenburg
Amendment
  • Seen as friendly

Amendment
  • Seen as friendly and adopted

Debate by Senator Baumgardner who said that in the long run he hopes to see a tobacco free campus, but starting with smoke-free is a better idea.

Questions:
Senator Taylor asked if Senator Baumgardner thinks that the important thing is that we wait until a larger majority of students want a tobacco ban?
**Answer:** Senator Baumgardner answered yes and an overwhelming majority is needed for a tobacco ban.

**Debate** by Senator J. Boudreaux, who said that after speaking with an hold friend, he realized that many use tobacco as stress relief during the transition into college. He also stated that there are bad think in the world and personally does not think Senate or the university should tell students what they can and cannot use when it comes to their own life and bodies.

**Question:**
Senator Wright asked if Senator J. Boudreaux knew that the Student Health Center will offer classes to help students stop smoking and may be able to get and give students nicotine patches and gum.
**Answer:** Senator J. Boudreaux answered that he just learned recently about the classes that the health center would be offering.

**Debate** by Senator Lancon, who said he was in favor due to the responses from the student body, which are not in favor of a tobacco ban. He reminds senators to put students first and personal beliefs on the back burner.

**Debate** by Senator Bevan, who referenced last meeting’s speaker who said tobacco is not a problem or issue to those who do not use it until you put your back pack in it. He argued that he has had this same issue with birds and so they should be banned along with tobacco if that is the case. He said that LSU is a public place paid for by tax dollars. If an individual wants to use smokeless tobacco, then it is his/her right.

**Debate** by Senator Zerkus stated that based on social media feedback he received he noticed that people felt either against a tobacco ban or had no opinion on the matter at all. He said that he sees no point in a tobacco ban.

**Debate** by Senator Frink, who said she was undecided on how she would vote on it, but thinks a ban would be a good encouragement for students to quit using smokeless tobacco.

**Debate** by Senator Grashoff, who said that there is no reason to ban tobacco other than the health factors, but cannot take someone’s freedom of being unhealthy.
Debate by Senator Mahtook, who said that personally he feels this ban is no way to enforce a healthy living.

Debate by Ellie Smith, who is personal against legislation that is unenforceable, like this ban, and said that time and effort should not be wasted on enforcement that is not possible.

Debate by Speaker Grashoff, who said the final vote made by Senate is going straight to the committee making the final decision on the ban.

Debate by Senator Taylor, who pointed out that on-campus residence was the only group on the survey that was over 50% for support of a tobacco ban and this may be because students cannot pick roommates.

Debate by Senator Guillory, who said senators are representing the student body, and he personally hopes to see LSU as tobacco free, but does not think that students want that now, according to the survey results.

Author’s closing comments from Speaker pro tempore Schwartzenburg. He stated that students do not want a tobacco ban, and senators, being the official voice of students, should fully respect their wishes. He personally believes that students should be allowed to use smokeless tobacco because it does not affect the health of people around users.

Senator Loga moved to have a roll call vote, seconded by Senator DeBlieux.

89% of senators in favor according to voice vote, SGR No. 2 Enrolled

LO No. 5 by Speaker Grashoff, a Legislative Order to appoint the members of the Standing Committees of Thirty Fifth LSU Student Senate.

Author’s opening comments by Speaker Grashoff.

Senator Ellie Smith rose to a Point of Personal Privilege to switch to Student Auxiliary Services.

Senator Miller rose to a Point of Personal Privilege to switch to Academic Affairs.

93% in Favor LO No. 5 Enrolled
Senator Latham moved to adopt the minutes, seconded by Senator Knight.

**Legislative Officer Reports**

*Undersecretary Johnson*
- Reminded everyone to put up binders

*Parliamentarian Fraenkel*
- No nominations for Member of the Week, which disappointed her

*Speaker pro tempore Schwartzenburg*
- Reminds senators to go to Plucker’s
- Goal this semester is for everyone to write one piece of legislation

*Speaker Grashoff*
- During SGR No. 2 there was a quest from WBLA, and the story will air at 10 p.m.
- Thanks everyone for being engaging and appropriate
- Should not be a late meeting next week so if you missed the retreat, plan to stay longer after the meeting
- Encourages everyone to write legislation in these next two weeks

**Advisor Report**
- No report

**Petitions, Memorials and Other Communications**

Senator J. Boudreaux moved to limit PMCs to one minute, seconded by Senator Loga with objections. Voice vote passed, PMCs limited to one minute.

Senator Emily Smith introduced the Caliente Caucus. Members must be 23 years old.

**Question:** Senator Mahtook asked if Senator Emily Smith knew there is already a Caliente Caucus.

**Answer:** Senator Emily Smith asked if it is in writing?
Senator Frink announced that after the meeting everyone is invited to go to Plucker’s and that she is beginning a Cheese Caucus.

**Question:** Senator Emily Smith asked about the rumored skating social event.
**Answer:** Senator Frink answered that she is working on it.

Senator Lancon stated that he was impressed by the presence of LSU Leadership and Service Living and Learning Committee that attended the meeting.

Senator Mahtook announced that sweater vest and fleeces are up on the website for order
- [www.talkngreek.com](http://www.talkngreek.com)

**Question:** Senator Emily Smith asked if they have been approved?
**Answer:** No, but it will be sent to be approved

**Adjournment**

Senator J. Boudreaux moved to adjourn, seconded by Senator Guillory. Objections were present. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. with 87% in favor.

Point of Personal Privilege – Senator Loga voted not to adjourn.

Point of Personal Privilege – Senator Hurtado voted to adjourn.