



Senate Meeting
September 16, 2019
Pride @ 6:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order-6:02 pm
- II. Roll Call
 - Senator Carlee-Present
 - Senator Drake-Present
 - Senator Hays-Present
 - Senator Plunkett-Present
 - Senator Rios-Present
 - Senator Schessler-Present
 - Senator Standbridge-Absent
 - Vice President Cooper-Present
 - Vice President Williams-Present
 - President Jaeger-Present
- III. Approval of the Minutes- Rios moves to approve, 2nded by Plunkett, no objections.
- IV. Approval of the Agenda- Schessler moves to approve, 2nded by Rios.
- V. Open General Student Input-No Students.
- VI. Guest Speaker
 - A. Dr. Mark Rudin (President)-President Rudin talked about how COVID19 is impacting this academic year, technology availability, and enrollment. There are free COVID19 tests available to TAMUC students. The testing is mainly for students who are systemic and athletes. In the future, there will be surveillance tests where they pop up at a residence hall and test people for a certain period of time. There are students who are in isolation and quarantine, if they suspect they have covid or were tested positive. If students are in isolation or quarantine, there is welfare checks on them to see how they are doing. The next topic President Rudin talked about was technology. There is access to computers and hotspots for students who do not have access to computers. They should email eoc@tamuc.edu to find out more information. The faculty and staff had an option to teach fully online, teach in person, or a mixture of both. Rudin does not see a

scenario where TAMUC flips the switch where we go online completely. He does see a scenario where the in person classes go online for a few weeks if many people get sick. Lastly, Rudin talked about enrollment. TAMUC is down about 300 freshman from previous years. TAMUC currently has about 12,000 students and the credit hours are up by 4 percent. The credit hours fund the institution. Rudin also mentioned the exciting idea of TAMUC having a “front door” to the university. This area will be just west of the music building.

- a. Question: Are graduate students required to teach?
 - i. Has not heard about this information, will look into it.
- b. Question: How does a student get a laptop?
 - i. They email eoc@tamuc.edu, which can also be found in the “Stay Healthy Lions” webpage.
- c. Question: Do the people in isolation/quarantine have access to a good wifi network?
 - i. We will reach out to make sure they are not having wifi issues.
- d. Question: For random tests at the residence halls, what happens if people test positive?
 - i. The individuals go into isolation/quarantine. Students are able to go home if their roommate or someone they have been in close contact with has exposed them to COVID.
- e. Question: Can faculty and staff be randomly tested?
 - i. Yes, they can be.
- f. Question: What can SGA do? Can we tell TAMUC about the tests?
 - i. Yes, but just doesn’t want to give tests out just to test. Every month, the university gets about 1200 tests.
- g. Question: How long are the tests taking?
 - i. They are taking between 24-70 hours, sometimes less than 24 hours. They email you directly when they have the results. There is no plan for antibody testing at the moment. The test that TAMUC uses has about a 93% accuracy.



- h. Question: Is there anything the university is going to keep doing after COVID that was helpful during COVID time?
 - i. Maybe they walk through graduation and add a more personal touch to it.
 - i. Question: If the people in isolation or quarantine do not have a meal plan, is food provided?
 - i. Yes, if you did not have a meal plan, TAMUC took care of you. There are also microwaves and a Keurig in the isolation rooms. Judy Sackfield teamed up with the Counseling Center to come up with “14 Envelopes” where people in isolation or quarantine get a message and an activity each day.

- B. Judy Sackfield (Vice President for Student Success and Dean of Students)- Judy Sackfield talked to us about masks and social media. As she was getting ready to tweet, she saw an organization on Twitter that said wear a mask and there was a picture of people not wearing masks which defeats the purpose. She did see disclaimer notices on social media that she liked. TAMUC is trying hard to do events. She thinks we can be very creative to do things in groups of 10. The class schedules will be coming out earlier this year. Make sure to follow the Instagram and Twitter accounts and promote, reach out to Judy with any questions,
 - a. Is there just letters and activities in the envelope?
 - i. There are 14 envelopes. Examples include meditation, and questions.

VII. Executive Board Reports

- A. President: Leslie Jaeger- Get people to apply. Thank you Joshua Vernon for joining us!
- B. V/P Senate Chair: Jasmine Williams- Y’all are doing awesome. If you need anything, reach out to anyone.
- C. V/P Senate Affairs: Jaelyn Cooper- Very glad committee are squared away. Keep her active using the Group Me chat.

VIII. Advisor Report

- A. Jeremy Sippel- Polo's have been ordered. If you did not get a name badge, stop by the office ASAP. The first information session on Texas A&M University System had about 8 or 9 students. Please encourage people to apply. Also, remember your 1 on 1s.

IX. New Business

- A. Swearing in new officers

- 1. Senator Rios- Office of Treasurer

- B. Vice Chair Nomination

- 1. Williams- nominates Schessler who believes is very organized, responsible, trustworthy, long term experience in SGA.
 - 2. Schessler- I have grown more passionate about SGA by hearing what the students' concerns are. She wants to advocate for mental health. She hopes this position will make her a better leader and give her more confidence and just wants to do a great job. She gives thanks for the nomination.

- a) Questions-

- (1) Jaeger-How are you going to deal with the controversy of office hours?

- (a) Schessler believes there was a problem with the printed sheets. She will move everything virtual, since everyone always has their phones. She encourages us to go to other committee meetings because it might spark an idea. Voting-

- 3. VOTING

- (1) CONGRATUALIONS- Vice Chair

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Academic Affairs

- a. Hays- Issues with getting books.
 - b. Plunkett- Got in touch with Dean, more information next week.

- B. Campus Life



- a. Wants to collaborate with academic affairs. Since the study rooms are closed, there is no private area on campus to zoom.
- C. Campus Safety and Security
 - a. The TAMUC Lion Safe Walk program has started.
- D. Public Relations
 - a. Vacant
- E. Internal Affairs
 - a. Wants to send polls out to see what activities the students want.
- F. External Affairs
 - a. Vacant
- G. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
 - a. Wants to put a panel on about BLM, racial tensions on campus. Will include a police officer, a faculty/staff member, student, Cydnee and Martha.
 - b. Send question ideas to this committee

- X. Announcements
 - A. Good news- Had the 1st presidents meeting. About 40 presidents participated. In the process of organization registration process which is due by October 2nd which includes all TAO modules, quiz, and PowerPoint.
- XI. Adjournment- Moved by Senator Rios to adjourn at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Senator Schessler.