



110th Student Senate Meeting Minutes 3/19/2024

In Attendance: 110th Student Senate Chamber, Advisory Murphy,

- Roll Call
- Approval of the agenda
 - Motion to add bylaw changes
- Speakers Podium
 - Riley
 - Caswell
- Finance New Business
 - Motion to see as read
 - Approved
- Finance Committee Old Business
 - Motion to see in Block
 - Approved
 - Motion to approve
 - Approved
 - One abstention
- Finance Committee New Business

Week	Date	Organization	Vote	Amount Requested	Recommended
7	7-Mar	Pre-Vet Society-Surgery Workshop Night	5-1-0	\$300.00	\$0.00
7	7-Mar	The BIG Event- The BIG Event	6-0-0	\$10,424.00	\$10,174.00
7	7-Mar	CSA-Harbin Ice Festival	5-0-0	\$7,000.00	\$4,500.00
7	7-Mar	PSC-Tatreez & Tamar	6-0-0	\$355.00	\$355.00
7	7-Mar	Dance Marathon- Main Event	5-0-1	\$7,312.61	\$6,659.00

- Motion to see as read
 - Approved
- Finance Committee Old Business

Week	Date	Organization	Vote	Amount Requested	Recommended
6	29-Feb	Mustangs of Israel-Knafeh and Kneset	4-1-1	\$260.00	\$260.00
6	29-Feb	The Classical Studies Club- Club Symposium	7-0-0	\$102.00	\$59.00
6	29-Feb	Mock Trial-AMTA Opening Round Championship Series	5-2-0	\$3,150.00	\$2,850.00
6	29-Feb	Badminton Not Bad-TX Intercollegiate Tournament	7-0-0	\$480.00	\$0.00
6	29-Feb	SMURF- Website renewal and maintenance	7-0-0	\$210.00	\$10.00
6	29-Feb	SMU Sports Club- Funding for Nationals	7-0-0	\$2,197.00	\$2,197.00
6	29-Feb	South Asian Student Association - Holi	7-0-0	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00

- Motion to see in Block
 - Approved
- Motion to approve
 - Approved one abstention



- Orgs New Business

3/7 meeting:	
Group	Recommendation
Prevent & Protect	4-0-1
American Cancer Society	5-0-0*

- Motion to see as read
 - Approved
 - Motion to expedite
 - Approved
 - Motion to vote
 - Approved
- Proclamation Return 24 hour Library Access



Legislative Number: S-110-P05 Final Vote: 0-0-0
 Authors(x): Morris, Harwood Senate Secretary: Michael Castle
 Vice President for Student Affairs: Dr. K.C. Mmaje Senate Speaker: Connor Ferguson

Proclamation Affirming the Return of 24-Hour Library Access

1 **WHEREAS** The Southern Methodist University Student Senate
 2 expresses its profound gratitude for the restoration of 24-
 3 hour access to both library and collaborative workspaces
 4
 5 **ACKNOWLEDGING** The role that open access to the library plays in fostering
 6 academic success of students and its consequential
 7 impact on shaping perception of SMU's academic prestige
 8 among prospective students
 9
 10 **RECOGNIZING** The recent restriction of library hours from 2:00 AM to
 11 7:30 AM deprived the student body of late-night study
 12 access and use of collaborative workspaces
 13
 14 **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** The 110th Student Senate hereby affirms the University's
 15 latest decision to reinstate 24-hour access, recognizing its
 16 crucial role in fostering academic excellence and
 17 upholding the University's esteemed reputation. The 110th
 18 Student Senate is grateful for the reinstatement and urges
 19 for the perpetuation of the 24-hour library access for the
 20 foreseeable future.]

Respectfully Submitted,

Tatum Morris
 First - Year Senator

Hamilton "Reese" Harwood
 Pre- Major Senator

- Motion to vote
 - Did not pass
- Motion to reconsider
 - Unanimous approval



- Rotunda Expansion

SMU Student Senate

Legislative Number: S-110-09

Final Vote: 0-0-0

Authors(x): Meyer, Castle

Senate Secretary: Michael Castle

Vice President for Student Affairs: Dr. K.C. Mmaja

Senate Speaker: Connor Ferguson

A RESOLUTION TO EXPAND THE SENATE ROTUNDA SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND CREATE ELIGIBILITY FOR FIRST-GENERATION PELL GRANT ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

1		
2	1	WHEREAS
3	2	The Southern Methodist University Student Senate passed
4	3	S-108-Rotunda to support low-income SMU students and
5	4	allocate \$100,000 every year to the Rotunda Scholars
6	5	Program from the DFW Scholarship account.
7	6	ACKNOWLEDGING
8	7	The DFW Scholarship account has accrued \$348,000 that
9	8	is not currently being allocated to the student body even
10	9	though the funds were raised from student fees to benefit
11	10	low-income students in the form of scholarships.
12	11	RECOGNIZING
13	12	The DFW Scholarship saw annual revenues of \$133,000 in
14	13	the 2023-2024 academic school year while spending an
15	14	average of \$93,000 in expenses on the Senate Rotunda
16	15	Fund.
17	16	RECOGNIZING
18	17	The partnership created between the Rotunda Scholars
19	18	Program and the Student Senate in the form of the Senate
20	19	Rotunda Fund has been greatly successful in providing
21	20	purposeful, beneficial, and substantive scholarship
22	21	support for low-income SMU students over the last two
23	22	years. This successful program has enabled dozens of
24	23	students to take advantage of numerous SMU
25	24	opportunities such as supplemental academic terms,
26	25	book/course materials, study abroad, etc.
27	26	RECOGNIZING
27	27	Over the last two years the SMU First-Generation
		Initiative under the Student Academic Success Programs

- Massive Budget overhaul Legislation

SMU Student Senate

Legislative Number: S-110-08

Final Vote: 0-0-0

Authors(x): Meyer, Castle

Senate Secretary: Michael Castle

Vice President for Student Affairs: Dr. K.C. Mmaja

Senate Speaker: Connor Ferguson

A RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE STRUCTURE OF SENATE FINANCING

1		
2	1	WHEREAS
3	2	The Southern Methodist University Student Senate should
4	3	promote equitable allocation of student fees to foster
5	4	engagement in campus and further the academic
6	5	experience of the university.
7	6	RECOGNIZING
8	7	that in the 2023 calendar year over \$275,000 was swept
9	8	from Chartered Organization budget accounts, with
10	9	\$150,000 being swept in the Fall and \$125,000 being
11	10	swept in the Spring.
12	11	RECOGNIZING
13	12	the current Senate Financial Structure per the Student
14	13	Senate Bylaws is significantly overcomplicated for the
15	14	Finance Chair, Student Body Treasurer, Students'
16	15	Association Comptroller, Student Senators, and student
17	16	organizations.
18	17	RECOGNIZING
19	18	the Finance Chair and Finance Committee are
20	19	overburdened with Weekly requests and are unable to
21	20	evaluate the efficacy of the Senate Financial Structure as a
22	21	result.
23	22	RECOGNIZING
24	23	the Finance Committee is no longer able to fully fund
25	24	annual budgets during the Spring Budget Retreat, causing
26	25	programming organizations to receive funding in Weekly
27	26	and Summer Senate.
28	27	RECOGNIZING
29	28	Summer Senate is intended to help organizations plan
	29	events in August, however, in recent years the fund has
		been used to help annual budget programming

- Motion for debate

- Motion to Vote

- 46-0-0

- Officer Report President Alarcon

- Outdoor seating update



- Membership timeline Jude Lugo
- Investments Chair Nomination
 - Motion to approve investments chair Vimal
 - Approved 2 abstentions
- Officer Report Vice President Bombito
 - Counselor video has been filmed
 - Blanket project
 - Working on logo
- Officer Report Secretary Castle
 - Giving Day
 - Hilltop Excellence Awards
 - Willis M Tate
 - Dr Klyne Smith
 - Outstanding Administrator Award
 - Outstanding Staff Award
 - Outstanding Trustee Award
 - Legislation Questions
 - Ramadan Invite
- Adjournment