



110th Student Senate Meeting Minutes 3/26/2024

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

- Roll Call
- Approval of the agenda
 - Motion to add bylaw changes
- Speakers Podium
 - Rashard Fant
 - Fire Truck pull
- Finance New Business

Week	Date	Organization	Vote	Amount Requested	Recommended
8	21-Mar	FOCUS-Student Institute for Campus Ministry	7-0-0	\$9,315.00	\$3,300.00
8	21-Mar	Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc- Step for Autism	6-1-0	\$1,709.16	\$1,111.00
8	21-Mar	Mustang Rocketry- Spaceport America Cup Materials	6-0-1	\$4,310.00	\$4,310.00
8	21-Mar	Mustang Transfer Org-Dallas Stars x SMU Night	6-0-0	\$1,170.00	\$0.00
8	21-Mar	Mustang Transfer Org-End of the Year Bash	6-0-0	\$1,148.00	\$1,148.00
8	21-Mar	SHPE-Microsoft Networking Workshop	6-0-0	\$632.50	\$0.00
8	21-Mar	SHPE-SMU Industry Spotlights	6-0-0	\$2,170.00	\$0.00
8	21-Mar	Muslim Student Organization- Ramadan Iftaar and Suhoor	6-0-0	\$10,000.00	\$4,000.00

- Motion to expedite MTO stars night and MSO
 - Approved
- Motion to see as read
 - Approved
- Finance Committee Old Business
 - Vote MTO stars night and MSO
 - Approved
- Orgs New Business

3/21 meeting:	
Group	Recommendation
Network of Enlightened Women	5-0-2
Circle K International	7-0-0

- Motion to see as read
 - Approved
- Orgs Old Business

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



- Motion to see in block
 - approved
- Motion to vote
 - approved
- Rotunda Expansion



SMU Student Senate

Legislative Number: S-110-09

Final Vote: 0-0-0

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

- Motion to vote
 - Approved
- Motion to approve S-110-07
 - Approved 42-0-3
- Officer Report President Alarcon
 - Yield time to Senator Ibanez
 - Uvaled Event on campus
 - Banquet Date:
 - April 16th Banquet
 - Outdoor chamber
 - Next week
 - We are trying again
 - Transloc
 - Parking said no one has reached out
- Perkins senator swearing in
 - Jared Yankis
- Investments Chair Nomination
 - Motion to approve investments chair Vimal



- Approved 2 abstentions
- Officer Report Vice President Bombito
- Officer Report Secretary Castle
- S-110-07

SMU Student Senate

Legislative Number: S-110-07 Final Vote: 0-0-0

Author(s): Leathers Senate Secretary: Michael Castle

Vice President for Student Affairs: Dr. K.C. Mmeme Senate Speaker: Connor Ferguson

Updating the Student Senate Bylaws Article 2 and 4

1 **WHEREAS** The Southern Methodist University Student Senate
 2 chooses to update the bylaws as follows. Article 2
 3 Section 1 #1, The Student Senate Advisor is
 4 responsible for verifying the compliance with the
 5 requirements for office as outlined in Article IV,
 6 Section 4 of the Student Body Constitution, and
 7 reporting students for failing to meet those
 8 requirements to the Student Senate Membership
 9 Chair for further action. This verification by the
 10 Senate advisor will occur once before each semester
 11 to ensure compliance with the guidelines.
 12
 13
 14
 15 **WHEREAS** Article 2 Section 2 #2-part b, [The Senate Membership
 16 Committee shall interview candidates for any vacant
 17 or additional seats and make recommendations to
 18 the Student Body President, except when those
 19 vacancies or additional seats are in or allocated to the
 20 delegations from the Law School or the School of
 21 Theology whose own governing councils shall have
 22 the power and ability to elect, appoint, or otherwise
 23 fill those vacancies. The committee is encouraged to
 24 include members of both the DEI and Executive
 25 committees in the interview process.
 26
 27 **WHEREAS** Article 2 Section 3 #1, Each Senator must be a
 28 member of at least one Student Senate committee or
 29 be designated as a Project Senator.

SMU Student Senate

30
31
32 **WHEREAS** Article 4 Section 1, #1 and #5, The Legislative Clerk is
33 appointed by the Parliamentarian during the second
34 chamber of each term. One Legislative Clerk serves
35 on each topic committee. They must be a Student
36 Senator. 5. In the case of vacancy or removal, the
37 Speaker will select a new Legislative Clerk
38
39
40
41 **WHEREAS** Article 4 Section 2 #2-part c, The Director of
42 Sustainability will be in charge of helping lead
43 initiatives for sustainability across campus to help
44 reduce SMU's carbon footprint. They should promote
45 and advocate for organizations on campus promoting
46 sustainability to the student body and chamber.
47
48
49 **WHEREAS** Article 4 Section 2 #2-part d, The Director of the
50 House of Representatives (HOR) is responsible for
51 organizing multiple HOR meetings throughout the
52 semester to ensure organizations are aware of new
53 changes across campus and update the leaders on
54 the progress of the Senate. They should promote the
55 events via Slack, email, and other social media
56 platforms to ensure good attendance. They should
57 assign someone on their committee to record senator
58 attendance.
59
60 **WHEREAS** Article 4 Section 2 #2-part e, The Director of Civic
61 Engagement oversees voter-friendly events and
62 initiatives throughout the year. During an election
63 year, they should coordinate voter registration
64 events, and other events to ensure the SMU Student
65 Body is civically engaged. They should promote
66 other organizations on campus with similar ideals and
67 initiatives to the student body and chamber.

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68 **ACKNOWLEDGING** The need to update the Student Senate Bylaws.
 69
 70 **RECOGNIZING** The need for the chamber to be updated on current
 71 procedures and policies that have been in occurrence but
 72 not in the bylaws.
 73
 74 **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** That the Student Senate wishes to update the bylaws
 75 in accordance.
 76
 77 **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** The 110th Student Senate is in agreeance in updating
 78 the Student Senate bylaws.

Respectfully Submitted,

Will Leathers
Senate Parliamentarian

- Motion to vote
 - Approved
- Motion to approve S-110-08
 - Vote 45-0-0
- S-110-07



SMU Student Senate

Legislative Number: S-110-10

Final Vote: 0-0-0

Author(s): Last Name, et. al.

Senate Secretary: Michael Castle

Vice President for Student Affairs: Dr. K.C. Mmeje Senate Speaker: Connor Ferguson

Extension of Chamber Time to 5:30 P.M.

1 **WHEREAS** The Southern Methodist University Student Senate
 2 chooses to update the bylaws as follows,
 3 Article 1 Section 2 #3, The Senate meeting shall
 4 adjourn no later than 5:30 P.M.
 5
 6
 7 **ACKNOWLEDGING** The need to update the Student Senate Bylaws.
 8
 9 **RECOGNIZING** That the SMU Student Senate has a packed agenda and
 10 needs to extend the current chamber time to fit in the
 11 material and reports needed within a given week.
 12 Additionally, other universities (i.e. UT Austin) do not have
 13 a set limit on their student government meeting.
 14
 15 **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** That the SMU Student Senate wishes to update its
 16 bylaws in accordance.
 17
 18 **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** The 110th Student Senate is in accordance with
 19 updating its bylaws and implementing this change.

Respectfully Submitted,

Will Leathers
Parliamentarian

Connor Ferguson
Senate Speaker

Hope Heiden
Chief of Staff

SMU Student Senate

Faith Bombito
Student Body Vice President

Michael Castle
Student Body Secretary

Alex Alarcón
Student Body President

Clayton Meyer
Student Body Secretary

- Motion to enter debate
 - Approved
- Reese Mellor
 - Dining hall update
 - Allison Tweedy won't come to senate
- Senator Orr
 - HOR please attend
 - Send ideas to Senator Orr

Adjournment