SMU 109th Senate Cabinet Meeting Report
October 31st, 2022 | 2:00-3:00 PM | Senate Office

Agenda:
- 2:05 – Start Meeting
- 2:05-2:30 – “Elevator” Updates from all Standing and Topical Committee Chairs and Senate Executive Committee.
- 2:30-2:50 – Discussion amongst common projects/questions/collaboration
- 2:50-3:00 – Finalize Meeting Minutes, Action Items, and approve next Cabinet Meeting Date for 2022.

Attendance:
- Executive Committee
  - Sydney Castle - Present
  - Alex Alarcón - Present
  - Hope Heiden - Present
  - Clayton Meyer - Absent
  - Krish Madhura – Absent
  - Reece Iriye – Present
  - Tulsi Lohani - Present
  - Dawn Norris – Absent
- Standing Committee Chairs
  - Deepu Chinnam – Absent
  - Wade Glover - Present
  - Alesia Foote - Present
  - Anshu Reddy – Present
  - Tiffany Landgraf - Present
  - Kennedy Coleman - Tardy
- Topical Committee Chairs
  - Jo Lew – Present
  - Tamal Pilla – Present
  - Arianna Gonzalez – Absent

Prepared by Parliamentarian Tulsi Lohani
Questions? Email tlohani@smu.edu
Committee Updates

Investment Committee
- Committee was finalized last week
  - New Process with Chair Reedy
- Calendar with Pitch Dates and Cycles
  - One before the end of Fall 2022 Semester
- Conversation with VP Alarcón and Treasurer Meyer on things to bring through chamber and the Endowment Board
- 24 Committee Members
  - Biweekly Meetings. Sundays.

Student Wellness Committee
- Meeting with Michael Molina
- Senator Stripe is leading ID Wallets on our Phones
  - 2-year timeline due to implementation
- Old Commons Keycard Implementation
- Mental Health Canvas Page revival from Senators Thai and Ferguson
  - Opt-in or Mandatory?
    - In conversations
- Senator Thomas – RGIS Map for disabled Students
- Health Center
  - NARCAN and Drug Tests availability
  - Advocate for safety with drugs on campus
  - Awareness on O.D. and how to save peers

Campus Services Committee
- Asked for Cabinet Feedback on Library Bookstands
  - National Heritage Months
  - Publicize previously unseen areas across Academics
    - VP Alarcón: Civic Topics
    - Chair Lew: Fiction Works from minority authors?
  - Formats for Stands?
    - Curated Collections?
    - Author Panels/Newly Released Books
  - Look back on Previous Bookstands and Formats
  - Secretary Heiden: Ask student input and during HOR?
  - Google Form/LinkTree
  - Faculty Senate
Organizations Committee
- Forms for new organizations have closed for the Fall 2022 Semester
- Fully booked for the rest of the Semester
- Survey was sent to Organization Primary Contacts and Presidents about
  o Chartering Process
  o By-law Revisions
    ▪ November 15th – Introduction
    ▪ November 29th - Approval
- Meeting with Administrators about Campus Ministry Organizations and Greek Organizations and their rights/responsibilities in comparison to other orgs and how charters work with space availability.

Communications Committee
- Standardization of Communications Committee
- Committee Role Call and Strategic Plan
  o Chairs Gonaleza and Pilla and responded
  o Outreach to other Chairs happening Soon
  o Transparency for Goals
  o Names of Committee Members
- Club Highlights
- Senate Spotlight
- Weekly Senate Update after every Chamber
  o Senator Morales is spearheading this
  o Committee Spotlight
  o Charted Organizations
  o Senate Highlights
- Website is fully up-to-date
- Workshop

Membership Committee
- Cox Senator Vacancy
  o Closes November 4th on Noon
- Meeting with Parliamentarian Lohani on Friday for Election Code Revisions

Scholarship Committee
- Applications close at midnight
  o 30 applications as of 2:20 PM CST
Should we extend the application to Friday?
- An email to the Student Body?
- Decisions will be available on November 29th

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Commuter Concerns
- Overall difficulty with finding community and becoming involved on campus
- Some commuter students are not able to get into Boaz with their IDs
  - IDs sometimes don’t allow access into Boaz for students with orange parking permits
- Commuters want a commuter lounge in Hughes-Trigg
  - Preferably equipped with a kitchenette
- More representation of commuters on campus through commuter-focused leadership
  - Commuter students expressed a desire for a Commuter Senator - thoughts?
- Maybe this can be a collaboration with Campus Services?

Accessibility
- Organizing an accessibility walk with Disability Connections and Empowerment to note problem areas on campus
- Working with Senator Thomas and his ArcGIS project that allows students to point-out areas around SMU that are not accessible through an app

Iranian Protests
- Met with MSA and discussed the protests in Iran
- Members of MSA would like to see Senate take a stand on women’s rights and autonomy
  - Would like to express the message that the protests are against the oppression of women, not Islam
- The DEI Committee’s approach will be dependent on if/how the structure of proclamations are changed

Discussion Notes
- Decide what to pull from the portfolio and put it towards
  - 10 years, definitely invest the money
- $220,000 towards the Project is a feasible number after Conversation with VP Alarcón and Treasurer Meyer
  - President Castle: DFW SGA Day of Service Project
    - Have the Student Body raise money and raise philanthropic efforts to the community.
    - Something to benefit the SMU Community to help the students long-term?
    - Chair Landgraf: Similar to the Big Event, is this too similar?
    - Chair Lew: Student buy-in is low, the participation rate is below 15%, how can we find a day to give back to the University?
      - Student Union and DEA issues with Organizations Buy-In?
    - Parliamentarian Lohani: Project-based raising instead of Organizations-based.
      - You have to go through the DEA, how are we going to disperse project funds?
    - VP Alarcón: West Dallas STEM School-like impact?
      - Chair Landgraf: Talk to EngageDallas. Disperse external and internal buy-in
    - Secretary Heiden: Alternate Perspective: Focus on Students? Research and Trips related to academics?
      - Promote research and projects?
    - VP Glover: Devil’s Advocate: It is supposed to benefit the community outside of SMU?
      - Outside perspective of $250,000 going to external orgs instead of Finance
    - President Castle: x% of Investment funds go to Finance Committee.
      - Elevate Existing Projects or create New Ones?
      - Should we just give the moneys to Organizations?
      - Aim to take pressure off of Finance Committee and give investment into self-funding for Organizations?
      - Chief of Staff Iriye: Initial Allocation rather than annual investment.

  - DEI Spotlight
    - Chair Landgraf: How could I communicate about things better?
    - President Castle: Let’s go back to the Conversation about Proclamations, Voice Voices, and a potential third medium?
- Peer-Aspirant Institutions don’t comment on International Affairs, should we even do this?

  - Proclamations
  - Chair Lew: This is happening on campus; this is what a proclamation should entail?
    - Address specific things on campus to specific groups
    - This is local, this is expressing support for local things.
  - Chair Coleman: Shift the outlet and responsibilities
    - UTSGA Agency Instagram-like
    - Chair Landgraf: Assisting DEI Instagram account with Communications
    - Chief of Staff Iriye: Re-evaluating decentralizing could create more disconnect
  - Secretary Heiden: Use HOR to say “lets address this”
  - Chair Lew: Utilize Communications and Groups in Senate to make targeted videos and graphics.
  - Chair Landgraf: UTSGA Advocacy Panel

Chief of Staff Iriye: Meeting Minutes
- Meeting Minutes
  - Standard Committees: Every week by Friday 6PM
  - Topical Chairs: Every 2 weeks by Friday 6PM
  - Seasonal Chairs: TBA
- Attendance
  - Please have members attend your meetings. Take roll call.

Secretary Heiden: Attendance and Committee Meetings
- Attendance from Chief of Staff Iriye
- Chief of Staff Iriye and Secretary Heiden will be popping into meetings
  - Slack messages will go out beforehand for heads up

President Castle: Agenda Restructure
- Office Reports first
- Potentially pushing Senate to 5:30?