



The SGA Senate

Spring 2025 Session

Regular Meeting on March 10th, 2025

The Senate of the Student Government Association of Tennessee Technological University met on February 24th, 2025, at 7:35 PM in the RUC Multipurpose Room. Speaker of the Senate Harrison Simpson was present and presiding. Secretary Braxton Westbrook was present and taking minutes.

Speaker Simpson led the Senate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and in observing a Moment of Silence. Subsequently, the roll was called, and a quorum was established.

The minutes from the previous meeting were then declared read and approved.

The agenda attached as Appendix A, as twice amended, was then adopted as the orders of the day.

Dr. Kinsey Simone, Lecturer in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction presented to the Senate about her initiative called MAD Topics, an annual symposium dedicated to reframing the conversation about mental health to center actual experiences of people living with mental health disorders.

Mr. Tymothy Brandel, SGA Alum and employee of the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division, presented to the Senate regarding his experience in the Student Government Association and how to be an effective leader and advocate for change on campus.

Sen. Heineman requested that recommendations of the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee placed on the consent calendar be considered in seriatim. In accordance with the S.O.L.O. General Fund Procedures Act, his request was automatically granted.

Treasurer Bare presented the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee's recommendation for the Residence Hall Association (RHA) application. A representative of RHA was invited to speak on their organization's application. After a period of discussion, the motion to approve RHA's application passed with a vote of 25 members voting aye, 0 members voting no, and 0 members abstaining.

Treasurer Bare presented the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee's recommendation for the TN Tech Horn Society application. A representative of the TN Tech Horn Society was invited to speak on

their organization's application. After a period of discussion, the motion to sustain the recommendation of the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee (that the application do fail) passed with a vote of 22 members voting aye, 0 members voting no, and 3 members abstaining.

Treasurer Bare presented the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee's recommendation for the National Association for Music Education (NAFME) application. A representative of NAFME was invited to speak on their organization's application. the motion to sustain the recommendation of the S.O.L.O. Funding Committee (that the application do fail) passed with a vote of 15 members voting aye, 0 members voting no, and 10 members abstaining.

As there were no other S.O.L.O. Applications to be considered, the Chairs, Vice Chairs, or Secretaries of the Academic Affairs, Campus Outreach, Student Life, University Infrastructure and S.O.L.O. Funding committees delivered a summary of their respective reports. The Secretary of the Commission for Nominations also delivered a summary of their report. All reports were placed on file.

Secretary Westbrook delivered their report on the activities of the Administrative Council. Sen. Stevens delivered their report on the activities of the Graduate Studies Executive Committee.

Chief of Staff Skelton, Advisor Long, Secretary Goins, Secretary Seitz, Secretary Owens, and Secretary White delivered a summary of their respective reports.

Treasurer Bare, Secretary Westbrook, Vice President Simpson, and President Hewitt delivered a summary of their respective reports.

All reports were placed on file by Secretary Westbrook.

As there were no unfinished business or general orders to consider, the Senate considered the confirmation of nominee Ethan White to the position of Secretary of Environment and Health. As there was no discussion, Speaker Simpson moved the chamber into a period of voting. Ethan White was confirmed with a vote of 25 members voting aye, 0 members voting no, and 1 member abstaining.

The Senate considered S.B. S25-001 - Halloween Costume Contest Act of 2025. Senator Apple gave opening remarks on S.B. S25-001 and moved that the Senate adopt the aforementioned bill, which was seconded. Senator Boynton moved that the amendments from committee be adopted, which was approved viva voce. Senator Apple moved an amendment from the floor, which was approved viva voce. After a brief period of debate, Speaker Simpson closed debate and moved the chamber into a period of voting on the bill. The bill, as thrice amended, passed with 26 members voting Aye, 1 member voting No, and 3 members abstaining.

The Senate considered S.B. S25-002 - Transition Procedures Act of 2025. Senator Stevens gave opening remarks on S.B. S25-002 and moved that the Senate adopt the aforementioned bill, which was seconded. Senator Stevens moved that the amendments from committee be adopted, which was approved viva voce. After a brief period of debate, Speaker Simpson closed debate

and moved the chamber into a period of voting on the bill. The bill, as thrice amended, passed with 26 members voting Aye, 0 members voting No, and 0 members abstaining.

The Senate considered S.R. S25-001 - Campus Map Directory Resolution of 2025. Senator Heineman gave opening remarks on S.R. S25-001 and moved that the Senate adopt the aforementioned resolution, which was seconded. Senator Heineman moved that the amendments from committee be adopted, which was approved viva voce. After a brief period of debate, Speaker Simpson closed debate and moved the chamber into a period of voting on the resolution. The resolution, as twice amended, passed with 25 members voting Aye, 0 members voting No, and 0 members abstaining.

The Senate considered S.R. S25-002 - Flag Resolution of 2025. Senator Heineman moved to suspend Senate Rule 31, 32, 33, and 40 to allow another individual the ability to present in lieu of the prime sponsor, which was adopted viva voce. Senator Bates gave opening remarks on S.R. S25-002 and moved that the Senate adopt the aforementioned resolution, which was seconded. After a brief period of debate, Speaker Simpson closed debate and moved the chamber into a period of voting on the resolution. The resolution passed with 26 members voting Aye, 0 members voting No, and 0 members abstaining.

The Senate considered S.R. S25-003 - Happy Birthday Resolution of 2025. Senator McCulley moved that the aforementioned resolution be postponed to the next Senate meeting, which was adopted viva voce.

Secretary Westbrook introduced the top three choices of the Executive Council for a new logo for the Student Government Association and requested that the members of the SGA vote on their preferred pick before the next Senate meeting. The winner will be announced at the next Senate meeting.

Seeing as there were no items of new business remaining, Speaker Simpson opened the floor for announcements. President Hewitt, Vice President Simpson, Attorney General Tidwell, Senator Stevens, Senator Moore, Senator Heineman, and Senator Gibbs all made announcements.

In accordance with the orders of the day, Speaker Simpson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:06 PM until Monday, March 24th, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Braxton S. Westbrook
Secretary, Student Government Association