69th ASOSU Senate
Fourteenth Meeting
Tuesday, October 20th, 2009
MU 109

Members in attendance: Kevin Schock (President of the Senate), Andrew Struthers, Brian Moran, Megan Silvey, Adam Olfson (by proxy, Dan Cushing), Ashley Barnes, Matt Baumgartner.

I. Call to Order/Roll-Call/Quorum

The meeting started at 7pm. Quorum was not reached with only 6 senators present.

Meeting was adjourned at 7pm.

After the meeting adjourned, the senators in attendance remained and Donald Lite delivered a talk on parliamentary procedure. He addressed voting procedures, appropriate word usage, removing motions from the floor, the four types of motions, and roll-call vs voice vote vs hand votes.

Senator Struthers: Are there any comments from the gallery?

Jessie Miles: I know some of you, but not all of you. Can we do introductions? Say your name, where you’re from, and something nobody in this room knows about you.

Senator Moran: I’m Brian, I’m from McMinnville, and I’ve always wanted to be a bear.

Senator Silvey: I don’t know how I’m going to follow that. I’m Megan, I’m from Aloha, Oregon, and my favorite animals are the black and white spotted cows.

Senator Baumgartner: I’m Matt, I’m from Albany, and I used to watch “My Little Ponies” when I was younger.
Congressional Secretary Kate Faulkner: I’m Kate, I’m from Bremerton, Washington, and I used to be paid to work with nematodes.

Senator Struthers: I’m Andrew, I’m also from Albany and went to high school with Matt, and I have six younger siblings.

Congressional Parliamentarian Donald Lite: I’m Don, I’m from southeast Portland, and I want to work for the UN as a nuclear inspector.

Senator Olfson (by proxy): I’m Dan, I’m from Sherwood, and I sometimes use the handicap stall if no one else is in the restroom.

Ms. Miles: I’m Jessie, I’m from Albuquerque, New Mexico. I’m from OSA [Oregon Student Association], and I’m applying to law school.

President Schock: I knew that.

Ms. Miles: You don’t count. Anyway, if you have questions, I’d love to talk about it. I’m here to talk about voter registration. Don’t act too excited. Who has done it in the past with ASOSU? Do you have any experiences you want to throw out?

Senator Struthers: It was freshman year and something of a learning experience.

Senator Moran: It was fun, I enjoyed it.

President Schock: I like it when people pretend to be on their cellphones and then their cellphones ring.

Ms. Miles: I’m here to talk to everyone about class reps [representatives]. Does everyone know about the vote in January? Oregon is the worst state to live in in this recession. It has the third highest unemployment rate and higher education has taken one of the biggest cuts. Does everyone know about the Oregon Opportunity Grant? It received 50% less funding this biennium, which means thousands of students are not coming back to school because they can’t afford to take out more loans. It’s a big deal, you’ll hear faculty and students talk about it. The budget was passed on legislation they passed based on $733 million dollars and there will be a special election in January to decide if it’s still there. They will have to rewrite it in January. We’re doing voter education and
trying to register 9,000 students in Oregon. That’s going to give us bargaining power. Cool, we good? Our goal is to register 1,150 students at OSU, a goal set by Madison Parker and ASOSU President Chris Van Drimmelen. Relatively speaking, it’s not a huge number. OSU has a huge capacity, but in a special election year, it’s been challenging.

At our current number of a little less than 400 registered, we need help from everyone. The best way, as Brian [Moran], pointed out, is to do class reps. We have a class rep plan to each 1500 by the end of next week. There are a couple of different headings, such as the introduction and so forth. As long as you read it, you’ll be fine. I don’t follow the script, I just follow the headings. The important parts are the engagement, asking the students to get involved, and the closing. The closing is important because people should feel like they climbed Mt. Everest. The more people we get registered now, the more likely they will vote in the future. This is movement building, people! I wanted to take a minute to give you my class rep. We don’t have time to practice, but I’ll give you mine and we’ll move to the next section.

Ms. Miles delivered her class rep before the senators.

Ms. Miles: That was very straightforward, but I didn’t follow the script. Mine are boring and I tend to tell weird jokes. Everyone does it different. Tyler says “sucks” a lot in his.

Tyler: I said it twice.

Senator Moran: Do you pass them out to everyone? Or do you have them raise their hands for one?

Tyler: It depends on the size of the class.

Ms. Miles: My preference is to pass it out to everyone, but then I do a disclaimer at the end, saying to please pass them back as it is illegal to destroy the document. Here’s the deal – we can get 1500 registered voters at OSU. We’re approaching the House [of Representatives], the cabinet, interns, and volunteers and asking them to commit to
doing four classrooms each. That’s not a lot and the idea is that if everyone does a little, Tyler doesn’t have to do everything.

Tyler: I’ve done every class rep but two. She can’t be here all the time, and we’ve had one other person but me, and that’s not cool. The whole process takes 10-15 minutes out of your day. You can spend an hour each week and get a lot done. This is going to affect you as much as everyone else, so you might as well help out.

Ms. Miles: You guys are senators and some of you were appointed. The bottom line is, you guys are student leaders on this campus. Statistics say that if someone registers at age 18, they are more likely to vote and more likely to vote. I hope that speaks to you. The biggest problem in this country is that people aren’t voting. Tell your constituents and get them involved. With that, I’m going to pass out a sign-up sheet. They are split up by days, but you don’t need to do them that day, just by next Friday. Sign up for four.

If you’ve never done one, sign up as an assistant first so you can listen to Tyler or Madison or Brittany. We need assistants, but more than anything, we need you do stand up in front of students as leaders to tell them to vote so they will vote. They aren’t organized, they are more like guerrilla class reps. You just show up five minutes ahead of time and ask the professor and 80% of the time they will say yes. We’ve super low-balled what you’re going to get, so if you sign up for four and make the effort, even if it’s terrible, we’ll still get 1500 students.

Tyler: We had a meeting before we started, asking all the professors to allow us to come into class, so it’s more likely that they will say yes. You don’t need to be a great public speaker, but there is a training in the Barometer Compass room, 4-5pm tomorrow.

Ms. Miles: There’s lots of support if you need it. There’s a microwave cart next to Madison’s office with registration cards. These are silly and seem easy, but they are super important. You drop them in the box right next to the cart. They are important because they aren’t always in the office, and it tells Tyler where cards came from so we’re not going back to the same class, it tells us where you were involved. It’s super important
because otherwise Tyler has to figure out where cards came from. Are there any questions?

Tyler: This is really easy and you are building a movement. You are empowering students so they can decide on policies that affect them. They have a voice and it’s cool if you can do that and let them know they have that kind of power.

Ms. Miles: It’s totally normal to be nervous if you haven’t done public speaking. All you have to do is show up and read the piece of paper and it will work out and we will all celebrate with pizza. I’ll hand out my card when I step down. I’m on campus three times per term and can be available other times. Thank you. Please sign up for four classrooms.

Senator Struthers: I received an email from the Vice Provost about needing a senator on the VP Council meeting. It’s on a Wednesday at noon, October 28th. I have a flyer if anyone wants to go.

President Schock: It’s a unique opportunity. You get to work with Larry Roper and it’s an amazing opportunity to get to know him. He’s one of the classiest and most intelligent people I know. I’m surprised to not see more people fighting over this. He’s the VP of Student Affairs, so if you help him it’s in an advisory position and you get a feel of what the student body is feeling.

Senator Struthers: Is anyone interested besides me on sitting in on this council?

Senator Moran: Whoa, there’s food involved.

Senator Struthers: Yes, it’s at lunchtime.

Senator Moran: I might be interested.

Senator Struthers: Also, for office hours, everyone here has their office hours, so that message is not for this batch.

Senator Silvey: If we can’t make our hours, do we need to let you know?

Senator Struthers: Yes.

Senator Moran: Do you know how long these meetings usually are?
Senator Struthers: A half-hour. I’ll do this first week and we’ll go from there. Is there anything else?

Senator Barnes: The Oversight and Ethics Committee has finished the Code of Conduct. We’ll send it out tonight or tomorrow. It’s important to read it over. Please read it over, we will be voting on it at the next meeting.

The senators disbanded at 7:36pm.