Senate Minutes 2-11

President's Report:

Peebles: Thanks the senators for being present. The senate has met quorum and legislation is being brought to the floor. It's not necessary to pass them but we are still able to talk about them.

Vice President's Report:

Brooks: Office hours are Tuesdays at 1pm and his email is open.

Diversity Committee Report:

Melendez: wants to meet this week to discuss plans and goals. Monica Sent an email discussing title IX.

Brown: The event is Friday at 4:30.

Senate Resolution 0211202101:

O'zee: USAO's students have proven that they are capable of staying safe in a pandemic as our weekly Covid updates would indicate. Outdoor sports are a relatively safe way for students to experience some sort of interaction with each other. It is safer that some of the things students are still allowed to do under the current Covid protocols such as eating in the cafeteria and would have benefits that outweigh the minimal risks of allowing students and staff to attend these events.

Bowden: (to the author) Have students historically had to pay to attend sporting events? Alexander: No, they've been free to students.

Melendez: (to the author) Are you open to changing the resolution to include indoor sporting events?

O'zee: I wouldn't vote for an amendment to add indoor sports to the scope of the resolution nor would I vote for the resolution if it were amended as such. Indoor sports present a higher risk of Covid transmission due to the decreased ventilation and the bottleneck effect caused by people entering and leaving the gym.

Alexander: (to the author) What specific precautions should be taken at outdoor sporting events? O'zee: I left that up to the administration to decide because they have more public health resources and they have a better idea of the practical steps they'd be able to take to keep students safe at these events.

Resolution is tabled until the next meeting.

Senate Resolution 0211202102:

Humphrey: Status quo campus gun regulations work and have kept students safe and there isn't a reason to change them.

Alexander: (to the body) This resolution is something that has been upkept for a long time and it's important to voice our opinions regarding the issue to the board of regents.

Brown: (to the author) Does the current campus rule apply to visitors off-campus? Would someone off-campus be asked to relinquish a firearm? Humphrey: Unsure

Brooks: State law says that carry is allowed except for in places with anti-gun rules. Peebles: Wishes that the current law was more strict. That being said, the status quo is as good as it's going to get and amendments pushing the resolution in that direction would likely push

administration to go in the opposite direction.

Alexander: President Feaver has a long-standing history of not allowing guns on campus. Keeping the status quo is good.

Melendez: Moves to make the resolution immediate action.

Peebles: Objects on the grounds that it would be better to have more senators present to vote. Objection fails.

Melendez: Moves to vote by show of hands.

Vote: Resolution passes

Open Discussion and Announcements:

Melendez: RA's have a keychain-making event in the ballroom today at 6pm. Alexander: Anyone interested in going to OSGA needs to alert someone on the executive board because the legislation to fund our registration needs to be written soon. Melendez: Dining services has an online forum to address concerns from the students. Peebles: Is the quality of the zoom adequate for our zoom senators to have a productive meeting? General consensus is that the zoom meeting was adequate.