



University of Houston-Downtown  
**Student Government  
Association**

**Order of Business  
43rd Administration Agenda  
7:00 PM, February 1 st, 2023**

**Clause 1: Call to order by President Nieto**

I. Roll Call: President Nieto call the meeting to order and starts the roll call/

- President Jesus Nieto: Present
- Vice President Camila: Present
- Secretary Veronica Costilla: Present
- Treasurer Ali Musa: Present
- CHSS Senator Ruben Salazar: Present
- CPS Senator Pooja Dhiman: Present
- CSC Senator Elise Deleon: Present
- COB Senator Marlene Martinez: Absent

**Clause 2: Recital of Student Government Association Purpose**

- President Nieto recites the of SGA that is written in the constitution.

**Clause 3: Unfinished Business**

I. Office Updates

- President Nieto announced the new location of the SGA office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the main hallway where the Gator Success Center used to be. This allows SGA to be more visible to the student body. Vice President Hernandez added that there is still some construction that needs to be done in the office that should be done by the next week. After that, announced that all office hours will be posted online after the website gets up and running.

II. Graduate Senator Search

- President Nieto let the student body know that we are taking applications for Graduate Senators. There are no candidates and the search is still on going for these positions. The position



will be open for the graduate student body

### III. Committee Chair/Member Search

- President Nieto informed everyone that we do have several candidates for the different committees. There are 4 committees chair position, community outreach, nominations and elections committee, the student engagement committee, and public relations and marketing committee. President Nieto reminds the study body that these positions are created to help SGA and do not act on their own. The candidates who are running for committee chair are Sydney Castro, Mia Wallace, Jordan Rubio, Eileen Wu, Mia Northfleet, and Andrea De La Rosa. In the upcoming days, there will be interviews conducted. During the next meeting, the committee chairs will be sworn in.

### IV. SGA Events

- We are having an event on February 16, 2023 called the Valentine's Day Mixer from 6 pm to 9 pm. Students and faculty can register for this event on Campus Groups. At this event, there will be non-alcoholic drinks, and photo booth. Secretary Costilla shared the screen for the students that were joining in through Zoom. She reminded them of the day, time and location. President Nieto expanded on the event stating that this event is welcomed to everyone, couples and singles alike.

## **Clause 4: Amendments to the Constitution Proposal**

### I. CA-001

- President Nieto handed over the time to Senator Ruben Salazar to comment and expand on the amendments to the constitution. The purpose of this first bill is to expand the stipend and to be transparent with the distribution of payments. With this bill, the distribution will change it from the end of the term to monthly to support students. Further in the bill, the budget for the stipend will increase, however, some positions' stipend amount will decrease while some increase.

President Nieto commented to remind the student body that when amendments are out on the floor, we have 30 days to vote on them amend them. He also said that if any students had comments or concerns about any amendments, they can do so during the open forum portion of



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the meeting.

II. CA-002

- Senator Salazar explained that this amendment would remove the stipend for the Committee Chairs and that money would go to the Senators. He added that people who are apart of SGA do not do it for the money but for the love of making a difference on campus. However, there is a lot of work that is being put into SGA and the Senators feel like they are not being properly compensated. President Hernandez commend that the chairs do work overtime at times in order to complete task. Senator Salazar rebutted that in the different committees, the only one that is getting compensated for their time is the Chair and not the members. President Nieto agreed with Senator Salazar that it would not be fair if only the chair would get compensated, however, he also agrees with Vice President Hernandez's point that because of the amount of work each chair does do, they should be compensated.

Senator Salazar continued to explain the amendment. One of the clauses of the amendment is to allow Senators to be committee chairs and/or members. Before joining the organization, President Nieto did not know that the Senators could not join committees. He explained that it is very concerning because this gives them little to no power in SGA.

III. CA-003

- The purpose of this bill is to create a new position within SGA, the Speaker of the Senator. This position will be the person between the Senators and the Executive Board. They will be elected by the Senators and will receive a \$500 stipend.

IV. CA-004

- The purpose is amendment to reduce the amount of days to have a proposed amendment on the floor from 30 days to 15 days. This would help SGA run more effetely and help the student body more if the days are reduced. In the clause, it states that once this amendment is confirmed, it can take effect in the same meeting.

**Clause 5: Special Reports**

I. Vice President Hernandez

- Valentine's Day is going as planned. We gathering all the materials and making reservations for the event. For the committee chair positions, they are under review.

II. Secretary Costilla

- President Nieto and Secretary Costilla meet with the person who would be designing the website so the students can have access to the agenda and meeting minutes. We will be reaching



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out the committee chair nominees to see what time is best for them to meet for an interview.

### III. Treasurer Musa

- The finances are looking good and we are in the green. For all the senators and e-board members, he does need a confirmation on who is going to be able to attend because money is being set aside for this trip.

### IV. CST Senator De Leon

- Senator De Leon meet with her dean about an opportunity for an event for women in STEM. She will email whenever she had more information available.

### V. CPS Senator Dhiman

- Senator Dhiman has not meet with her dean. When she does, she will come back with a list of names for Graduate Senators and will email them to President Nieto.

### VI. CHSS Senator Salazar

- Senator Salazar met with Dean Burns – Ardolino about improvements for CHSS students. He is trying curate an event called Pathways to Public Service where elected officials could be on a panel to discuss their career journey and their obstacles.

### VII. COB Senator Martinez

- Senator Martinez is not present to comment.

## **Clause 6: Closing Remarks**

### I. Open Forum

- Mia asked if there would be any amendments to the electoral process. Senator Salazar responded that there are not any at the moment but if anyone in the student body had any amendment concerns or comments to let the senators of their colleges' know.

### II. Comments, Concerns from SGA Officers, and Senators

- Senator Salazar emphasized that he supports many of the amendments that are on the floor currently. It would bring positivity to the student body and the organization.

### III. Delegating Tasks

- CHSS majors in SGA meet with Dean Burns – Ardolino on Friday at 4 pm.

### IV. Closing Call of the Roll

- President Jesus Nieto: Present

- Vice President Camila: Present



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- Secretary Veronica Costilla: Present
- Treasurer Ali Musa: Present
- CHSS Senator Ruben Salazar: Present
- CPS Senator Pooja Dhiman: Present
- CSC Senator Elise Deleon: Present
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**Clause 7: Adjournment**

- President Nieto adjourned the meeting.