Call To Order (Roll Call)
Meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Chair Burney

Members present: Jocelyn Burney, Kizzmekia Corbett, Kristen Dolan, Zach Ferguson, Nitin Goel, Kim Niver, Braxton Reyna, Jonathan Stupak, Max Williams, Joseph Strader, Connor Brady, Paige Comparato

Members not present: Stephanie Melinni, Braxton Reyna, Will Leimenstoll

Petition Page Projects

Burney: I asked everyone to pick something on the petition page. I’ll go first.

I was looking into student insurance. Over the summer, UNC contracted with Pearce and Pearce (insurance company). The price doubled over the summer out of the blue. So now the university is maybe trying to contract with a different company because of change in price.

Ferguson: I got in contact with Bruce Meletti. He was explaining about how students have to opt in to get the abortion benefit. Before you had to opt out but now you have to opt in. The problem is because people don’t plan on having that emergency. The question is if birth control is next. The university basically got bullied into it. 10% due to changes with Obamacare, but mainly because Pearce and Pearce undervalue how much UNC students use the insurance plan. The under calculated how much students would need the plan/money. It was a huge shock, so the plan is not favorable anymore.

Burney: That’s definitely something to look into.

Dolan: I was looking into P2P route. I went to DPS and explained that there are being questions asked about the routing. I gave manager a call and he was very receptive to my questions. I wanted to find out background about routing. He said that route has been
running for years, but there have been different classes (at UNC) that have suggested redoing the route before. He walked me through the logistics of P2P. There are three total busses with two busses running at a time. The third bus only runs when there will be a great need and higher traffic. Typically the third bus is not put on the route because it is needed as a spare. The busses have to be sent to Greensboro for repairs so they typically don’t use the third bus. He is willing to have a meeting to further discuss this. My suggestion would be to have someone who uses the P2P there. The manager will explain the route and logistics more in the meeting. I will set that up.

Burney: I agree the meeting should be set up. I’m sure there are people who would want to be a part of meeting, like the safety and security council.

Dolan: Assuming it is feasible to change route, it goes back to issue that this is the majority of what people want.

Burney: Any more issues for the good of the order?

Niber: I looked into union room issues. You can reserve a room but people don’t get a say in which room they can have and would prefer to pick a specific spot. There is a union board meeting tomorrow. I can look more into room reservation policy and talk to people about it there. Also I think they’ve had success in petition page with LGBTQ gender safety rooming issue. They got a resolution for it.

Comparato: I received an email about this. Bruce stated that the issue is space allocation and it is hard every year, but they will definitely work on it. Terry also sent an email that will be sent out to Congress later.

Burney: It seems that no one is against doing this; it is just an issue of space. Any other issues for the good of the order?

Ferguson: I saw something about how there is no career counseling for graduate students.

Ethics Chair Woodword: They have a program for med students but it is only for them. There is a career services and different divisions for it. One of the people in charge of in program was involved in a scandal.

Ferguson: For other graduate students, like those in the College of Arts and Sciences, and for the graduate school itself, there is none. They need a career person.
Another issue I saw - why is Onyen held to 8 characters? There is also a website for if you don’t want live.unc.edu, go to website to get an alias.unc.edu

Niver: In the pharmacy school have to make first.last@live.unc.edu

Woodward: Some people don’t have @live. The only have @email.

Corbett Wait so I can’t get an alias?

Dolan: No, you can, you just can’t get @live.

Burney: Any other issues?

Woodward: Some people are complaining about the negative press for Humans v Zombies group. I’m not sure if they are a recognized organization and they never ask for money.

Burney: People play on campus. They were made fun of in the DTH and on campus. The submitted on the petition page that congress should stop discriminating against that group. But it kind of doesn’t make sense because they’re not a real organization. They’re not recognized by the university.

Woodward: Didn’t they submit an finance request but it was bogus? They couldn’t even say what money was for. I really don’t know if they know that the university doesn’t recognize them, and they don’t know that they need to be before congress can help them. They just need to be educated about these rules.

Brady: Because they’re not official it is hard to contact them.
Strader: I just find it funny that people call them nerdy when Quidditch team gets good press.

Comparato: Our assistance could be something simple where congress says ‘sign up for their group’.

Woodword: I can understand why people are annoyed because there aren’t specific hours when they play, so the game doesn’t end. People walking about with nerf guns and being in the way can be frustrating.
Burney: Also if we finance a request for nerf guns… is that a weapon?

Strader: No because they must get nerf gun approved.

Burney: Anything else?

Corbett I saw something about medical/grad student parking. Looking into that.

Burney: Good. Be interesting to see what you find.

Comparato: This wasn’t on the petition page but it was all over Facebook. The Alert Carolina message that was sent out about gunman - people were upset that a) they weren’t notified until five hours later and b) it was at Walgreens, so the gunman ran toward campus and therefore it was an emergency. I wrote a resolution saying that if a gunman one or even two (haven’t decided yet) miles near campus, students need to be notified because it is an emergency. Alert Carolina (DPS) didn’t notify local businesses, students, etc. This is a big deal.

Burney: I think that is completely reasonable.

Strader: Was there any word from DPS about girl who was assaulted?

Comparato: Well she contacted DTH saying that they (DPS) didn’t believe her, but DPS is still investigating. Hopefully that’s not the way it turned out and that they will believe her. That’s another thing that goes along with what I was talking about earlier – receiving an assault message later in the day. There is a difference, but there needs to be a timely notification.

Also, she was not a student, but was visiting her boyfriend.

I was also thinking about the gunman in Morrison. They didn’t let people know about armed robbery. That’s when Alert Carolina started, but here we are two years later and nobody did anything about the gunman. I didn’t even get a message, but maybe it was a system overload

Strader: Perhaps the whole system needs to be looked into.

Burney: I also didn’t get one. One of the things we talked about at ASG is having a good relationship with campus police and town police. Perhaps once a month having a Q and
A about what’s going on because we don’t hear about everything that is going on in out area. Maybe a solution to help people be more informed.

Goel: I looked into the suggestion about the fact that the fields, like Fetzer and Keenan Stadium, are leaving lights on all night. People are asking why their money is going into this. It’s wasting electricity and is not good for environment. It’s wasting money.

Burney: It also may be a safety issue, though. If we didn’t have lights, people could get hurt because stadium not locked. But maybe they should just lock it.

Niver: It also could be an issue of vandalism.

Comparato: Maybe they should look into motion-censored lights.

Ferguson: The law school lights, monitors, etc. are always up and running at like three in morning.

Woodword: You should maybe contact CAA to see if they can’t direct you to someone who can answer questions.

Niver: I was wondering, is there some way we can put on the website what student congress is working on?

Burney: Connor is looking into putting this on the website.

Comparator: Also we have twitter! We have 259 followers. But the executive has 1600. So we need to promote it more.

Strader: I think we need to keep up with what we’ve accomplished. So that way at end of year can report on what we’ve done.

Comprato: We have legislation status table that says what people have done. We can share it with constituents. People can cross-reference it with a Google doc. I can look into doing a monthly or semester report about what congress is accomplishing.

Burney: Sounds good. Keep up the work about finding info from students. Keep posting on the site.

Corbett I have something to say. A lot of stuff on petition page is cluttered from within.
Someone needs to say something at full congress about that so that it doesn’t look like it is a joke.

Niver: Also, there is a time stamp. So, they know when people are thinking of everything they can think of.

Comparato: Also, I think we should try not to talk to each other on the site. We want the page to look professional so eventually we can open it to the public.

Burney: I go through and delete ones that are profane and clear out nonsensical ones because some things are ridiculous and makes it too cluttered.

Woodward: We need to say at full congress what the use of the page is for. Set a ground rule.

Corbett Technically people should be able to say whatever they want.

Woodward: It comes down to professional respect.

Burney: I will bring up at full congress. Motion to adjourn?

**Announcements**

Burney: The speaker pro temp is working on transitioning the wiki site to a better UNC site. One thing he is going to do is make a petition page instead of using a Google doc because will be easier to manage. He made a field so people can enter their name when they submit to the page.

Connor is also making sure there are adequate lights on campus. If any place on camps needs a light, students should email him.

Strader: Does he want to know about broken buttons on crosswalks?

Burney: Yes.

Resolution that was passed at an AGC meeting next week. There was supposed to be a public hearing but not having it. Want to do a public hearing on something.

SFAC: Auditing fees
Comparato: We are going to be auditing nine fees:

Law school exam fee

Ferguson: $10 fee - Feels it’s a waste of money because thinks it’s going to party and not going to software, but students are being told that the money is going to the software

Safety fee
Student org fee
Transit fee
Athletics fee
EMT fee
Sonia stone scholars fee
Renewable energy fee
Union rams head debt fee

Stupac: We are really just trying to clarify some of the fees, but some we are really looking into because some finances are so massive that we need to make sure they don’t need to be restructured.

Comparato: We will be splitting up into groups. What was the date that they wanted it by?

Brady: By the end of the year.

Burney: What are you guys sending out to audit these groups?

Comparato: We have a form that they need to fill out. Provide fee description, percent of budget, how much revenue is in budgets, the services provided, the organization’s future goals and how have changed

Brady: We are trying to maintain a relationship with these groups so that we know what budgets are about.

Burney: Please put the results online.

Comparato: will send to congress
Rachael: (on radio staff) We’ve been making a lot of money from dances and have been very successful. We are having another dance this Friday at Chapel Hill Underground. Money that we’ve been receiving and other donations have bought a cassette player. Also been working on relaunching WXYC reports – to show a news side of things. Full vision is to have a local, global, and national story every month, or maybe every two months. We had a couple of spots but haven’t fully completed them. We are also going to DJ a party for the Japanese poster exhibit on Friday. We are trying to put up a second tower to work on making sure that the station doesn’t go off of the air.

Burney: Where is the tower now?

Rachael: I don’t know. Want to get redundancy so if one fails there is another as backup tower. The current tower is really old and some parts aren’t made anymore. This project is very expensive.

Comparato: Is money that you’re making now going to the tower project?

Rachael: I’m not sure.

Burney: Next time, have the info because that’s a big/expensive project requiring a lot of money.

Rachael: I know we’re saving a lot of money, but not enough money to the point that we are voiding everything just to buy a tower.

Brady: Is there a timeline on getting the second tower or is it ongoing?

Rachael: I don’t know. I just know that it is being discussed. We are trying to get the radio station like that of Elon’s in that they will get the station as well.

Adjournment (Acclamation)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jocelyn Burney, Chair