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**USA Meeting Agenda**

**Zoom Meeting**

**September 4, 2023 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

1. Welcome

Bella motions to begin the meeting.

Matt Seconds

Bella motions to approve this week’s meeting agenda.

Joseph Seconds

1. Legislation Update ([Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee Meeting](https://le.utah.gov/av/committeeArchive.jsp?mtgID=19397))

Bella: I want to continue talking about fees. Legislation is moving slow and doing a deep dive into the fees of every university. Taylor gave me a link to a video to watch. Watch from 9:55 to when they end the student fee discussion. If we could all watch it and make a list of questions we can send them to Taylor for her to answer at the next meeting.

President introductions for Muskan

Bella: We have heard the legislation is looking at student fees. THey are looking into wrapping fees into tuition, making opt. in fees, etc. This is problematic because student organizations are funded by student fees. This will lessen what we can do for the students. We like to think that student fees are similar to taxes as they help pay for the students as a whole. We have to play a waiting game and hear from legislation on updates.

Joseph: The fees are in full control of the students. If we take the fees out of the hands of students it takes it away from the student’s experience and student’s power.

Bella: It is within the USHE bylaws that fees must be student controlled and funded.

Mathew: Don’t assume anything bad is happening.

* Meet with representatives, find out their perspective on student fees and inform them on the process. Be an expert on the student fee process.
* Hold on campus events to increase awareness about student fees. Similar to truth in tuition. We will be dealing with an informed student body.
* Assignments:
	+ Boyden (Keith Grover, Karen Kwan)
	+ Richey (Ryan Wilcox, Chris Wilson, Michael Peterson)
	+ Bennett (Karen Peterson, Evan Vickers)
	+ Estes (R. Neil Walter, Walt Brooks)
	+ Barney (Michael McKell, Douglas Welton, Stephen Whyte)
	+ Sorensen (Ann Miller, Jerry Stevenson)
	+ None (Kathleen Riebe, Brett Garner, Mark Strong, Mark Wheatley)
	+ Sun ( Jon Hawkins)

Bella: We are more than happy to collaborate with USHE on this and Taylor has been a huge help. Most of this talk won't be happening until October. We want to be knowledgeable and understanding of the matter. Be prepared and educated before talking to representatives. Know how student fees work at your university and recent changes.

1. Voting Expectations

Bella: If we can raise hands when motioning or seconding or voting it will be easier to see.

1. College Day of Service

Bella: We need to decide on a date. All the Universities did a day of service with the community around the state. We are looking to do it again this year. I'm thinking of doing it on the national day of service (Jan. 20th). I'm also thinking we could do a week of service to free up schedules.

Sarah Sun: I think that the national day of service will be tricky since we won't be on campus. I do think that the week of service is a great idea. The first lady has a goal of “showing up for service”. I think that aligning with her initiative is a great way to get her involved. We had options for students to stay on campus and to go off campus for projects.

Matthew: Are we planning a full week or just one big effort on a day of that week?

Bella: I'm thinking that each University picks a day of that week.

Sarah Sun: In the case of every day at a different University it will be hard to market. I think that it is better to all pick just one day.

Matthew: Even if we have to pick a separate day we can work together and make it work.

Muskan: I was working on an inter-faith project and thought that this may be a good way to bring it to the state level. I just want to throw it out there to see if inter-faith can be an underlying theme.

Matthew: I like the idea. I think that the word inter-faith can turn some people off. We can communicate that it is for all students.

Sarah Sun: I agree that it is a great idea. We can move this to new initiatives rather than under the college day of service. Some options are November 9th, November 2nd, November 19th.

Bella: We are still deciding what we can do with the day of the dead with HB 261. What were the later days in November?

Matthew: I think November 16th works really well for USU.

Joseph: Will I need to be at my university at that time on the 16th? I think it can be delegated but I won't be in town.

Sarah H: I would like to be on campus for this because we are a smaller school. I would like a day other than the 16th. The 2nd works for me.

Sarah Sun: We can make any Saturday work.

Matthew: I don't have any conflicts. I'm a bit weary of day of the dead overlap.

Bella: Does the 9th work?

Joseph: That is a game day but it could help with collaboration. We can definitely make it work.

Bella: The 2nd may be our best option.

Sarah Sun: We could push it to December or October 19th. The 9th works best for our service squad.

Joseph: We can definitely make it work with game day.

Bella: Can we call it to a vote? We can save the date of November 9th and then check with Emily and Mimi.

1. Projects and President’s Updates

Bella: I also want to talk about campus cup.

Matthew: We are working with campus safety for our voter registration events. I would encourage everyone to support students in an emotional and conflict creating election year.

Bella: Does anyone have questions on campus cup? All the universities do a competition, the school with the most registered voters gets the cup.

Sarah H: Every college has a contact person that supplies data. It will be calculated percentage wise of the student body.

Bella: I want to talk about our initiatives as a whole. In the past we have focused on mental health, free menstrual products and college access have been topics. Let's take some time to figure out our big goal.

Sarah Sun: At BYU we have groups of underrepresented students talk about their experiences. We could do panels around the state where different groups talk about their experiences. It can be a series around the state of “Untold Stories” from our student body. Going back to the first lady’s platform, unified sports. Looking into unifies sports teams with students with disabilities playing alongside athletes. We could do a unified sports campus cup.

Matthew: We could run into HB 261 issues with the first idea.

Joseph: With HB 261, we can’t make events exclusive. We can still do cultural events just open to all.

Colter: Anything that is celebratory and not exclusive is still allowed. If we are holding these events, what will make students interested if they don’t know who we are and what we do. I think an initiative may be informing students.

Sarah Sun: We could also make up the panel and travel around the state to answer questions.

Bella: I love the ideas. We can loop some of them together. I want to push belonging in this time and we can be the faces to let students know what is going on at the state level. What next steps can we take? Should we work on a list of panelists or take some time to solidify plans for the next meeting.

Colter: For me the main focus should be showing who we are as USA.

Matthew: What is the benefit for students to know who we are?

Colter: I think it comes back to representation. If students know that we are representing them at the state level. I guess that raises the question of do they need to know? If students know that this organization exists will they utilize it more?

Bella: We talked about more students applying from all of our schools. I also want to bring to attention that Snow, UofU, BYU, and UVU need to pay their USA fees. We need to decide our reasons for the initiatives. Depending on what route we go we need to have a strong why.

1. Adjourn

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 2nd at 8:00am.