

Minutes from the Supreme Court | September 21st, 2023

Special Meeting

The Supreme Court of the Student Government Association of Tennessee Tech met at 6:33pm on September 21st, 2023, in the Center for Student Engagement Conference room. Chief Justice Bryson Lee was present and presiding with Attorney General as Secretary of the Supreme Court. Attorney General Tidwell took the roll, and a quorum was established. As the previous meeting's minutes had been provided in advance to all members, Chief Justice Lee considered them read without objection. The previous meeting's minutes stand approved. The agenda attached as Appendix A was set by the Chief Justice in accordance with the call for the special meeting.

The following members of the Supreme Court were present:

Title	Name	Present/Absent
Chief Justice	Mr. Bryson Lee	Present
Associate Chief Justice	Mr. Dylan Hazard	Absent
Associate Justice	Mr. Jacob Dean	Present
Associate Justice	Ms. Lela Gracy	Present
Associate Justice	Mr. Grady Hicks	Absent
Associate Justice	Mr. Chandler LeMay	Present
Associate Justice	Ms. Cailey Martin	Absent
Associate Justice	Ms. Jasmine Montgomery	Present
Associate Justice	Mr. Cam Williams	Present
Alternate Associate Justice	Mr. Blake Garrett	Absent
Alternate Associate Justice	Ms. Angelica Magpayo	Absent

Others also present:

Mr. Eli Tidwell – Attorney General of the Student Government Association

Attorney General Tidwell discussed what version of the Constitution is in effect and binding upon the SGA. Attorney General Tidwell confirmed that the Constitution publicly available on the SGA website is the binding version that the Court and the rest of the SGA must follow. Attorney General Tidwell noted that the version on the website was being updated to comply with adopted constitutional amendments.

Attorney General Tidwell led a training session on how Justices can use the new EagleEngage workflow system for case management.

Chief Justice Lee **PUT A QUESTION** to the Court on the majority opinion of Case No. 1. The Court entered a period of informal discussion on Case No. 1

pending before the Court. After discussion, the Court rose from informal discussion with multiple resolutions to consider.

Justice Williams **MOVED** to adopt the following language drafted by Chief Justice Lee into the majority opinion:

“Pertaining to question 1 submitted by President Hale, the Court agrees the length of office is one year, beginning the day the oath of office is taken and ending one calendar year later (VI.9). The Court recommends the Judicial Selection Committee be aware of when each justice was sworn in and be ready to replace or re-appoint a Justice at the end of their one-year term. If a Justice is graduating or is not a full-time student, they must vacate their position and the Judicial selection committee shall have 30 days to replace the Justice (VI.10). In the event a Justice graduates or is no longer a full-time student, they shall resign or go through the impeachment process. The Court recognizes that the summer semester typically makes many SGA members ineligible for office; they are no longer full-time students. The Court believes it is imperative for the continued operations of the SGA, therefore the court shall ignore the past transgressions of this constitutional clause and recommend the senate fully remedy this conflict as further described in this Opinion.”

Seconded. After debate, the motion was **ADOPTED** with **6 AYE** and **0 NAY** by show of hands.

Justice LeMay **MOVED** to adopt the following language drafted by Chief Justice Lee into the majority opinion: “Pertaining to question 2 submitted by President Hale, Justice’s terms do not end at the swearing in of an executive council. Justice’s terms run a full calendar year from the day they took office (VI.9). Chief Justice and Associate Chief Justice do not keep their title after their one-year term of office. The Chief Justice and Associate Chief justice must be nominated by the judicial selection committee, confirmed by a supermajority vote of the senate (VI.4.A), and confirmed a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total membership of the SGA Supreme Court (VI.6.D).”

Seconded. The motion was **ADOPTED** with **6 AYE** and **0 NAY** by show of hands.

Chief Justice Lee **MOVED** to postpone further consideration of Case No. 1 until the next regular meeting. The motion was **ADOPTED** via voice acclamation.

Chief Justice Lee noted that the decisions of the Court made at the meeting will not be binding until the Court adopts and publishes its decision as the majority opinion.

Chief Justice Lee asked if there were any announcements. Attorney General Tidwell made announcements. Chief Justice Lee made announcements.

In accordance with the orders of the day, Chief Justice Lee declared the September 21st meeting of the Supreme Court of the Student Government Association **ADJOURNED** until September 28th at after the adjournment of the Student Citation Appeals Committee without objection at 7:51pm.

Respectfully submitted,

 *Eli Tidwell* *let*
09/28/23

Attorney General, Eli Tidwell
(Secretary of the Supreme Court)

I sign and certify that these minutes have been properly approved by the Supreme Court of the Student Government Association on 9-28-23.

 *Robert B. Lee*

Chief Justice, Bryson Lee

APPENDIX A

The Agenda

Agenda of the Supreme Court | September 21st, 2023 Meeting

Note: Chief Justice Lee has called this special meeting in accordance with the decision made by the Court at its September 14th meeting.

Time: 6:30 pm CST

Location: Center for Student Engagement Conference Room

Dress code: Casual

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Reading and Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes
- IV. Items to be considered at the Special Meeting
 - a. Which Constitution is in force?
 - b. Attorney General Tidwell's briefing on workflows
 - c. Case No. 1 Continued
- V. Announcements
- VI. Adjournment
 - a. Next meeting on September 28th