

Committee on Student Media (COSM) Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, September 8, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM – 3:11 PM

Location: SU 1.601 Conference Room / Microsoft Teams

Recorder: Audrey Venderbush

In-Person Attendees (14):

- Dr. McClain Watson
- Dr. Gene Fitch
- Dr. Chad Thomas
- Jenni Hufferberger
- Jonathan Stewart
- Wade Crowder
- Jill Blevins
- Jimmie Markham
- Humaira Afreen
- Farhan Iqbal
- Joshua Kalakoti
- Michael Brown
- Sasha Wu
- Caleb Jenkins

Microsoft Teams Attendees (1):

- Audrey Venderbush

Total Attendees: 15

1. 2:00 – 2:03 Call to Order, Welcome

Facilitator: Dr. McClain Watson

2. 2:03 – 2:04 Introduction of New Student Media Director

Facilitator: Jenni Hufferberger

Karen Fioretti begins 9/15/25

3. 2:04 – 2:15 Updates from Student Media Leaders

Facilitators: Michael Brown, Caleb Jenkins, Sasha Wu, and Jenni Hufferberger

UTD TV – Presented by Programming Director: Michael Brown

- Meet the Press (8/25/25) and Cometville (8/27/25) were successful
- The General Meeting had between 30-40 attendees
- Acting Workshop took place on 9/4/25
 - Michelle Sherille led
- Short film, Flower is in the works
- Mentor Program is in the works

Radio UTD – Presented by Station Manager: Caleb Jenkins

- Programming is in full swing
- Trainee interviews are currently taking place
 - 29 applicants so far
 - Will hire 16 trainees
- Preparing for Pseudo Stereo Live Concert
 - 10/14/25
 - Local music acts will perform
- Management Meeting
- First General Meeting will be 9/8/25
- Radio UTD now has a phone line

AMP – Presented by Editor-in-Chief: Sasha Wu

- September issue was released
- Moved website to new host
 - SNO Sites (all four outlets have done this as well)
- Production
- Meet the Press (8/25/25) was a success
- In the process of hiring artists
 - Applications closed last week
 - 40 applicants
 - Will hire 4
- Hired a new Assistant Marketing Director
- Podcast with Radio UTD – A Modest Podcast

The Mercury – Presented by Director of Student Media: Jenni Hufferberger

- Website is up and running
- Hiring for *Mercury* staff positions
 - Web Editor

- Hiring for section editors
 - Hiring for writers
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4. 2:15 – 3:10 Discuss/Vote on Subcommittee’s Draft Bylaw Revisions

Facilitators: Dr. McClain Watson and Jonathan Stewart

- Bylaw Committee has been working over the summer
- Big changes include:
 - 2.4b—Updated section on the job requirements of *The Mercury*’s Editor-in-Chief and Radio UTD’s Station Manager
 - They are allowed to hold off-campus jobs
 - If they do, it needs to be reported
 - Strongly discouraged
 - This change helps avoid a conflict of interest
 - Organizations were better equipped to handle the conflict of interest rather than the restriction in the bylaws
 - Need to verify hours allowed to work for graduate students
 - 4.6—New appeal process
 - Structure, defined timelines, etc.
 - Defined procedure for bylaw exceptions—COSM can make a change to the bylaws
- 2.1a—Remove “other student media, which may, from time to time, be funded from student fees”
- 2.1k—What does it take to have quorum?
 - Past meetings have been canceled due to lack of attendees
 - Can’t be too particular on what justifies quorum
- 2.3a, 2.4a, 2.5a, 2.6a—How and when are grades verified?
 - Student Media’s Administrative Assistant II will verify when the candidate is being considered
- 2.3f, 2.4g, 2.5f, 2.6f—If they have been removed from office by COSM they are not eligible to re-apply
- 2.4d—Concerning *Mercury*’s Editor-in-Chief
- 4.2z—What does COSM want done with the materials that are in the kiosks if they’re not affiliated with Student Media?
- 4.5—If there is a Student Media leader being removed, only voting members are allowed to attend the COSM meetings
 - Others may be invited for testimony purposes
- 4.5c—COSM is the appeal body, not the removal
 - Each leader makes their personnel decisions

- 4.3i—Change AI to Artificial Intelligence
 - Vague wording in the bylaw—stronger language concerning distinguishing texts from images, being explicit on *how* AI is exposed
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5. 3:10 – 3:11 Adjournment

Facilitator: Dr. McClain Watson

- Next meeting will be held in October
- Bylaw Committee will reconvene, and revise based off today's discussions