Articles of Impeachment Resolution

Convicting Connor Clegg, Texas State University Student Body President of violations eligible for impeachment, according to the Texas State University Constitution, ARTICLE VII, Section 1.(a) Violation(s) of the rules, regulations and laws of the Student Government and Section 1.(b) Violation(s) of the constitution.
Whereas: The following Articles of Impeachment are granted to be conducted under trial:

**Article I**
Connor Clegg, Student Body President, has gross violations of the Student Government Code: CODE OF ETHICS, Title II, Chapter 100, Article II ETHICAL STANDARDS, Section §3.(a) By failing to represent our peer's interest to University officials above that of his own opinion.

On 11.29.2017 Clegg released a statement, using University affiliated social media resources, titled "FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK" to call for the Resignation of the Editorial Board or Defunding of the University Star for publishing “YOUR DNA IS AN ABOMINATION” on 11.28.17 in the opinion column of the university newspaper. On 11.30.2017 Texas State University radio station, KTSW, released a tweet stating "#txst SGA President Connor Clegg says the statement is not a reflection of the University, it is his own opinion". Additionally, in the short clip received from Aaron Derton, of KTSW news, Clegg confirms over the phone that the release statement he published, "FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK", was not representative of the opinion of the student body, but was his own opinion. The numerous and various responses to the opinion column mentioned above received by the University Star, published on their website and on the 12.5.17 print edition, exemplify the diversity of opinion and the lack of consensus among Texas State student body and community at large regarding any reaction to or categorical condemnation of the column. Clegg’s statement leaves no room to any of the nuances expressed by the student body, which is a clear failure in representing our fellow peer’s interest above that of his own opinion. Therefore Clegg violated Section 3.(a) by using privilege granted to him through Student Body Government to publish his own opinion to University officials regardless of his fellow peer’s interest.

**Article II**
Connor Clegg, Student Body President, has gross violations of the Student Government Code: CODE OF ETHICS, Title II, Chapter 100, Article II ETHICAL STANDARDS, Section §3.(f) By failing to be clear and concise, thoughtful and prepared.

Given that Clegg was aware that he was publishing his own personal opinion, he should not have used University affiliated means to amplify his voice. By doing so, he made his own personal opinion appear as a collective opinion by the student
government creating a situation that lacks clarity. Clegg also failed to be prepared, thoughtful, and concise in forming his publicly released opinion. After speaking with Opinions Editor May Olvera on 12.01.17 she confirmed that Clegg failed to meet with her before publishing his personal statement using University means. Had Clegg been clear, concise, thoughtful and prepared he would have taken the time to speak with students asking them about their personal opinions before publishing a public opinion on behalf of the university. Clegg also proved his unpreparedness in the published opinion at the bottom of the template (see Appendix A) where the e-mail address is located it states: “CHC45@TXSTATE.EDU ANDREW.P.HOMANN@GMAIL.COM”. Below Clegg’s e-mail address is ex-student body president Andrew Homann’s e-mail address, Clegg failed to to check the template while publishing his own personal statement using university resources. Clegg’s failure to edit a simple part of the template and failure to meet with students before making a clear decision, demonstrates the rapid pace at which this statement was made, therefore Clegg violates section 3.(f).

Article III

Connor Clegg, Student Body President, has gross violations of the Student Government Code: CODE OF ETHICS, Title II, Chapter 100, Article II ETHICAL STANDARDS, Section §4.(h) By failing to encourage and facilitate legitimate dissenting opinions.

Texas State University advertises itself as a diversified campus and community. Along with diversity comes many different opinions. It is important that one who runs and wins the position of student body government is aware of this. The article written in the University Star’s opinions column titled “Your DNA is an abomination” was an opinion article. The article created many different opinions and attitudes as illustrated by the responses received by the University Star (cf. Article I above). It is clear Clegg did not encourage or facilitate dissenting opinions; had he done so, he would have taken the time to talk with columnist Rudy Martinez and Editor-in-Chief Denise Cervantes regarding the publishing of the article so that he could better understand where they are coming from. He could have encouraged diverse opinions by having a public student forum in which students of the university voiced their opinions and concerns where Clegg could facilitate and better understand his peer’s whom he is supposed to represent. Instead of taking any actions that encourage and facilitate dissenting opinions, Clegg chose to publish his own personal opinion using University affiliated platforms. Clegg also did not call for discussion forums or openly request any dissenting opinions in a way that
would reach him (since the email on his statement was not his own), therefore, Clegg violated section 4. (h) by ignoring the opportunity to request dissenters to voice concerns unique to his decisions in matters of diversity.

**Article IV**
Connor Clegg, Student Body President, has gross violations of the Student Government Code: CODE OF ETHICS, Title II, Chapter 100, Article II ETHICAL STANDARDS, Section §5.(b) By failing to not abuse power or position.

On 11.29.17 Clegg published a call for the resignation of the Editorial Board or Defunding of the University Star via @txstSG on twitter. The name of @txstSG on twitter is “TXST STUDENT GOVT” the bio reads “OFFICIAL ACCOUNT FOR THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY” (see Appendix B). This bio statement implies that the tweets that come from this account are representative of the Student Body Government as a whole, as opposed to from the position of president alone. Clegg abused his power as Student Body President by accessing these university affiliated social media accounts and using his platform to publish and promote his own personal agenda and opinion. Had someone read solely the released statement published by Connor coming from an account that represents Texas State University, they could have been confused into assuming that this statement represents the opinion of the whole student government or of the entire student body. However, on 11.29.17 2017 (now graduated) Senator Mariana Zamora published a tweet in response to Clegg’s published personal opinion stating “Will clarify that this statement was made by Connor alone and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire senate.” (see Appendix C). The Texas State University student government website has a section under the executive branch titled “From the President’s Desk” (see Appendix D). This section of the website gives the student body president the ability to publish statements, had Clegg wanted to publish his own opinion he could have used designated sections such as these granted to him as student body president. Instead, Clegg chose to publish his “personal opinion” by using his platform of student body president to do so. This abuse of power is unfair to members of student government who do not agree with Clegg, unfair to all students of Texas State University who failed to have their voice represented, and violates section 5. (b).

**Article V**
Connor Clegg, Student Body President, has violated of the Constitution: Article I Name, Purpose, and Structure, Section 2: “The Student Government shall be the primary recognized forum for student opinion, represent the student interests and concerns to the administration, and provide those activities and services it deems useful to students”

The words “primary recognized forum for student opinion” emphasize that student government is the primary source for student opinions to be expressed and heard. In the events that occurred regarding the University Star, Clegg published a personal statement less than two days after the publication of the opinion article mentioned before. As demonstrated above, this statement did not represent the nuances and diversity of opinion of the student body, and overall, did not allow student opinion to be represented. In addition, as mentioned above. The disregard for student opinion, interest, and concerns is a dangerous threat to those who do not think similarly to the student body president. This constitutes a violation to the Constitution, Article I, section 2.

Article VI
Connor Clegg, Student Body President, has violated of the Constitution: Article I Name, Purpose, and Structure, Section 6: “No member may take undue liberties in the representation of Student Government without authorization from either the House or Senate.”

In the events documented in the University Star, the University’s newspaper, Clegg used his access to Student Government affiliated social media platforms to represent a personal opinion. This opinion, because of where it was expressed, could have been attributed to the entire Student Government. Clegg took undue liberties in the representation of the Student Government without authorization from either House or Senate. These liberties are evident in the tweeted responses from senate members after the opinion was made public. Connor Clegg chose to misrepresent the opinion of Student Government without prior authorization from either House or Senate, hereby violating Article I, section 6 of the constitution.

Conclusion

The Texas State University Student Body President has a responsibility to represent the student body as whole, when acting within the parameters set by that office. Connor Clegg took advantage of the office to express his own opinions and in so doing failed in his responsibilities as Student Body President. Over the course of his tenure as president, Clegg has
repeatedly chosen present his own opinions, agenda, and personal motives above those of the University student body.

The students at Texas State University, with assistance from student government, have drafted these articles of impeachment in attempt to have their voices heard and with the hope of gaining a student body president who is open-minded, inclusive, and willing to engage with all members of the University student population.

In the eventuality that not enough members of student government are willing to represent the Articles of Impeachment, or if the student supreme court decides that this is not a valid case, the students of Texas State University will continue to pursue other means through university officials to have their voices heard and represented. Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED: That Connor Clegg is considered to be unfit for his office as Student Body President; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That Connor Clegg is removed from his position as Student Body President; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That upon the first reading, this resolution be sent to Supreme Court Chief Justice John Garcia for further action; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That upon passage voted on in a joint House and Senate session, Connor Clegg be removed from his position as Student Body President; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: This resolution be submitted to Student Body Vice President Jacqueline Merritt, Chief Justice of Supreme Court John Garcia, Assistant Dean Kathryn Weiser, Dean of Students Dr. Margarita Arellano for further action.

Appendices

Appendix A
This image demonstrates a platform given to the Texas State University student body president to publish his own opinions and statements. Clegg failed to use this platform allotted to him, and instead chose to use platforms affiliated with student government as a whole, therefore causing misrepresentation.
This image demonstrates the Texas State affiliated platform for Student Government that Connor Clegg used to publish his own opinion, therefore misrepresenting the voice of the student body, student government representatives, and abusing power.

Appendix C
In a recent University Star column titled "WHITENESS," "columnist" Rudy Martinez penned a piece entitled "Your White is an Abomination," the author proclaims to hate white people because white people should not exist. To vilify the elimination of an entire race is an ignorant, dated, and close-minded opinion, one that does not belong on our campus. This has alarmed the media, politicians, donors, alumni, students, faculty, and even nonwhite students. The University Star has even refused to accept this racist.

Mariana Zamora
@zamorana85

Repeating to @KTSWNews @txstSG and @UniversityStar
Will clarify that this statement was made by Connor alone and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire senate. 😊

11/29/17, 11:51 PM

21 Retweets 70 Likes
Appendix D
The bottom of this page features ex-president Andrew Homann’s e-mail address and a title saying “for IMMEDIATE RELEASE” demonstrating the rapidness of Clegg to publish his own personal opinion. By doing so disregarding the opinion of the student body and putting his opinion in front of the student body.

Appendix E
These images demonstrate cultural insensitivity which is not to be tolerated at the educational institution of Texas State University. Over 400 students have attended Student Government meetings expressing desire to have Connor Clegg step down from office. Though these social media posts are not impeachable offenses, they are inappropriate and serve as a reminder to the concerned legislative and judicial bodies that Connor Clegg is unfit to be Student Body President.