SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

* The twenty-third meeting of the seventeenth Senate was called to order by Asha McWilliams at 5:00 PM on April 23rd.
* Minutes from the last meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
* Lucas Knight makes a motion to move out of the bylaws. There is no opposition.
* There is a motion to move Guest/Student Speakers and Resolution 5-19-S to the front of the meeting. There is no opposition.
* There is a motion to move Bill 32 and 33 into Unfinished business. There is no opposition.
* There is a motion to to move back into the bylaws. There is no opposition.
* **Guest/ Student Speakers**
* **Andy Lee and Evan Heikelback: College Heights Herald Advertising Manager and Editor-in-Chief, respectively**
* The Herald is fully funded by advertising. WKU does not give any funding to the Herald. They employ 6 staff to be in the office. There is a sharp decrease in the revenue to student publications across the country. The Herald has made many changes to attempt to accommodate the costs. They shifted the newspaper publication from twice a week to once a week, and they cut their own pay in order to make it by last fiscal year. They are using old technology that is failing to work for their needs. They also used Cherry Creative to launch sponsored content. All of the changes they have made have helped, but it is still not enough to cover the costs. The total expenses per year is about $125,000. The $2 added to each student’s tuition would generate a large portion of the cost. The Herald is a source of knowledge and the student opinion on campus. The Herald gives vital information in important situations on campus such as the mold problem and the Potter College Dean situation. The Herald matters, and it is important to many students.
* **Harper Anderson**
* She will be emailing us nominations for the awards this week. She has to leave for a mandatory meeting at 5:30.
* **Emily Anne Pride**
* She wanted to give a response for her censure. She wanted to apologize for anything she has said or done to bring any discomfort or disrespect to anyone. She encourages tough conversations to be had in the right way. She wants to use this experience to improve the inclusivity and the conversation surrounding it within the organization.
* **Resolution 5-19-S**
* There is an amendment made by the authors to change all instances of $2 to $5.
* There is an amendment made to change all instances of $5 to $2. The amendment fails 4-23.
* The resolution passes 23-1-3.
* **President Stephen Mayer**
* (via Will Harris) He is still looking into CAPE, and his email is open to any suggestions for those. He encourages students to continue to work on the Fairness ordinance.
* **Executive Vice President Garrett Edmonds**
* No report
* **Administrative Vice President Harper Anderson**
* (via Will Harris) If anyone did not RSVP, you will not be allowed to attend the banquet.
* **Chief of Staff Will Harris**
* He is working on the SGA promotional video. He will be sending out chair positions for next year.
* **Director of Public Relations Noah Moore**
* He wanted to address Bill 32-19-S. He has many problems with the bill. Nobody contacted SGA for using our logo, and that would be setting a precedent for supporting an organization that requested funding following the unauthorized use of our logo in promotion.
* **Director of Academic and Student Affairs Aubrey Kelley**
* Scholarship recipients have been notified.
* **Director of Information Technology Paul Brosky**
* He wants everything on the Senator page to be up to date. He is passing around a sheet to be verified for the page.
* **Speaker of the Senate Asha McWilliams**
* She joined SGA to truly help students. These chambers were toxic before she was Speaker. She wanted to make debate more productive and let everyone have true discourse. As of late, anything that happens during debate is directly at the Speaker. When students take time out of their day to come to our meetings, they direct it at her. One of the most controversial appointees was not asked a single question. The student speaker portion is to be for students, not SGA members wishing to exchange concerns with each other. These discussions can take place in other places in other mediums. It has become clear that she did everything she could to improve this organization. She will not be re-running for Speaker. She wants this organization to be best it can be. There are nominations made for Matt Barr and Nathan Terrell.
* **Matt Barr**
* He feels that two years in the Senate and one year as a chair has prepared him to run for this position. He likes to hear everyone’s viewpoint and make informed decision based on that. He has looked through Robert’s Rules. He wants to reform legislation processes and make agendas more accessible to students. He wants to be able to assign Senators to a committee that will best benefit students based on their skills. He wants to encourage team-building in SGA and hold Exec accountable. He wants everyone to work together to work towards the great things this organization can accomplish. He hopes to take the best parts of the Senate retreats and apply them to his goals. He will continue in the use of the Parliamentarian as it is now. He will look for someone that is well-versed in Robert’s Rules. He is more than happy to help with training the next Secretary of the Senate.
* **Nathan Terrell**
* One of the things that stuck out to him about WKU was the intentionality of the college. SGA also represented that value as many students were willing to be intentional with fulfilling student needs. He wants to make sure committee chairs are working with other student organizations. He wants to make sure student organizations are coming to speak on their funding with OrgAid. He wants to make the voting process more clear with graphics on the screens. He wants to improve the training of new Senators to be sure the retreat would have 100% attendance. He wants to make a pairing system of new Senators with returning Senators to create one-on-one resources for questions. He wants to increase the return rate of Senators. He has experience in understanding various parliamentary procedures. He wants to work closely with Asha in order to best understand the procedure for the future term.
* The Speakers of the Senate is Nathan Terrell by a vote of 15-11-1.
* **Secretary of the Senate Andrew Merritt**
* He recognizes those who showed exemplary attendance. He tells everyone to finish the year strong by attending the rest of the meetings and office hours required. He congratulates the WGK administration for winning the election, and he challenges them to continue to live up to the ideals and promises made during their campaign. He also challenges everyone else continuing in SGA to work with others and fulfill student needs to the best of their abilities. He hopes to become an office worker next year.
* **Committee of Academic and Student Affairs Chair Amanda Harder**
* She thanks everyone for their support for the Herald bill, and she will continue to work towards that initiative.
* **Campus Improvements Chair Matt Barr**
* He wants to congratulate Nathan for getting Speaker. The Safety Walk will be this upcoming Monday, and there will be free food and President Caboni.
* **Legislative Research Chair Josh Zaczek**
* He encourages everyone to get their bills into LRC, and he encourages the WGK administration to work towards positive legislation.
* **Public Relations Chair Ashlynn Evans**
* They will be tabling this Friday. There will not be a meeting after this one.
* **Diversity and Inclusion Chair Mark Clark**
* He wants to offer anyone interested in the chair position to see him for any help.
* **Sustainability Committee Chair Jayden Thomas**
* He is thankful for the position. He will not be continuing the position because he will be in Japan. Earth Day was a huge success, and he is proud of everyone for their effort in that. He will help with the festival next year. The committee will meet tomorrow.
* **SGA SAVES Chair Amy Wyer**
* The Women’s Forum had a great turnout. She will leave a folder for the next SAVES chair in hope that the position can continue to improve.
* **University Committee Reports**
* **Mark Clark**
* There may be another University Complaints Committee. See him for any interest in that committee.
* **Logan Hornback**
* There is a committee meeting for the University Athletic Committee meeting tomorrow.
* **Amanda Harder**
* The Academic committee discussed the change of withdrawal date. The 70% of the class date was given reasoning, and the change was made. It won’t be going into effect for a couple years. The Academic Renewal committee will be discussing.
* **Judicial Council Report**
* No report
* **Bill 30-19-S**
* The bill passes 20-0.
* **Bill 31-19-S**
* The bill passes 20-0.
* **Bill 32-19-S**
* There is an amendment by the author to move Krishna Patel from a contact to an author.
* There is opposition for the call to question. There is call to question 16-3-1.
* The bill passes 18-1-1.
* **Bill 33-19-S**
* The bill passes 20-0.
* **Announcements**
  + The Fairness Ordinance will have a second reading on May 7th at 4:30. If you can’t make it, send an email to city commissioners showing support.
  + Paul asks for the sheet. Tell him if they website is wrong.
* The meeting was adjourned at 6:57.