Emergency Judicial Council Meeting

February 4, 2018

SGA Conference Room

Present:Annalicia Carlson, Lane Hedrick, Megan Armstrong, Jacob McAndrews, Yasmine Sadrinia, Isaac Keller, Caroline Simpson

Guests: Senator William Hurst, Asha McWilliams, Jordan Tackett, Garrett Edmonds, Ashely Cox, Will Harris

Non-Present:

**The meeting was called to order at 9:30 by Chief Justice Annalicia Carlson.**

Business:

1. ***RULING: All seven justices of the Judicial Council of Western Kentucky University’s Student Government Association vote in favor of the censure.***
2. The following is a summary of the meeting. If you would like further detail, I can provide a recording. Due to the controversy within Senate surrounding this issue, I have tried to include the basics of each conversation, therefore these minutes may be fairly long.
	1. The meeting begins with phoning in Associate Justice Isaac Keller, who was driving home from a Youth in Government competition.
	2. Chief Justice Carlson explains why the emergency meeting has been called, revealing that ten anonymous students have requested a censure of Senator Hurst due to the use of “profanity, violent gestures, storming out of a meeting, interrupting the official debate of the Judicial Council, as well as not meeting the official behavior as a Senator.”
	3. One of Hurt’s guests asks for specific information surrounding what a censure is and what actions are comprised within it.
	4. Associate Justice Jacob McAndrews explains, citing that this is a judicial council procedure, not a Senate procedure.
	5. Senator Hurst requests the names of the individuals who requested anonymity, and Chief Justice Carlson refuses. She reveals that people with further inquiries can meet with SGA advisor Charlie Pride. She also clarifies that the petition is comprised of not only SGA Senators, but also WKU students.
	6. Senator Hurst apologizes for his actions at the previous emergency Judicial Council meeting, claiming that he was out of line and that his actions were unprofessional. He cites his passion for SGA and its potential as reasoning for his outburst. He also cites passages from the constitution and by-laws, that explains a censure may occur when a student is neglecting his or her duties, and that he was not reprimanded by the deciding chair when the outburst occurred.
	7. Chief Justice Carlson claims she was not able to rule the Senator of out order because of how quickly he stormed out of the room. Further, it is not her job to present this information because she is in an unbiased role.
	8. Chief Justice Carlson and Senator Hurst discuss his potential for being out of order, with Senator Hurst extensively arguing.
	9. Due to traveling and weather, Associate Justice Keller votes to approve the censure and removes himself from the rest of the debate between the council.
	10. Associate Justice McAndrews points out the use of a censure, as mentioned by Senator Hurst. He explains, a censure is an action taken by the Judicial Council that demonstrates its disapproval of a Senator’s actions.
	11. Edmonds speaks, claiming that students are consistently cursed at within SGA meetings, so passion concerning cursing is not a problem. He says he believes that Senator Hurst’s actions were unprofessional, but were a result of his passion.
	12. Tacket speaks, as well, claiming that Hurst’s passion and tendency to debate was reason for the issue at hand, and that he fully supports Senator Hurst.
	13. Associate Justice McAndrews rules for an approval of the censure, citing the scale of the situation when Senator Hurst’s outbreak occurred. The media that was present, alongside journalists, made the setting much more professional.
	14. Associate Justices Armstrong, Simpson, Sadrinia, McAndrews, and Keller approve of the censure. As do Associate Chief Justice Hedrick and Chief Justice Carlson.
3. Associate Justice Sadrinia clarifies that this request was brought by students, and that the censure was in no way affiliated with the Judicial Council. The Council is simply fulfilling the requirements placed upon it.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 by Chief Justice Annalicia Carlson**.