WKU SGA Student Senate Minutes

October 26, 2010

The 9th meeting of the 9th Senate of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University was called to order at 5:02pm on Tuesday October 26, 2010 with the Speaker of the Senate in the chair.

There were 24 Senators present.

Absent Senators were: Ambriz, Benton, Calhoun, Newman, Patel, Preston, Wood, Woosley.

The minutes from October 19, 2010 were approved with one amendment to the “Seconds”.

*Senator Egerer stated that Campus Improvements Committee meets Tuesdays rather than*

*Thursdays.*

*Guest Speaker*

**Provost Dr. Gordon Emslie**

* Enrollment is up
  + This means that more people want to be here. This is good. We expect this to go up a little bit more.
* 1100 dropped for non-payment this semester.
  + Indicates that economy is playing some sort of role in students’ ability to pay.
  + 60% of these students have been reinstated.
* WKU is not a “land grant” university
  + A lot of WKU’s mission is to provide access to education to all of those who are willing to work hard and succeed when they get here.
  + We don’t want a degree from this institution to be easy to achieve.
    - We want our students to work hard and earn them.
* We are trying to enhance the role of research in everything that we do.
  + We want research to be part of each student’s curriculum.
* We are no longer interested in teaching you “things” you should learn but rather “how” you should learn.
  + These talents will make your life more worthwhile.
  + Introduce “interdisciplinality” into everything.
* General Education Task Force
  + Want to re-energize them a bit – What should the general education at WKU be?
  + Would like input from student about what these things should consist of
* We need good ideas with money!
  + The number of students for which a teacher is responsible is increasing – the solution is to bring in more faculty – state appropriations will not work for this
    - Our budget to grow mean that our revenue must grow in ways other than from state funding
    - Colleges and departments are responsible for using the resources (revenue) that are given to them.
* Listening Tours are continuing
  + Tomorrow is the next scheduled
  + One of themost common questions – where does my tuition go?
    - All of that goes into the general fund – out of that are allocations for different divisions (student affairs, IT, etc)
  + Teaching Assistatnts
    - Graduate students teaching undergraduates – idea to take some of revenue stream to fund these TAs
      * Could hire these easier than a new faculty members (faculty is obviously more expensive)
    - We are not committed to this entirely – there are other options – Dr. Emslie is more than happy to hear student concerns in this

*Officer Reports*

**President – Colton Jessie**

* Go Tops!
* Met with University Senate to talk about new Scantrons – ordered 4000 today. They are much cheaper!
* For Homecoming we will have a tent on South Lawn.
  + Koozies should be in by that time
  + Big Red’s Roar – Friday – 8pm
  + Board of Student Body President’s conference call last night
  + Talking about Frankfort rally; we are preparing for that.
  + Green toppers are hosting Dinner and a Movie with AID – dinner and movie at 715pm
  + “Golden Ticket Announcement” coming later in business.
  + Dr. Emslie: decided to give $8000 additionally to our Study Abroad fund
    - Please thank him for this generous donation.

**Executive Vice President – Kendrick Bryan**

* + Freedom Writers –
    - Speaking here November 30 at VanMeter
    - Free and open to the public
  + Working on Dine with Decision Makers
  + Many different individuals are
  + Hanging up SGA and Provide A Ride Posters
  + Homecoming concert Thursday

**Administrative Vice President – Wade Pierce**

* Org Aid bill up for first read and one for second read
* 4000 scantrons - $197 total ordered today
* $400 in Study Away Scholarships awarded this week
* GPS delivered
* Updated budget for presentation next week.

**Speaker of the Senate – Austin Wingate**

* Homecoming Queen candidates – Ann-Blair and Azlisya
* Please be turning in attendance to both me and Senator Stillwell
* Send electronic version for each bill that comes up for first read to Senator Forsythe
* Homecoming is this week – enjoy the festivities.
  + Hope to see all of you at the football game

*Staff Reports*

**Chief of Staff – Charlie Harris**

* Thanks to “friends” of Senators that came out this week – very encouraging
* Fair Trade shirts will be here tomorrow – hand bills passed out – please bring a clothing donation to receive that shirt – 11a-2p in the area between Java City and FAC
* Want WKU to be a Fair Trade certified university
* Socially conscious date night – “Legit Dinner” – locally sourced and fair trade certified information – completely waste free – followed by a movie – 6pm dinner top floor of PFT – movie to follow

**Public Relations Director – Jessica Wurth**

* Working on Long-sleeve t-shirts

**Director of Academic and Student Affairs – Billy Stephens**

* Working on Dine
* Will know which local politicians will come after elections
* Hope HODS apps up beginning next week

**Director of Information Technology – Cory Dodds**

* Working with Google analytics – interesting numbers about hwo is visiting the website and when

*Committee Reports*

**Academic Affairs Committee– Brandon Logan**

* 10-10-F bill up
* Meeting in fishbowl after Senate
* Lots of applications
* Hope next meeting will have a large bill up for read
* 2-3 people have been helping

**Campus Improvements Committee– Kaylee Egerer**

* Because of inclement weather – campus safety walk
* Rescheduled for 6pm next week
* Her committee meeting is canceled tonight

**Legislative Research Committee– Eileen Forsythe**

* Authors and committee heads please email me electronic copy of all bills
* Looks forward to seeing authors in SGA office at 5pm for review

**Public Relations – Ann-Blair Thornton**

* Report given by D. Shaw
* Want to meet to decide what to discuss when we go visit other organizations
* Will be discussing bill in depth

**Student Affairs – Emmy Woosley**

* NO REPORT

*Special Reports*

**University Committee Report – President Colton Jessie**

* University Senate met last Thursday
* Will be trying out new scantrons

**Board of Regents – President Colton Jessie and Charley Pride**

* Closed off student tailgate area – KY street gravel lot – this is where they are realigning 14th street for all of Block 12 projects
* Any large parking lots can be used as “student tailgating” area

**Judicial Council – President Colton Jessie**

* Lauren Riggs officially resigned last week

**Presidential Appointments**

* A few up for our next regularly scheduled meeting – please review them.

**Bowling Green City Commission Report**

* Vote on Tuesday – polls close at 6pm

**Speaker Wingate**

* There is no Senate meeting next week in order to provide ample opportunity to go and vote. Please remember that committees will still meet.

*Unfinished business*

**Presidential Appointments**

* Jankowski fell today – cannot be here

**University Complaints Committee**

* Senator Woosley & Senator Calhoun will both be serving as student alternates

*Motion to have Bill 2-10-F constructively read – 1 in opposition – 1 abstention – motion does pass.*

Author’s speech: basically want to make more permanent the idea that we should reach out to student organizations in times other than elections.

No technical questions for the author

No debate

*Resolution passes unanimously*

*Motion to have Bill 09-10-F constructively read – 1 abstention – motion does pass.*

Author’s speech given by Kendrick Bryan: SGA should always protect field trips such as these so that students do have affordable access to these type of the outings.

*Senator Shaw asked for a correction to be made to the bill - $500 from Org Aid, $325 from General Senate Funding. The trip is not funded by a particular organization; therefore, this does not qualify as a registered student organization.*

*Administrative Vice President Wade Pierce offered clarification: this bill is sponsored by organizational aid. It has passed the necessary process.*

*A friendly amendment was accepted to change a line from $500 from the scholarship fund and $325 from General Senate Funding.*

Debate

*Senator Shaw stated that it is not appropriate for Organizational Aid to sponsor the bill if it’s not for a particular organization.*

*Senator Logan this funding should be provided through individual students applying for scholar development.*

*Senator Hilderbrandt stated that we’re helping the students; therefore, there should be no argument because the money is all going to the students.*

*Senator Johns a conference isn’t necessary for education - funding should be wired through different ways. We need to either to completely fund someone’s education – not simply add to one individual’s.*

*Motion to move into the vote.*

*Motion to pass bill passes with one abstention.*

Bill 10-10-F

*Motion to have constructively read, motion passes with one opposition.*

Author’s speech: Brandon Logan – any thing academic – we have approved 4 students that have shown good reason for needing the funding

Technical Questions

Senator Wingate: what will happen to those who do not receive funding from us?

No Debate

*Motion for this bill passes unanimously.*

Bill 11-10-F

*Motion to have bill constructively read – passes unanimously*

Author’s Speech: another excellent org aid bill - $5000 is the allotment

Technical Questions

Senator Shively: how will the $$$ be used?

Senator Adams: Are they trying to fundraise elsewhere.

No Debate.

*Bill passes unanimously*

*Motion to suspend the bylaws to move Bill 13-10-F into Unfinished Business; motion passes unanimously. The bill is moved to second read for today.*

*Motion to have the bill constructively read. Passes with one in abstention.*

Author’s Speech: We have moved this bill in order to get these students funding quickly due to the cancellation of Senate next week. This time $5,500 this bill.

No technical questions.

No Debate.

*Bill passes unanimously.*

*Motion to move back into the bylaws.*

*Questions and Announcements*

Administrative Vice President Wade Pierce: thanks for the debate; this is very healthy for our organization.

Senator Asbery: College Democrats are having a funeral for the Department of Education tomorrow at the Guthrie Bell Tower.

Senator Johns: volunteer program will begin 1st or 2nd week in November.

Student Justin Thurman:

Primary author of bill 12-1-F Funding for Complimentary Date Rape Drug Detection Kits. It costs less than $.68 per kit. These kits detect the two most common date rape drugs. Then moved into explanation of particular drugs that are common; this could potentially save a life.

Technical Questions:

Have you tried to partner with anyone else?

No.

Executive Vice President Kendrick Bryan: Could we get an estimate on a pilot program?

Speaker Wingate: No more time for debate. We will discuss this on November 9th.

Kevin Adams: President of a new organization that is hosting College Thunder. This group wants to reach out to all people not just to African Americans – trying to invite everyone 12th, 13th, and 14th, invite all Greeks, please come as SGA

Unknown Senator: Step Show tickets on sale – please buy as soon as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 6:39pm on Tuesday October 26, 2010.

Katie Stillwell, Secretary of the Senate

Student Government Association

Western Kentucky University