WKU SGA Student Senate Minutes

December 7, 2010

The 13th meeting of the 9th Senate of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University was called to order at 5:01pm on Tuesday December 7, 2010 with the Speaker of the Senate in the chair.

There were 27 Senators present.

Absent Senators were: Hummer, Ismail, Jankowski, Logan, Patel, Sheridan, Thornton, Woosley, Wright.

The minutes from November 30, 2010 were approved.

*Officer Reports*

**President – Colton Jessie**

* Perhaps we have moved too quickly on the DUC Renovation Resolution.
  + We don’t necessarily have the student input to move forward with this decision.
  + I would advise that this resolution be tabled and perhaps look toward a referendum.

**Executive Vice President – Kendrick Bryan**

* Dine with Decision Makers is at 6pm today. If you didn’t RSVP, we do have some room left. Please attend if possible.
* Student Life Foundation meeting tomorrow at 7:30 am. This is my last one of the year.

**Administrative Vice President – Wade Pierce**

* It’s quite warm in here.
* Organizational Aid bills on the agenda tonight. We have one for 1st read and one for 2nd read.
* $1300 was spent on Dine with Decision Makers. This is a very important event. Please come.

**Speaker of the Senate – Austin Wingate**

* If all of bills could be moved to unfinished business, that would be best. Let’s end on a strong note.

*Staff Reports*

**Chief of Staff – Charlie Harris**

* No report.

**Public Relations Director – Jessica Wurth**

* No Report.

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

* HODS are done. Waiting on 2 pictures and biographies to be placed on website.

**Director of Information Technology – Cory Dodds**

* Excuses will be accepted through the Excuse Form online only.

*Committee Reports*

**Academic Affairs Committee– Travis Taylor**

* 2 bills up for 1st read tonight.
* Let’s move those and end the semester strong as Speaker Wingate mentioned.
* The DUC renovation resolution needs more input. Please consider this.

**Campus Improvements Committee– Kaylee Egerer**

* We originally received very positive feedback on the DUC renovation ideas.
* We are now trying to inform as many people as possible.
* We need to make sure we are doing our jobs as we are supposed to and listen to the opinions of the students. Let’s consider waiting on this until a later time.

**Legislative Research Committee– Eileen Forsythe**

* No meeting this week because it’s the end of the semester.

**Public Relations – Ann-Blair Thornton**

* No report.

**Student Affairs – Emmy Woosley**

* No Report.

*Special Reports*

**Parking Ticket Appeals Committee – Kate Masterson**

* We had 8 tickets reduced to warning and 1 dismissed completely.

**Judicial Council**

* No report.

**Bowling Green City Commission Report**

* No report.

*Unfinished business*

* + **Bill 4-10-F DUC Renovation Project**
    - *Motion and second to have Resolution constructively read. Passes*.
    - Technical questions:
      * Senator Shively: How are we going to let the students know about this resolution? If we table it tonight, what will we do?
        + Senator Egerer: We would be happy to go around to Greek organizations and others.
    - Debate:
      * Senator Bishop: There is a discrepancy of more than ½ million dollars in the difference of the student fee; I also have a problem with the 8th whereas clause. What is the student benefit account? [It is a bit] unethical to impose a fee for an undisclosed purpose. With the economic situation we are in, many students do not need a further fee. There are cheaper alternative to the 24-hour study space. If we are going to move ahead, we must do it soon to [take advantage of] low interest rates.
      * Senator Shaw: I believe we are jumping the gun [with the passage of this resolution.]
      * *Senator Shaw motioned to table Resolution 04-10-F indefinitely. The motion was seconded.* 
        + Debate: Senator Adams: I am in favor of tabling the resolution. There are too many students that do not know about this. We would be robbing them of the money if we don’t let them know what their money is going to. It’s our responsibility to spend this money wisely. It’s important to take care of our campus, but we really must take care of this responsibility.
* *Motion passes unanimously.*
  + Bill 18-10-F Organizational Aid
    - *There was a motion to have bill constructively read.* 
      * Author’s speech: Delivered by Administrative Vice President Pierce.
      * Technical questions: None.
      * Debate: None.
      * Bill passes unanimously.

Bill 19-10-F was killed by authors.

*Senator Taylor motioned to suspend bylaws to move 20-10-F and 21-10-F (which will become 19-10-F, 20-10-F) to unfinished business. Motion passes unanimously.*

*Motion to have bill 20-1-F constructively read. Motion passes unanimously.*

* Author’s Speech: Delivered by Senator Taylor. We want to get people approved tonight. Most of their trips are taking place while Senate will be out of session. Each of these students showed obvious need.

Technical Questions: None.

Debate: None.

*Bill passes unanimously.*

*Motion have 21-10-F constructively read. Motion passes unanimously.*

* Author’s speech: same as before
* Technical questions: None
* Debate: None

*Bill passes unanimously.*

*Motion to move both 22-10-F and 23-10-F to unfinished business. Motion passes unanimously.*

*Motion to have 22-10-F constructively read. Motion passes unanimously.*

* Author’s Speech: Delivered by Senator Adams: The Office of Diversity programs – Project Class – teaching students how to study, how to be professional, etc. This is a beneficial service for students that do not understand what is necessary to get a job.

*Friendly amendment to the bill to double to $1000. Amendment accepted.*

* Addition to author’s speech delivered by Speaker Wingate: sponsor wrote a letter. If you have questions. Please let us know now. We are funding their etiquette dinner as well as the different activities they do throughout the semester. We would be paying for the dinner and the supplies.

*Senator Shaw: When is the class organized? When is it complete?*

*Speaker Wingate: They are trying to get it paid for in the future.*

*Senator Calhoun: They could only get $500 if they could apply for Org Aid.*

*Senator Johns: We have had issues with funding something that isn’t a student-led organization. It’s basically a departmental issue. We had issues with this in the past. I would like the amount to stay the same.*

*Senator Shaw: Point of inquiry – what’s the date? Friendly amendment change the date*

* Technical question: When is the etiquette dinner?

Wingate – we don’t know.

* Debate
  + Senator Stillwell: Makes me nervous because we don’t have numbers.
  + Senator Shaw: How can we serve these people?
  + Senator Johns: if they cannot interview … we would have an interview for this. We have no information. They need to be able to tell us what they are doing with the money.

*Senator Johns: Motion to vote.* Bill fails.

23-10-F Greece Trip allocation

*Motion to have bill constructively read. Second. Motion passes unanimously.*

* Author’s speech: Travis Taylor: want to offset cost. Cover the registration fee for 15-20 students.
* Technical questions:
  + Friendly amendment – to change the money from general senate to scholarship. *Motion not friendly. Motion to move to amendment.*
* Debate:
  + Senator Bishop: this doesn’t fall into the parameters of the scholarship.
  + AVP Pierce: Lots of students were worthy of scholarship funding. We are running a little tight.
  + Senator Shaw: we have used money from scholarship for things like this before.

*Motion to vote on amendment. Motion fails.*

* Debate on bill as a whole: none

Vote on Bill 23-10-F. Bill passes with 2 in abstention.

Point of order by AVP Pierce: there should be another bill up for Organizational Aid.

Motion to have bill constructively read. Motion withdrawn.

* Author’s speech delivered by Pierce.
* Technical questions: none.
* Debate: None

*Bill passes unanimously.*

*There was a motion and second to adjournment.*

The meeting adjourned at 5:48pm on Tuesday December 7, 2010.

Katie Stillwell, Secretary of the Senate

Student Government Association

Western Kentucky University