**Senate Meeting Agenda**

Ninth Meeting of the Seventeenth Senate – Tuesday November 13th, 2018

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Officer Reports

President – Stephen Mayer

Executive Vice President – Garrett Edmonds

Administrative Vice President – Harper Anderson

Chief of Staff – Will Harris

Director of Public Relations – Noah Moore

Director of Academic and Student Affairs – Aubrey Kelley

Director of Information Technology – Paul Brosky

Speaker of the Senate – Asha McWilliams

Secretary of the Senate – Andrew Merritt

1. Committee Reports

Academic & Student Affairs – Amanda Harder

Campus Improvements – Matt Barr

Legislative Research – Trevor Huffman

Public Relations – Brigid Stakelum

Diversity and Inclusion – Mark Clark

Sustainability – Jayden Thomas

SAVES – Cassidy Townsend

1. Special Orders

University Committee Reports

Judicial Council Report

Guest/Student Speakers



1. Unfinished Business

Bill 18-18-F

Allocate $1,000 for the purchase of textbooks for the creation of a Colonnade Textbook Library

1. New Business

Resolution 7-18-F

Support the preservation of protections currently in place for transgender students, and to pledge to improve protections for transgender and gender non-conforming students in the future

Bill 19-18-F

Allocate $300.00 for a voucher program with the Counseling and Testing Center, providing fifteen (15) registration fee vouchers to be used at the Counseling and Testing Center

Bill 20-18-F

Allocate $800 to the Western Kentucky University Tennis Club, WaterStep Club, and Redshirts

Resolution 8-18-F

Support the accountability of HRL building to LEED standards and implement programs to nurture the wellbeing of residents and innovation within the university

Bill 21-18-F

Amend the Constitution to allow flexibility in the appointment of regional ambassadors

Bill 22-18-F

Amend the Constitution to protect against discrimination or harassment on the basis of Gender Identity

Resolution 9-18-F

Support the establishment of ethical business standards for companies operating on WKU’s campus.

Bill 23-18-F

Amend the Constitution to add consistency in regards to the appointment of executive members.

1. Announcements and Adjournment

First Reading: November 13th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Resolution 7-18-F. Resolution to Support the Preservation and Improvement of Transgender Protections on Western Kentucky Universities’ Campus

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support the preservation of protections currently in place for transgender students, and to pledge to improve protections for transgender and gender non-conforming students in the future.

WHEREAS: There are some protective measures in place for transgender and gender non-conforming students that should remain in place, regardless of legislation that passes on the federal, state, or local level, and

WHEREAS: This includes, firstly, the statement, listed under the Student Rights and Responsibilities page on the WKU website, that says students have “The right to participate in all areas and activities of the university, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws”, and

WHEREAS: Secondly, the statement, listed under the Student Rights and Responsibilities page on the WKU website, that states that students have “The responsibility to insure that no student organization, constitution or other organizational document includes discriminatory clauses pertaining to race, creed, religion, color, sex, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation”, and

WHEREAS: Thirdly, the Discrimination and Harassment Policy, last edited March 6, 2017, that states “Western Kentucky University is committed to providing a working and learning environment that is free from discrimination and harassment” and “Discrimination and harassment…shall not be tolerated”, and

WHEREAS: Fourthly, the Discrimination and Harassment Policy, that defines discrimination as “an action or behavior that results in negative or different treatment of an individual based upon race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, marital status, age, uniform service, veteran status, or physical or mental disability”, and

WHEREAS: Fifthly, the accommodations of gender-neutral bathrooms that are already in some buildings on campus, and

WHEREAS: In addition to the protections listed above that shall remain in place, Western Kentucky University shall also assure that it will continue to improve protections and create accommodations for its transgender and gender non-conforming faculty, staff, and students, and

WHEREAS: This includes, but is not limited to: pursuing institutionally recognizing and respecting an individual’s pronouns, name, and gender identity; and pursuing the addition of more gender neutral bathrooms in Western Kentucky University facilities and facilities affiliated with Western Kentucky University.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University support the preservation of protections currently in place for transgender students, and to pledge to improve protections for transgender and gender non-conforming students in the future.

AUTHOR: Mark Clark, Senator-at-Large

SPONSOR: The Committee for Diversity and Inclusion

CONTACTS:

First Reading: October 30th

Second Reading: November 13th

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 18-18-F. Funding for the creation of a Colonnade Textbook Library

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $1,000 for the purchase of textbooks for the creation of a Colonnade Textbook Library.

WHEREAS: The money will come from the Senate Discretionary Fund,

WHEREAS: The textbooks will be purchased from the WKU Store,

WHEREAS: Any money not used to purchase the textbooks will be returned to the Senate Discretionary Fund,

WHEREAS: The Colonnade Textbook Library will be housed in the Student Government Association Office and is for the use of all students during the pre-designated Student Government Association Office hours,

WHEREAS: In a survey conducted most students stated that they would never use their Colonnade textbooks again. And when asked if they would use a Colonnade Textbook Library the majority responded that they would use it,

WHEREAS: The textbooks purchased for this library are textbooks from the WKU Bookstore that either cannot be resold or are older editions that are still usable,

WHEREAS: This legislation will be a “first step” in creating this Colonnade Textbook Library,

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $1,000 for the purchase of textbooks from the WKU Store for a Colonnade Textbook Libarary.

AUTHORS: Anna McAvoy, Senator-At-Large

Aubrey Kelley, Director of Academic and Student Affairs

SPONSORS: Academic and Student Affairs Committee

CONTACTS: Brad Hronal, Supervisor, Course Material, WKU Store

Stephen Mayer, President of SGA

Garrett Edmonds, Executive Vice President of SGA

First Reading: November 13th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 19-18-F. Funding for a Counseling and Testing Center Voucher Program.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $300.00 for a voucher program with the Counseling and Testing Center, providing fifteen (15) registration fee vouchers to be used at the Counseling and Testing Center.

WHEREAS: The $300.00 will come from the Senate Discretionary Fund to provide fifteen (15) registration fee vouchers for students to use at the Counseling and Testing Center, and

WHEREAS: The registration fee at the Counseling and Testing Center is a onetime $20.00 fee for students to attend unlimited counseling sessions while they are in attendance at Western Kentucky University, and

WHEREAS: Some students may not have the financial capability to pay this $20.00 fee, this would allow students who may not have access to the Counseling and Testing Center due to financial instability, or other financial reasons, the opportunity to receive help that they may need, and

WHEREAS: This would improve the visibility and access of the Counseling and Testing Center as a resource designed to help and serve the student body, and

WHEREAS: In establishing this system, we can accomplish helping individual students with their mental health, along with helping improve the culture of mental health on campus to be more open and accepting of mental health issues

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $300.00 to a voucher program with the Counseling and Testing Center, providing fifteen (15) registration fee vouchers for the Counseling and Testing Center.

AUTHORS: Will Pride, Sophomore Senator

Trevor Huffman, Senator-at-Large

SPONSOR: Legislative Research Committee

CONTACTS: Dr. Peggy Crowe, Director of Counseling and Testing

First Reading: November 13th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 20-18-F: Organizational Aid Funding for Western Kentucky University Tennis Club, WaterStep Club, and Redshirts

Purpose: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $800 to the Western Kentucky University Tennis Club, WaterStep Club, and Redshirts

Whereas: Tennis Club $200 for registration fees for a tournament in New Orleans, LA.

Whereas: WaterStep Club will be allocated $250 for a Campus Shoe Drive.

Whereas: Redshirts will be allocated $350 for renting out Van Meter for a concert, and paying for light and sound management.

Therefore: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $800 to the Western Kentucky University Tennis Club, WaterStep Club, and Redshirts.

Author: Harper Anderson, Administrative Vice President

Contacts: Alea Luckett, Member of Organizational Aid, Senator

Nathan Terrell, Member of Organizational Aid, Senator

Hope Wells, Member of Organizational Aid, Senator

Erika Puhakka, Member of Organizational Aid, Senator

Abbey Norvell, Member of Organizational Aid, Senator

First Reading: November 13th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Resolution 8-18-F. Resolution to Support HRL building to LEED standards

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to

Support the accountability of HRL building to LEED standards and implement programs to nurture the wellbeing of residents and innovation within the university

WHEREAS: HRL will build any new buildings or renovations to a minimum of U.S. Green Building Council LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design ) certification standards. HRL will also include aspects of the Living Building Challenge and Well Building challenge in their new residence hall constructions in order to nurture the wellbeing of those residents and innovation within the university.

WHEREAS: Both the KY State government and WKU has set LEED requirements for new constructions. HOWEVER, since HRL is funded through the Student Life foundation they are not held to the same minimum sustainability standards. The most recent resident hall, Hilltopper Hall was not built to LEED standards because of this loop-hole. This indicates to us, the students, that HRL will continue to execute their future building projects in an unsustainable way and act against the overall goals of the university.

WHEREAS: The Kentucky State government requires federally funded building Projects between $5 and $25 million to achieve LEED Certification, as well as other efficiency standards.

WHEREAS: LEED standards were emphasized in the 2012-2013 Challenging the Spirit action plan. Page 25 identifies strategies to ENHANCE EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY IN CAMPUS SERVICES AND OPERATIONS. The third strategy is to, “Build and renovate to LEED standards in all construction projects”.

WHEREAS: LEED standards and sustainability is identified in the WKU Energy Policy. Page 8 states, “The University will promote LEED design standards for all WKU facilities and require life-cycle cost analysis of each new facility development. The University will invite involvement of the WKU Sustainability Committee and associated university consultants for advice and counsel in new buildings and building renovation planning and design processes.”

WHEREAS: A large portion of LEED certification points comes from sourcing local materials. If WKU is truly committed to being a regional university and supporting local economies, it is important the WKU HRL puts its purchasing power back into the local community.

WHEREAS: LEED standards also emphasize energy efficiency resulting in long term, sustained cost savings.

WHEREAS: LEED Standards are highly attainable. Although it is a voluntary program, many states, municipalities and at least 10 universities have passed legislation to require buildings attain LEED certification.

WHEREAS: Other building standards, the Living Building Challenge and Well Building Standards, lay comprehensive framework seek to build buildings that rejuvenate the people using them - by benefiting human health and the environment. WKU should be striving to move beyond LEED Standards to building resident halls that nurture healthier residents. This also addresses the university goal of supporting a culture of innovation.

WHEREAS: WKU has committed to build all new buildings and renovations to LEED standards, ensuring our buildings will be designed and constructed with energy and the environment in mind.

WHEREAS: HRL has already laid out the goal to “Maintain and continually improve facilities” - this legislation simply aligns their actions with this goal and the goals of the university. It is important that the university starts acting as a cohesive unit rather than highly segmented departments. If sustainability is identified as a university goal, it needs to be recognized and implemented into campus culture. If LEED standards and other sustainability benchmarks are identified in multiple university policies, they need to be respected in all university construction projects

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University support the accountability of HRL building to LEED standards.

AUTHORS: Jayden Thomas, Sustainability Committee Chair

SPONSORS: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Courtney Martian

First Reading: November 13th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 21-18-F. A Bill To Amend the Constitution the Student Government Association of

Western Kentucky University.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to Amend the Constitution to allow flexibility in the appointment of regional ambassadors.

WHEREAS: Section 6.3 States “Regional Ambassadors shall not be considered active until nominated by their respective Regional Chancellor, approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate, and majority vote (4/7) of the Executive Council.”

WHEREAS: It Should be replaced by “Regional Ambassadors shall not be considered active until nominated by a regional campus faculty or staff member. From these recommendations, the Student Regent shall choose one student to recommend for approval. The chosen student will then need to be approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate, and majority vote (4/7) of the Executive Council.”

WHEREAS: Section 6.5 states “A Regional Ambassador may be removed per the recommendation of their Regional Chancellor, two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate, and majority (4/7) vote of the Executive Council.

WHEREAS: It will be replaced to read “A Regional Ambassador may be removed per the recommendation of their Student Regent after consulting with the regional campuses, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Senate, and majority (4/7) vote of the Executive Council.”

WHEREAS: Section 6.6 states “Regional campuses reserve the right to establish councils of students to discuss student needs at their respective regional campus, but the Regional Chancellor may only nominate one student to be the official Regional Ambassador.”

WHEREAS: It will be replaced with ““Regional campuses reserve the right to establish councils of students to discuss student needs at their respective regional campus, but Regional Campuses may only have one student to be the official Regional Ambassador.”

WHEREAS: The recent budget cuts eliminated the position of Regional Chancellor at all of WKU’s extended campuses. This makes the current process for nominating a Regional Ambassador absolute.

WHEREAS: By amending the Constitution we allow regional campuses flexibility in nominating an ambassador and ensuring the needs of students from the extended campuses are represented.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University will Amend the Constitution to allow flexibility in the appointment of regional ambassadors.

AUTHORS: Jayden Thomas, SUCO chair

SPONSORS: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS:

First Reading: November 13th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 22-18-F. A Bill To Amend the Constitution the Student Government Association of

Western Kentucky University.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to Amend the Constitution to protect against discrimination or harassment on the basis of Gender Identity.

WHEREAS: Section 1.5.1. states: “Each student has the right to a campus environment free of discrimination and/or harassment. Federal guidelines protect students against these practices and are covered by Title IX, Title VI, and Section 504. Any student who feels he/she is being discriminated against and/or harassed on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, or a disability should report the incident in accordance with the Student Grievance Procedure outlined in this Handbook. Assistance in filing a report of harassment may be obtained from the Office of Student Life, located in Room 442, Potter Hall, or the Office of Equal Opportunity/504/ ADA Compliance, located in Room 13, Wetherby Administration Building”.

WHEREAS: It Should be replaced by “Each student has the right to a campus environment free of discrimination and/or harassment. Federal guidelines protect students against these practices and are covered by Title IX, Title VI, and Section 504. Any student who feels he/she is being discriminated against and/or harassed on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, or a disability should report the incident in accordance with the Student Grievance Procedure outlined in this Handbook. Assistance in filing a report of harassment may be obtained from the Office of Student Life, located in Room 442, Potter Hall, or the Office of Equal Opportunity/504/ ADA Compliance, located in Room 13, Wetherby Administration Building”.

WHEREAS: SGA is meant to be an inclusive environment this is accepting of all students. As it stands now, the constitution does not protect students based on their gender identity.

WHEREAS: It is important to protect students of all backgrounds from discrimination and harassment, and this is one step we can take to ensure that will happen.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University will Amend the Constitution to protect against discrimination or harassment on the basis of Gender Identity.

AUTHORS: Jayden Thomas, SUCO chair and QSU chairperson

SPONSORS: Sustainability Committee

Committee for Diversity and Inclusion

CONTACTS: Mark Clark, CDI Chair

First Reading: November 13th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Resolution 9-18-F. Resolution to Support WKU establishing ethical business standards for contracted companies operating on WKU’s campus.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support the establishment of ethical business standards for companies operating on WKU’s campus.

WHEREAS: There are three large contracted companies on WKU’s campus; Sodexo (campus services), Aramark (dining services), and IMG (athletics marketing); with multiple other sub-contracts. The purpose of these standards is to ensure a contracted company can make a profit at WKU but NEVER at the expense of students or this institution. Contracted companies are expected to have the same values as the university and work towards mutual goals.

WHEREAS: Whether a contracted organization is selling food, custodial services, marketing services, or any other good or service when the university is the consumer they have the right to consistent, fair and transparent pricing. Prices need to be at the best interest of the university by allowing the company to make a profit and WKU to have fair access to their services.

WHEREAS: IMG needs to offer a discount to WKU departments wishing to advertise in the athletic sector. It is counterproductive to have the university pay thousands of dollars to advertise in their own stadium. IMG also needs to display standardized prices to ensure that departments are not being overcharged or taken advantage of.

WHEREAS: All persons working on this campus deserve the fair opportunity to obtain their education. It is our expectation the contracted companies operating on this campus offer at least one scholarship per semester per 100 employees. These individuals often want to expand their education, but don’t have access to the resources WKU offers to their full-time staff. WKU is an educational institution - it is not a privilege to obtain an education but rather our entire purpose.

WHEREAS: Students expect that companies be equally dedicated to the educational goals set forth by the University. Companies operating on this campus must provide at least one internship opportunity or meaningful student worker position for students to gain experience in their field and further their future career. These opportunities need to include learning objectives and allow students to meaningfully contribute to the company.

WHEREAS: Companies will conduct business according to the triple bottom line: people, planet and profit. Businesses will operate sustainably, in a way that encourages a better world. They will embrace innovative practices, make responsible purchases and conduct business in a way that empowers disadvantaged communities. WKU’s commitment to diversity and sustainability must be shared by the contracted companies operating on campus.

WHEREAS: Contracting companies is a common trend in higher education, so it is likely that WKU will continue to contract out aspects of campus life. It is important that these companies stay true to the spirit of WKU.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University support the establishment of ethical business standards for companies operating on WKU’s campus.

AUTHORS: Jayden Thomas, Sustainability Committee Chair

SPONSORS: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Courtney Martian

Mark Clark, CDI Chair

First Reading: November 13th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 23-18-F. A Bill To Amend the Constitution the Student Government Association of

Western Kentucky University.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to Amend the Constitution to add consistency in regards to the appointment of executive members.

WHEREAS: Section 2.7.1., 2.8.1., and 2.9.1. state “Be appointed by a consensus of the Executive Cabinet and approved by the Senate.”

WHEREAS: These sections will be replaced by “Be appointed by a consensus of the Executive Cabinet and approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Senate.

WHEREAS: These sections deal with the appointment of the Director of Public Relations, The Director of Information Technology, and the Director of Academic and Student affairs.

WHEREAS: Currenty, the language regarding the approval of these members are vague and Unclear. The Appointment of The chief-of-staff is currently a 2/3 majority so by adding a 2/3 majority for the rest of the exe members it would add consistency to the Constituion.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University will Amend the Constitution to add consistency in regards to the appointment of executive members.

AUTHORS: Jayden Thomas, SUCO chair

SPONSORS: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS:

**Special Announcements and Events**

1. The Campus Safety Walk will be tomorrow November 14th at 6PM. It will be starting at Centennial Mall.