**Senate Meeting Agenda**

Third Meeting of the Seventeenth Senate – Tuesday September 18th, 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 –

Director of Information Technology – Paul Brosky

Speaker of the Senate – Asha McWilliams

Secretary of the Senate – Andrew Merritt

1. Committee Reports

Academic and Student Affairs – Aubrey Kelly

Campus Improvements –

Legislative Research – Trevor Huffman

Public Relations –

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

Resolution 1-18-F

Support the amendment of the WKU Student Code of Conduct such that it is commensurate with established law and university policy

Resolution 2-18-F

Establish and support the right of WKU students to record, via audio and/or video, their meetings with university staff and faculty

Bill 2-18-F

Allocate $1,385.00 from Senate Discretionary for the funding of Potter College’s Fall Festival

Bill 3-18-F

Allocate $500.00 from Senate Discretionary for the Bowling Green Pride Festival

Bill 4-18-F

Amend the Bylaws to accurately reflect the structural needs of the organization

Bill 5-18-F

Amend the Constitution to ensure the Speaker of the Senate serves as an unbiased moderator of Senate proceedings

1. New Business

**Bill 6-18-F**

Allocate $450 to fund a sustainability film festival

**Resolution 3-18-F**

Support the initiative for HRL to provide a recycling bag in their dorm room when students move in

**Resolution 4-18-F**

Support an initiative that would fund sustainably projects by charging students a $0.32 sustainability fee per semester

**Bill 7-18-F**

Allocate $300 to the Reg2Vote Campaign for

advertising materials

**Resolution 5-18-F**

Support the university wide cancellation of

all official class activities on November 6,

2018 for the 2018 Midterm Elections

1. Announcements and Adjournment

First Reading: September 11th

Second Reading: September 18th

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Resolution 1-18-F. Resolution to Amend the Student Code of Conduct

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support the amendment of the WKU Student Code of Conduct such that it is commensurate with established law and university policy.

WHEREAS: Line 15 of the Student Code of Conduct currently states “refusal to comply with directions, requests, or orders by University officials” which can be interpreted to allow any university official to order any student to comply with any direction, and

WHEREAS: That power should not be granted to university officials without more clear guidelines, in order to uphold the guidance set forth in the WKU Student Code of Conduct that states the code should not “be interpreted to cover any general category of behavior not mentioned herein unless that conduct is otherwise prohibited by law” , and

WHEREAS: The WKU SGA has an obligation to protect the rights and interests of students.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University support the amendment of Line 15 of the Student Code of Conduct to restrict “directions, requests, or orders by University officials” to only those which would be in line with pre-established university policy and law.

AUTHORS: James Baugh

Brian Anderson

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: James Baugh james.baugh798@topper.wku.edu

Brian Anderson brian.anderson026@topper.wku.edu

First Reading: September 11th

Second Reading: September 18th

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Resolution 2-18-F. Resolution to Affirm Students’ Right to Record

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to establish and support the right of WKU students to record, via audio and/or video, their meetings with university staff and faculty.

WHEREAS: The law of the State of Kentucky explicitly allows recording any conversation so long as at least one party to the conversation consents, and thus allows anyone to legally record their own conversations

WHEREAS: No university policy currently exists that prohibits, requires, or encourages students recording their meetings with employees of the university, and these recordings would serve as an important layer of protection to all parties involved

WHEREAS: The WKU SGA has an obligation to ensure students can adequately provide for their own defense in the case of allegations of misconduct rising from these meetings

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University establish and support the right of students to record their own meetings with any university staff or faculty.

AUTHOR: Brian Anderson

James Baugh

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Brian Anderson brian.anderson026@topper.wku.edu

James Baugh james.baugh798@topper.wku.edu

First Reading: September 11th

Second Reading: September 18th

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 2-18-F. Funding for Potter College’s Fall Festival

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $1,385.00 from Senate Discretionary for the funding of Potter College’s Fall Festival.

WHEREAS: Potter College’s Fall Festival is an annual celebration of fall and PCAL that is open to the entire campus community. This year’s theme is “Live the Magic of Potter College.” Each year the festival has fall snacks, booths by PCAL departments that include arts and crafts, free goodies, and photo booths, and free t-shirts, and

WHEREAS: The allocated funds will purchase t-shirts, pumpkins, apples and cider from Jackson’s Orchard, popcorn, and other miscellaneous supplies, and

WHEREAS: The SGA logo will be on the t-shirts and all other advertising for the Fall Festival.

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

University will allocate $1,385.00 to Dean’s Council of Students Fall Festival.

AUTHORS: Kara Lowry, Senior Senator

Tommy Sullivan, Events and Recruitment Co-Chair of Dean’s Council of Students

Ivy Saunders, President of Dean’s Council of Students

Conner Hounshell, Senior Senator

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Emily Houston, Events and Recruitment Co-Chair of Dean’s Council of Students

First Reading: September 11th

Second Reading: September 18th

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 3-18-F. Funding for the Bowling Green Pride Festival.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $500.00 from Senate Discretionary for the Bowling Green Pride Festival on October 20, 2018.

WHEREAS: The Bowling Green Pride Festival will be an event on October 20, 2018 in Circus Square Park, hosted by the Bowling Green Fairness group, and

WHEREAS: The allocated money will name SGA as a Silver Sponsor, where our name and logo will appear on the t-shirt and website, and

WHEREAS: The funding is necessary as SGA’s purpose is to represent all students of Western Kentucky University, including members of the LGBTQ+ community which are currently not legally protected in the Bowling Green community due to the lack of a Fairness ordinance, and

WHEREAS: This event is being coordinated by the Bowling Green Fairness group, who advocates for LGBTQ+ member rights, including those of Western Kentucky University students, and

WHEREAS: This is the second pride festival in the local Bowling Green community, and SGA was an inaugural sponsor, and

WHEREAS: The sponsorship would also provide a tabling space for the WKU SGA Committee for Diversity and Inclusion at the festival to speak about their efforts.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $500.00 from Senate Discretionary for the Bowling Green Pride Festival on October 20, 2018.

AUTHORS: Conner Hounshell, Senator

Mark Clark, Senator

Kara Lowry, Senator

SPONSOR: Committee for Diversity and Inclusion

Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Dr. Patricia Minter

First Reading: September 11th

Second Reading: September 18th

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 4-18-F. A Bill to Amend the Bylaws of the Student Government Association of

Western Kentucky University.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to amend the Bylaws of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to accurately reflect the structural needs of the organization.

WHEREAS: Section 7.2.3, under section 7.2 titled “Duties of the Committee Chair”, currently states “Meet with the Speaker of the Senate at least twice a month, pursuant to Article V, Section 2.1, of the SGA Constitution.”, and

WHEREAS: It shall be replaced with “Meet with the Speaker of the Senate once a month, or at a different interval agreed upon between the individual Committee Chair and the Speaker of the Senate.”, and

WHEREAS: The meetings between the Speaker of the Senate and the Committee Chairs does not need to be so frequent for all SGA Committees, especially since the Speaker of the Senate receives minutes from each Committee weekly, and

WHEREAS: The “Article V, Section 2.1, of the SGA Constitution” referenced either no longer exists or is irrelevant to this statement,

THEREFORE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to amend the Bylaws of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to accurately reflect the structural needs of the organization.

AUTHORS: Mark Clark, Senator

SPONSOR: Committee for Diversity and Inclusion

 Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Asha McWilliams, Speaker of the Senate

First Reading: September 11th

Second Reading: September 18th

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 5-18-F. A Bill to Amend the Constitution of the Student Government Association of

Western Kentucky University.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to amend the Constitution of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to ensure the Speaker of the Senate serves as an unbiased moderator of Senate proceedings.

WHEREAS: Section 3.2.4. under section 3.2 titled “Qualifications.” currently states, “The Speaker of the Senate shall be elected from the Senate during the Spring Semester for the next academic year.”, and

WHEREAS: The Constitution does not specify that even though the Speaker of the Senate is a duly elected member, they do not have a vote in Senate proceedings, and

WHEREAS: The common law belief has been that Speaker has no voting powers, except in the instance of a tie-breaker vote, and

WHEREAS: Section 3.3.1.1 under Section 3.3 titled “Duties of the Speaker of the Senate.” shall be added to state that “The Speaker has no voting powers, except in the instance of a tie-breaker. In such an instance, the Speaker may cast a vote only to break the tie.”,

THEREFORE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to amend the Constitution of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to ensure the Speaker of the Senate serves as an unbiased moderator of Senate proceedings.

AUTHORS: Asha McWilliams, Speaker of the Senate

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Jacob McAndrews, Chief Justice of the Judicial Council

First Reading: September 18th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 6-18-F. Funding for a sustainability film festival.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $450 to fund the film festival.

WHEREAS: $400 will come from senate discretionary and will be used to obtain the rights to show the film and promote the event,

WHEREAS: $50 will come from the food budget and be used to purchase snacks.

WHEREAS: The film festival will be co-sponsored with Gender and Woman studies and provide an educational opportunity for students to learn about sustainability.

WHEREAS: All funds not used will be returned to senate discretionary.

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

University will allocate $450.

AUTHORS: Chelsea Faught

Jayden Thomas

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Jayden Thomas, Sustainability Chair.

First Reading: September 18th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Resolution 3-18-F. Resolution to Support the initiative for HRL to provide a recycling bag in their dorm room when students move in

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support an initiative to require HRL to provide a recycling bag in their dorm room when students move in.

WHEREAS: RA’s currently place trash bags in the dorm rooms prior to students moving in. For the past 3 years, WKU Resource Conservation has requested they also place a green bag in the room, but it has not resulted in any behavioral change.

WHEREAS: HRL as Sustainability listed under the resources for current and incoming students on their website. On this page they have “Lighten your Load” listed, a link to track energy use in the building, and one program that is no longer active. Although these are good initiatives, they are highly outdated. It would be beneficial to the department to grow in this area by making new sustainability efforts.

WHEREAS: RA’s are already entering the rooms prior to move in to assess room damages and line the trash can with a trash bag.

WHEREAS: WKU has a commitment to sustainability, but by only lining the trash can prior to move-in we are communicating to incoming students that we are not truly committed.

WHEREAS: WKU pays per-pound of trash, so incentivizing recycling is one way to maximize university funds.

WHEREAS: WKUs recycling company, Westrock, is committed to selling to local downstream vendors (aka within Kentucky and surrounding states). By recycling, we are able to supply raw materials to domestic businesses and strengthen economy in this area of the country - all while reducing landfill waste.

WHEREAS: The HRL mission is to “provide a premier living/learning experience that promotes student success” through partnerships with the university community. By partnering with WKU Resource Conservation to improve recycling resources, HRL could stay true to this mission.

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

University support the sustainable initiative of placing recycling bags in students’ rooms upon

move in.

AUTHORS: Courtney Martin

 Jayden Thomas

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Beth Gafford, Coordinator of Resource Conservation.

First Reading: September 18th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Resolution 4-18-F. Resolution to encourage sustainability initiatives by charging a modest sustainability fee to students.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support an initiative that would fund sustainably projects by charging students a $0.32 sustainability fee per semester.

WHEREAS: Many schools have a “green fee” to fund sustainability projects. UK has a $5 charge each semester that goes into their sustainability fund, University of Memphis charges $10 a semester to fund sustainability projects, and Bemidji State has a $7.50 sustainability fee.

WHEREAS: Many schools implemented sustainability fees in the mid 2000’s

WHEREAS: WKU has inadequate funding to support our sustainability programs - this has caused our progress to level out over the years without funding to pursue new goals.

WHEREAS: The purpose of sustainability projects are to promote equity, the environment and the economy. Any project funded through this fee would ultimately invest in student experience and/or result in long term cost savings to the university.

WHEREAS: The purpose of sustainability projects are to promote equity, the environment and the economy. Any project funded through this fee would ultimately invest in student experience and/or result in long term cost savings to the university.

WHEREAS: Climate change is affecting Kentucky and the world. This is one way that WKU can demonstrate to state leaders that our earth is worth the investment and attention.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University support the sustainable initiative of adding a $0.32 charge to the student bill each semester in order to reach the Clean Power Plan goal to reduce carbon emissions by 32 percent from 2005 levels by 2030.

AUTHORS: Courtney Martin

Jayden Thomas

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Beth Gafford, Coordinator of Resource Conservation.

First Reading: September 18th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 7-18-F. Bill to Fund Advertising Materials for the Reg2Vote Campaign

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University allocate $300 to the Reg2Vote Campaign for advertising materials.

WHEREAS: Youth voters are historically underrepresented in elections, and more so in midterm elections. If allowed more access and support, youth can play a vital role in shaping local and state government, and

WHEREAS: The Reg2Vote campaign is a non-partisan, student-led initiative that encourages students to register to vote and challenges the university to better support student voters. The Reg2Vote campaign aligns with the mission of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University, and

WHEREAS: The Reg2Vote Campaign is a pop-up grassroots campaign and does not have financial support, and funds are needed to support the purchase of t-shirts, posters, social media advertisements, stickers, and other tabling equipment, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University allocate $300 to the Reg2Vote Campaign for advertising materials.

AUTHOR: Francis Wilson, Student

Harper Anderson, Administrative Vice President

Conner Hounshell, Senator

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Francis Wilson, francis.wilson776@topper.wku.edu

First Reading: September 18th

Second Reading:

Pass:

Other:

Resolution 5-18-F. Resolution to Support the University Wide Cancellation of all Official Class Activities on November 6, 2018 for the 2018 Midterm Elections.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support the university wide cancellation of all official class activities on November 6, 2018 for the 2018 Midterm Elections.

WHEREAS: Youth voters are historically underrepresented in elections, and more so in midterm elections. If allowed more access and support, youth can play a vital role in shaping local and state government, and

WHEREAS: Any and every student who is willing and able to vote should not be penalized, discouraged, or prohibited by Western Kentucky University class activities in pursuing the most fundamental of civic duties. Western Kentucky University should take this opportunity to set precedent for other institutions, and offer students the basic access and support needed to make it to the polls, and

WHEREAS: The Reg2Vote campaign is a non-partisan, student-led initiative that encourages students to register to vote and challenges the university to better support student voters. The Reg2Vote campaign aligns with the mission of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University Support the University Wide Cancellation of all Official Class Activities on November 6, 2018 for the 2018 Midterm Elections.

AUTHOR: Francis Wilson, Student

Stephen Mayer, Executive President

Harper Anderson, Administrative Vice President

Conner Hounshell, Senator

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Francis Wilson, francis.wilson776@topper.wku.edu

**Special Announcements and Events**

1. Fall Elections continue until tonight at midnight! Don’t forget to vote!
2. An Election Results Party will be held tonight at 11:30pm in the Senate Chambers