**Senate Meeting Agenda**

Seventeenth Meeting of the Eighteenth Senate – Tuesday, 3 March 2020

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**

# III. Approval of Minutes IV. Officer Reports

President – Will Harris

Executive Vice President – Garrett Edmonds

Administrative Vice President – Kenan

Mujkanovic

Chief of Staff – Aubrey Kelley

Director of Public Relations – Ashlynn Evans

Director of Academic and Student Affairs –

Abbey Norvell

Director of Information Technology – Paul

Brosky

Speaker of the Senate – Nathan Terrell

Secretary of the Senate – Brenna Matthews

# V. Committee Reports

Academic and Student Affairs – Matthew

Johnson

Campus Improvements – Matt Barr

Legislative Research – Josh Zaczek

Public Relations – Brigid Stakelum

Diversity and Inclusion – Symone Whalin

Sustainability –

SAVES –

# VI. Special Orders

University Committee Reports

Judicial Council Report

 Guest/Student Speaker



# VII. Unfinished Business

Bill 3-20-S. To allocate the special projects fund of $5,000 to Facilities Management to start the hammock initiative on campus

Bill 4-20-S. Organizational Aid Funding for Western Kentucky University KY Public Health Association, Student National Association Teachers Society, Phi Sigma Pi – Beta Phi, American Society of Civil Engineers, WKU Food Recovery, Korean Pop Culture Club, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc., and WKU HOLAS.

Bill 5-20-S Funding for the Healthy Days Fair

# VIII. New Business

Bill 6-20-S. A Bill to Establish an Honor Society Membership Reimbursement Fund

Bill 7-20-S: Funding for the Addressing Educational Disparities Scholarship.

# IX. Announcements and Adjournment

First Reading: 02/25/20

Second Reading: 03/03/20

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 3-20-S. For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate the Special Projects Fund of $5,000 to Facilities Management for the construction of the hammock initiative, and

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate the Special Projects Fund of $5,000 to Facilities Management which will go toward the construction of hammock areas on campus where students will be able to congregate or reside, and

WHEREAS: This initiative will establish areas on campus in which students can set up hammocks both individually and in groups. Students are known to fully utilize green spaces for hammocks, and this will encourage further use of said green space for hammocks. This initiative is designed to promote new hammock areas near residence halls for students to congregate and hammock together, and

WHEREAS: The housing concept at WKU has shifted to promote community style amenities with the use of Living Learning Communities (LLC) and changes in residence hall designs; this allocation will be another way to provide these opportunities for students to create a heightened sense of community. The mission of WKU SGA will also be followed in this project, as within the SGA Preamble it states to “promote student well-being and involvement, encourage diversity and tolerance between all groups and individuals”. Residence Halls at WKU are an opportunity to pull students of all different backgrounds together, and this project provides RAs another area near their Residence Halls to do programming events with their residence, and

WHEREAS: Even on high-temperature days, in what is considered the off-season for outdoor leisure, students continue to hammock on campus and thus use of designated green spaces would persist throughout the year. This would allow students more areas to participate in that recreational activity all year-long, and

WHEREAS: Areas of implementation include, but are not limited to: Zacharias Hall, McLean Hall, McCormack Hall, Gilbert Hall, Rhodes Harlin Hall, Music Hall and potentially near DSU. These areas would allow students to be able to walk right outside their residence hall or campus building and set up their hammocks, and

WHEREAS: This project would consist of placing poles in the ground near residence halls and certain green spaces for students to set up their hammocks. This project’s goal is to allow students to engage with one another, utilize the green spaces WKU offers, promote mental wellness, and allow students to have more spaces to use for one of the campus’ popular outdoor leisure activities, and

WHEREAS: We the authors, believe this is a cost-effective initiative that will continue to build on the concepts and ideas that WKU is working to build for students. The money for this project will be spent by facilities, and what money remains after the project is completed will be returned to SGA, and

THEREFORE: SGA should vote to allocate the Special Projects Fund of $5,000 to Facilities Management which would go to constructing hammock areas on campus where students congregate or reside

AUTHORS:

Executive Vice President - J. Garrett Edmonds

Student Body President - Will Harris

Administrative Vice President - Kenan Mujkanovic

Campus Improvements Chair - Matt Barr

SPONSORS: Campus Improvements Committee

CONTACTS:

Emily Whitney - Residence Hall Association President

Bryan Russell - Chief Facilities Officer

Dr. Mike Reagle - Assistant Vice President for Student Engagement

Brian Kuster - Vice President of Enrollment and Student Experience

 4

First Reading: 2/25/20

Second Reading: 03/03/20

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 4-20-S. Organizational Aid Funding for Western Kentucky University KY Public Health Association, Student National Association Teachers Society, Phi Sigma Pi – Beta Phi, American Society of Civil Engineers, WKU Food Recovery, Korean Pop Culture Club, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc., and WKU HOLAS.

Purpose: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $3,925 from Organizational Aid for Western Kentucky University Pennington, Student National Association Teachers Society, Phi Sigma Pi – Beta Phi, American Society of Civil Engineers, WKU Food Recovery, Korean Pop Culture Club, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc., and WKU HOLAS for the 2019-2020 Academic Year.

Whereas: KY Public Health Association will be allocated $500 to assist with cost of attendance for the Kentucky Public Health Association Conference in Covington, Kentucky.

Whereas: WKU Student National Association Teachers Society will be allocated $500 to assist in covering expenses for masterclasses and lectures for members.

Whereas: Phi Sigma Pi – Beta Phi will be allocated $500 to assist with cost of registration and attendance for the chapter’s National Convention in D.C.

Whereas: WKU American Society of Civil Engineers will be allocated $500 to purchase materials for concrete canoe along with hosting of Ohio Valley Student Conference.

Whereas: WKU Food Recovery will be allocated $425 to purchase BioBag Resealable Compostable Gallon bags.

Whereas: Korean Pop Culture Club will be allocated $500 to assist the club in expenses associated with the International Festival.

Whereas: Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc. will be allocated $500 to cover expenses associated with attendance and registration for the spring leadership conference.

Whereas: WKU HOLAS will be allocated $500 to purchase organizational materials such as t-shirts and a banner.

Therefore: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $3,925 from Organizational Aid for Western Kentucky University Pennington, Student National Association Teachers Society, Phi Sigma Pi – Beta Phi, American Society of Civil Engineers, WKU Food Recovery, Korean Pop Culture Club, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc., and WKU HOLAS for the 2019-2020 Academic Year.

Authors: Kenan Mujkanovic, Administrative Vice President

Sponsor: Organizational Aid Committee, Legislative Research Committee

First Reading: 02/25/20

Second Reading: 03/03/20

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 5-20-S Funding for the Healthy Days Fair

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $500 to WellU to assist with the Healthy Days Fair.

WHEREAS: The money will come from Senate Discretionary, and

WHEREAS: WellU is a program that promotes the health of all WKU students, and

WHEREAS: 2020 Healthy Days Fair is the 19th annual student health fair that will be held on Wednesday March 25, 2020 from 12:00-4:00PM, and

WHEREAS: This event saw over 487 participants and 34 health related vendors, including vendors promoting a variety of mental health resources, and

WHEREAS: SGA has partnered with WellU to fund the Healthy Days Fair in previous years, and

WHEREAS: SGA’s logo will appear on all of the marketing for the event, including t-shirts, video boards, social media, e-mails, and much more, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $500 from Senate Discretionary Funding to WellU to assist with the Healthy Days Fair.

AUTHORS: Abbey Norvell, Ashlynn Evans

SPONSORS: Public Relations Committee

CONTACTS:

First Reading: 03/03/20

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 6-20-S. A Bill to Establish an Honor Society Membership Reimbursement Fund

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $380 for the reimbursement of students who have paid honor society membership fees after being nominated to join.

WHEREAS: The Director of Academic and Student Affairs and the Committee of Academic and Student Affairs will be responsible for the creation of the reimbursement fund’s application, and

WHEREAS: The funding for the reimbursement fund will come from the scholarship budget, and

WHEREAS: The scholarships will be available for students to apply for beginning in the Fall 2020 semester, and

WHEREAS: Membership fees are often $90 to $95 and financially disadvantaged students cannot afford the fees, which precludes them from joining the organization without assistance, and

WHEREAS: Some of these societies and organizations have waivers that they can provide to low-income students that cannot afford their membership fees, but students do not always qualify for these waivers while still being deserving of membership, and

WHEREAS: Honor societies provide crucial scholarship opportunities, professional development, and resume bolstering that can help any student out in their future careers, and

WHEREAS: The creation of this honor society reimbursement fund would be another way for the Student Government Association to give back to our students and let them know we are proud of their accomplishments and willing to support them in any way we can.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $380 for the establishment of an Honor Society Membership Reimbursement Fund.

AUTHORS: Jesse Ricketts, Senator-at-large

SPONSORS: Legislative Research Committee

CONTACTS:

Jesse Ricketts: jesse.ricketts998@topper.wku.edu

Mr. Jesse Madwed (NSCS Coordinator of Member Relations): madwed@nscs.org

Dr. Jean Neils-Strunjas (Phi Kappa Phi Advisor): jean.neils-strunjas@wku.edu

First Reading: 03/03/20

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 7-20-S: Funding for the Addressing Educational Disparities Scholarship.

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $1000.00 from Senate Discretionary for the creation of a scholarship to help students with financial need from counties with low college graduation rates and/or low percentages of residents with bachelor’s degrees or higher.

WHEREAS: Many Kentucky counties have low rates of college graduation and residents with postsecondary degrees. These educational disparities correspond to lower income rates and increased unemployment and poverty rates for residents in these counties, and

WHEREAS: The mission of Western Kentucky University is to prepare students of all backgrounds to be productive, engaged, and socially responsible citizen-leaders of a global society. The Student Government Association can play a role in fulfilling this mission and making a college degree more attainable for these students, and

WHEREAS: The Director and Committee of Academic and Student Affairs can create an application that identifies students with financial need and that are from counties with such educational disparities. There are many data sources that identify counties based on college graduation rates and percentage of residents with bachelor’s degrees or higher, such as the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, and

WHEREAS: This scholarship will be awarded in the Spring 2020 semester, and it can be awarded to a number of students for a monetary amount deemed necessary by the Committee of Academic and Student Affairs. This scholarship can serve as a pilot for future years, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $1000.00 from Senate Discretionary for the creation of a scholarship to help students with financial need from counties with low college graduation rates and/or low percentages of residents with bachelor’s degrees or higher.

AUTHORS: Shelby Robertson, Senator

SPONSOR: Committee for Academic and Student Affairs