**Senate Meeting Agenda**

Eighteenth Meeting of the Nineteenth Senate – Tuesday, 31 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 – Jamison Moorehead

SAVES – Kat Howard

# VI. Special Orders

University Committee Reports

Judicial Council Report

 Guest/Student Speaker



# VII. Unfinished 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.

# VIII. New Business

# IX. Announcements and Adjournment

First Reading: 03/03/20

Second Reading: 03/31/20

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: 03/31/20

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