WKU Student Government Association

# Meeting Minutes

# October 22nd

## Opening

The seventh meeting of the WKU Student Government Association was called to order at 5:00pm on October 22nd in Downing Student Union by Speaker of the Senate Nathan Terrell.

## Present

34 senators were present when the Senate was called to order.

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

## Officer Reports

President Will Harris:

1. Nomination of Senator Jillian Kenney for Sustainability Committee
   1. Motion approved 33-0-1 Vote
2. Introduction of Dr. Lynne Holland
   1. Her office is in DSU 2122 and she encourages every student to come in and talk to her about any concerns he/she may have about the university
3. Faculty Senate has passed a new

Executive Vice President Garrett Edmonds:

1. The budget committee at WKU has been restructured to three different committees: budget executive, central allocation, space allocation committee. EVP Edmonds serves as the student voice for the budget executive committee and they are working diligently to create the budget for the 2020-2021 academic school year.
2. EVP Edmonds is calling upon the senate to work alongside Senators Dawson McCoun and MJ Mayo to fight food insecurity on this campus with a food drive and working towards getting food vouchers sponsored by the SGA
3. If you were assigned a committee and have not received an email, please let him know

Administrative Vice President Kenan Mujkanovic: No report

Chief of Staff Aubrey Kelley: No report

Public Relations Ashlynn Evans

1. Discussing with SAVES Committee Head Hope Wells about doing a domestic violence awareness
2. Keep sending nomiantions for senator of the week

DAC Abby Norvell

1. SGA Scholarships are out

IT Director Brosky: No report

Speaker of the Senate Terrell

1. Be sure to sign up for your office hours at the end of the week using the google doc
2. Study abroad committee rep needed for Nov 1
3. New senators stick around shortly after

Secretary of the Senate Mathews

1. Get your office hours

Campus Improvements Committee Head Matt Barr: No report

LRC Committee Head Josh Zaczek

1. Be constitutional
2. Be nice

Public Relations Committee Head Brigid Stakelum

1. This committee focuses a lot on student outreach, so if you’re interested be sure to

SAVES Committee Head Hope Wells: No report

Chief Justice Isaac Keller: No report

Special Reports and Student Speakers

1. Senators Mayo and McCoun are working towards ending food insecurity on campus and are competing for the Sisterhoood Grant and are asking for any personal narratives. They are sending out a survey, hopefully, before Thanksgiving to observe numbers of food insecurity on campus. If anyone is interested in sending a personal narrative or asking any questions, please contact the senators at Dawson.McCoun052@topper.wku.edu

## Unfinished Business

Resolution 4-19-F: Resolution to Support the disciplinary action, up to their removal from campus, against the Epsilon Kappa chapter of Alpha Xi Delta

1. Senators Symone Whalin and Anthony Survance, as sponsors, spoke in favor of the resolution.
   1. Senator Baum asked if the resolution is to target the Greek community on campus
      1. Senator Whalin defended that the chapter mentioned was an isolated event and they are not looking to punish the entirety of WKU Greek life through this measure
   2. Senator Robertson asked what the ideal reprimand would be
      1. Senator Whalin is not sure what the ideal punishment would be, but the administration should know that the student body believes actions needed to be taken.
      2. Senator Survance said to look at the precedence of other universities
   3. Senator Wells asked about the line “up to their removal from campus,”
      1. Senator Survance said they would keep the line as a way to show the administration that the chapter should face a punishment
   4. Senator Merdian asked how this would solve the problem at hand
      1. Senator Survance said the chapter needs to know their members’ behavior is not acceptable. Senator Whalin agreed.
   5. Senator Burks asked if they had spoken to any members of the administration
      1. Senator Whalin spoke to Dr. Holland. She had reached out to other administrators but received no response
   6. Senator Davis asked what else they would be looking for outside of the removal of campus
      1. Senator Whalin is looking for any kind of reprimand from the administration or an apology from the chapter. Survance realizes that
   7. Senator Harry asked about the incident including Chi Omega
      1. Senator Whalin stated that the video from Chi Omega was an isolated event involving one member and as not released until after the resolution had been written, but the Alpha Xi Delta video involved many of the chapter’s members
   8. Senator Huddle asked about videos from other campuses
      1. Senator Whalin stated that all the videos were of white Greek-letter organization members singing along to songs that used vulgar language
   9. Senator Barr asked if they know the chapter will not be removed from campus
      1. Sruvance wants real action, not just
   10. Senator hounshell motioned to move into debate
       1. Second by Senator Meridian
       2. Approved 32-0-3 vote
   11. Moved into debate
       1. Senator Mayo stated that she is in favor of the resolution. She is proposing an amendment to delete the line “up to their removal from campus” from the resolution
          1. Second by Senator Burks
          2. Debate on the motion
             1. Senator Rung spoke in favor of punishment, up to the removal from campus, based on the precedence of other universities across the nation
             2. Senator Merdian states that the punishment of removal may seem outside of the constraints of the actions and what SGA can dictate
             3. Senator Rung stated that the precedence is for the organization to be removed from campus for such behavior as an incident occurred less than 5 months prior at a different university resulting in the removal of campus
             4. Senator Wells the amendment is not to remove support from the resolution, but to allow the resolution to
             5. Senator Johnson this is not a disciplinary committee, if the authors think there is no purpose then we should make a resolution
             6. Point of the information from McCoun if the amendment would be accepted as friendly to change the line rather than delete the line

Senator Whalin has stated she would accept that as a friendly amendment as sponsor of the resolution

* + - * 1. Senator Stakelum does not support the language as is because the removal of the chapter from campus would not solve the racial issues on campus.
        2. Senator Robertson stated she would support the resolution if the line read “up to their suspension”
        3. Senator Survance agreed with Senator Robertson stating “up to their suspension” would be fine
        4. Senator Whalin called previous question to end debate on the amendment and move into voting

Second by Senator Dawson

Motion approved 28-4-1 vote

* + - * 1. The amendment to delete “up to their removal from campus” from the resolution was approved 27-6 Vote
    1. Senator Zaczek suggested a friendly amendment for the resolution to state “up to their suspension from Greek Affairs”
       1. Accepted as a friendly by sponsor Whalin and Survance
    2. Motion made to leave debate and vote on Resolution 4-19-F as amended
       1. Motion approved 25-7

1. Resolution 4-19-F was approved in a 24-7-2 vote by the legislative body

## New Business

No new business.

## Announcements

President Harris – we still need DASA and CDI chairs

EVP Edmonds – email Aubrey Kelley

## Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at by Speaker of the Senate Nathan Terrel at 5:53pm

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