SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

* The 2nd meeting of the seventeenth Senate was called to order by Asha McWilliams at 5:00 pm on September 11, 2018.
* Minutes from the last meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
* **President Stephen Mayer**
* He appointed new chairs based on their applications, explaining some of their accomplishments. Jayden Thomas made a motion to vote on the applicants individually.
* **Mark Clark**
* Mark led the committee for most of last semester. The committee as a whole worked on many bills. They tabled at the Earth Day Festival. He hopes to reach out more over the semester. There was a motion to move into a vote.
* Mark Clack was confirmed 15-0.
* **Cassidy Townsend**
* She wants to reach out to the Counseling and Testing Center and the sexual assault awareness group on campus. She was one of the founding members of the committee.
* There was a motion to move into a vote.
* Cassidy Townsend was confirmed 16-0.
* **Trevor Huffman**
* He applied because he knew committee chairs last semester and wanted to be part of that this year. He wants to work with other Senators and help others write bills. He wants to get to know each Senator and have each one write a piece of legislation. He wants the committee to be productive and involved.
* There was a motion to move into a vote.
* Trevor Huffman was confirmed 13-2-1.
* **Aubrey Kelly**
* She is open on Mondays for time. She is the Academic Excellence chair for her sorority. She is passionate about academics. She is a part of GAPS as well as other campus organizations. She said the committee was slightly disorganized last semester, and she wants to take it past that to get more involved in students lives. She wants to table more on campus and increase scholarship awareness. She is open to different ideas from others.
* There is a motion to move into a vote.
* Aubrey Kelly is confirmed 11-5.
* He details the process for the associate justice vacancy. The judicial council chose from the applicants three to interview. He removed himself from the process to keep separation of powers. He selected Wood Brown.
* **Wood Brown**
* He says it is a great honor for him. He wanted to serve SGA, but he didn’t know how to do so. He has a love and passion for the university and each student’s story. He wants each student to feel included. He wants to interpret the Constitution through legal reason. His mother was a brave example for him as a member of the LGBTQ community. He wants all students to be included and feel special on campus.
* The judicial council sent the pros and cons to Stephen, which he chose from. Wood Brown was number 2 from the JC.
* Jacob McAndrews was allowed to speak, and he said this applicant pool was very qualified. He thinks all three finalists were very strong.
* Stephen says it is his Constitutional duty to appoint someone he thinks will be the best despite his removal of himself from the process.
* Jacob and Stephen don’t want to exploit the interviewees and their personal stories.
* Jacob says Wood had a thoughtful interview with a legal background and an analytical mind. The only con he had was that he was very involved so much on campus that time commitment was very full.
* Wood is part of Pike, IFC, Order of Omega, and other campus bodies. He gave an anecdote in which he has experience to serve as an unbiased person. He said he will change his mindset to serve in this position as opposed to a normal student. He will graduate May 2020.
* There is a motion for debate on Wood Brown.
* Kara Lowry says that Wood was second, and Stephen was not present to see the candidates. He did not take JC’s first recommendation.
* Amanda Harder says she believes Stephen’s decision to remove himself was noble, and Wood has experience that would work well for the JC. He will be able to serve for two years.
* Stephen knew Wood, and he wanted to know JC’s view separated from himself. He reconfirms that all of the candidates were very good. The top candidate had larger cons.
* Mark Clark restates the issue thus far. He is worried that Wood was the second choice.
* Kenan M. says that Wood has handled confidentiality and works well with the JC’s needs. He does not see the issue and believes Wood is very qualified.
* Wood discusses how he was a law clerk as well as a private lawyer. He has many types of law experience in different law sectors.
* Jayden Thomas made a motion to move to a vote.
* Wood Brown was not confirmed 8-7-1.
* Jacob McAndrews confirms all of the newly appointed committee chairs. He speaks on the voting issues from last week. He found out that a member was voting as a non-voting member of the body. It has been rectified. We will be revoting on the parliamentarian and the Director of Academic and Student Affairs.
* All of Stephen’s committees are starting. A WKU Tobacco-Free task force was formed, currently collecting data. A policy should be expected by the end on the academic year. Sunday, September 23rd at 9PM will be the Senator Retreat. Voting is next Monday and Tuesday. He clarified voting. Voting records are able to be received any time. A homecoming queen nomination is needed for SGA. Ashley Cox had to resign due to her grandfather. A new DASA Director is needed to be voted upon. Anna McAvoy is the new nominee up for confirmation.
* **Anna McAvoy**
* She was a Senator for the past two years. She has worked on many committees. She wants students to grow in academics and students. She wants students to be able to buy textbooks for cheaper prices. She wants to ensure scholarships go well. She has not graded scholarships, but she is aware of how the process works. She knows about the minority and first-generation scholarships, hoping to bring those back. She details the grading of scholarships. She wanted to be a part of this director position because she loves academics and wanted to be more involved.
* There is a motion to move into debate.
* Amy Wyer voices her concerns about this position for Anna with her experience as a DASA chair.
* There is a motion to vote.
* The confirmation fails 6-9-1.
* Stephen reopens the DASA director position.
* **Executive Vice President Garrett Edmonds**
* Garrett lists the University committee nominees for confirmation.
* There is a motion to approve all of the nominees.
* The all nominees are confirmed 14-0-2.
* He will give more University committee sign-ups. Some of them didn’t give him times. He attended the Colonnade committee meeting. They are looking to add an international course category. There may be 4 categories of colonnades if this upcoming proposition passes. Most classes are filled because juniors and seniors are the primary ones in these classes because they were put on the backburner in their earlier years.
* **Administrative Vice President Harper Anderson**
* She provides an overview of the budget. $1,000 of that went into Senate discretionary. She wants the new Senators to be involved in Org Aid, so she is waiting until they arrive. Parts of the stipends come from other places. The vouchers will be discussed by Noah Moore. There will be 30 vouchers for the year. The stipends go to the executives because they are doing this as a job. It goes in their TOP Net account as a scholarship. The athletic portion allows SGA to advertise and do various things at the games.
* There is a motion to move into a vote.
* The budget is passed 13-4.
* Org Aid applications are open and available to submit in the SGA office and online.
* **Chief of Staff Will Harris**
* The main thing he is working on is polos. He is also working on the price for the polos. There are three approved vendors. Vouchers will be starting in the morning.
* **Director of Public Relations Noah Moore**
* He is starting a Remind group to improve communication. He would like help with tabling and other things. Vouchers are available and redesigned. Analicia Carlson is our Homecoming Queen representative.
* **Director of Information Technology Paul Brosky**
* (Via Will Harris) He is continuing to update the website and voting records. He will add the office hours once they are submitted.
* **Speaker of the Senate Asha McWilliams**
* There is a section on the agenda for events/special announcements. She is trying to get guest speakers for this upcoming year. She is glad that Robert’s Rules are going well. She does not want to be biased at all. She wants to help all SGA members to be productive. She made a Constitutional amendment to clarify the no-voting of the Speaker. She says Bradon Burks is very qualified. He was a part of competitions in which they were judged on their ability to use Robert’s Rules. We have been trying to find a parliamentarian, and there may not be able to be another person in that role. He has already helped in that aspect. She took blame for the voting last week.
* Bradon says he goofed up last week. He has a Robert’s Rules worksheet that he goes off. He had a previous obligation in previous years, but now he has more time to do this. He was a big part of it in high school. He has a passion for this and wants to improve the procedure.
* There is a motion to approve Bradon Burks.
* The vote passes 17-0.
* **Secretary of the Senate Andrew Merritt**
* Office Hours Sheet
* 3 Absences and more will be reported to JC
* **Legislative Research Chair Trevor Huffman**
* He gives an invitation to join if anyone wants to be involved. See him for more information.
* **Committee for Diversity and Inclusion Chair Mark Clark**
* He announced the first meeting and invited everyone.
* **Sustainability Committee Chair Jayden Thomas**
* There will not be an official meeting until the new Senators arrive.
* **James Baugh-Student Speaker**
* He submitted some resolutions. He believes it is very important for a student to be able to record any meeting with any faculty. He wants SGA to be aware of that. He wants officials to know that students don’t have to do everything they say to students, only identify themselves. He has personal experiences for these things. He wants to also introduce it in Faculty Senate. He is in contact with larger firms.
* **Bill 1-18-F**
* Bill passes 14-3.
* Jayden Thomas motions to move out of the bylaws.
* He drops his motion because constitutional amendments aren’t voted on until the end of the semester.
* **Announcements**
  + Harper Anderson announces the executive meeting directly after the Senate meeting.
  + Stephen Mayer wants to put all SGA meeting times on the website.
  + Garrett Edmonds asks students to sign up for University committees after the meeting.
  + Connor Houndshell announces the Ice Cream Social on Wednesday, September, 12 at 6-8PM in the Alumni Center.
  + Andrew Merritt says Fiji will be having a water balloon fight this Friday at the Intramural fields at 10PM, benefitting the USO. The admission is $10.
* The meeting was adjourned at 6:52.