SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

* The sixteenth meeting of the seventeenth Senate was called to order by Asha McWilliams at 5:00 PM on February 26th.
* Minutes from the last meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
* **Guest Speaker Dennis Cheney**
* He is here to update everyone of the Tobacco-Free Taskforce, including but not limited to how the task force came about, where the funding is coming from, what the policy will be, and the marketing that will take place. The projected policy effective date is on January 1, 2020. He will be sending Stephen the data sheet provided at the meeting, and Stephen can give that out upon request.
* **President Stephen Mayer**
* He is now working on a new initiative to start an SGA engagement week in April. He wants to receive feedback from students on what they want from SGA and the things SGA can do for them. The Board of Regents meeting will take place this Friday. The WKU Commons committee will give an update there. The WKU Football Head Coach contract will be up for approval. They will be discussion new tuition and fees policies. The one-on-one meetings will be taking place this week, and he will be sending out an email for those. If anyone wants to run for an Executive position next year, he is willing to talk with anyone about that process.
* Brenna Matthews is appointed to become a Senator-at-Large. She speaks on the reason she wanted to become involved in SGA. She wants to work towards letting students know what resources are available to them within their first semester.
* Brenna Matthews is confirmed 30-0.
* Camry Joiner is appointed to become a Senator-at-Large. She speaks on the groups she is a part of, and she believes she has a unique perspective that can bring forth positive changes.
* Camry Joiner is confirmed 30-0.
* Josh Zaczek is appointed to become the Legislative Research Chair. He believes the goal of any government is to protect the people it represents. He wants to look more in depth into legislation to make sure it is in it’s best form for students. He wants to mandate a specified structure for bills to be reviewed.
* Josh Zaczek is confirmed 30-0.
* They are all sworn in by Jacob McAndrews.
* There is a motion to move out of the bylaws. There is no opposition.
* There is a motion to move up Bill 11-19-S into unfinished business. It is passed.
* There is a motion to move Student Speakers and Unfinished Business before the remaining officer reports. There is opposition stated.
* The motion passes 27-4-1.
* There is a motion to move Bill 11-19-S before the Resolution. It is passed.
* There is a motion to move back into the bylaws. It is passed.
* **Guest/Student Speakers**
* **Jay Wells**
* He says that there are plaques across Bowling Green that need to be discussed. He says the Confederacy is a failed government that was inseretionary. He says they were put up by those who sympathize with Confederacy sentiments from the US government. He does not understand why specific names and honorary language is placed on these plaques. He says these plaques are an attempt to whitewash and place a white narrative on history. He says that the Confederacy was an illegal government, and that’s how it should be viewed.
* **Anthony Serban**
* He says that WKU is a university with international reach, and this Confederacy plaque is the antithesis of that statement. He says we should be supportive of students from other backgrounds.
* **Andrea Ambam**
* She believes it is important to hear from different voices on campus. She says to be careful when speaking “for the majority” because that leaves out many smaller groups of people on campus. She says that this campus promotes diversity and inclusion, and this sign is a constant reminder that some smaller groups were not welcome and sometimes killed because of those sentiments. She believes history is to be placed and museums and remembered that way, not in a normal walk down campus. She says this vote indicates how you will be remembered. She says people are being killed in some places for protesting against this type of issue.
* **Bill 11-19-S**
* Braden Burks assumes the role of Speaker.
* The bill passes 30-1-1.
* Asha McWilliams reassumes the role of Speaker.
* **Resolution 1-19-S**
* There is a friendly amendment to add a whereas clause to move the plaque to a museum such as the Kentucky Museum.
* There is a call to question. It is approved 30-1.
* The bill passes 29-1-1.
* **Executive Vice President Garrett Edmonds**
* He nominates Stephen Mayer for the Strategic Planning Committee for a one-year term.
* **Stephen Mayer**
* There is a newly-formed Strategic Planning Implementation committee, and he was reached out to in order to join. He would be a non-voting member. He has experience with the Strategic Planning, but he has not been on any of the committees yet.
* He is approved 21-2-5.
* He met with the Executive Budget Committee today. The actual budgeting will be soon.
* **Administrative Vice President Harper Anderson**
* She discusses the organizations they met with, and all of them received the requested amount. OrgAid is most likely closed for the year due to funding. Funding may still be able to be provided through other means if you see Harper personally through other parts of the budget.
* **Chief of Staff Will Harris**
* He bought Green Books that should be here by next week. The WKU Commons committee will be presenting this Friday. It is expected to be completed by January of 2021.
* **Director of Public Relations Noah Moore**
* They will be tabling soon. They will also be tabling at Healthy Days. The SGA Member of the Week will be restructuring the process soon.
* **Director of Academic and Student Affairs Aubrey Kelley**
* CASA met today, and they decided on how to do scholarships this semester. The deadline for scholarships is March 19th.
* **Director of Information Technology Paul Brosky**
* Everything is up to date and on the website.
* **Speaker of the Senate Asha McWilliams**
* She was pleased to have student speakers, and she encourages them to always come through. She is pleased with how the debate went during the bill. If you are on OrgAid, you will have to join another committee. She thanks everyone for approving the Mock Trial team funding.
* **Secretary of the Senate Andrew Merritt**
* He tells everyone to continue to get office hours and attend committee meetings. He will be emailing those with absences this Spring Break.
* **Committee of Academic and Student Affairs Chair Amanda Harder**
* They now have an official meeting time on Tuesdays at 4 outside of the SGA office. They have been receiving feedback from students. She wants to make an SGA Dance Big Red team.
* **Campus Improvements Chair Matt Barr**
* They are currently working on health services and legislation towards that. He encourages everyone to look at the bill for next week.
* **Legislative Research Chair Josh Zaczek**
* He thanks everyone for the appointment. He wants to have a quick LRC meeting after this.
* **Public Relations Chair Ashlynn Evans**
* Regular weekly tabling will be happening starting March 15th. There will be a sign-up sheet in the SGA office that anyone can sign up for. If there is anyone that wants to have anything on the table, let her know.
* **Diversity and Inclusion Chair Mark Clark**
* There will be a meeting after this one.
* **Sustainability Committee Chair Jayden Thomas**
* Tomorrow is Fix It Fest from 10:30 to 3 in DSU. Earth Day is coming up. If any campus organizations want to table at Earth Day. let him know. There is a bill next meeting for funding for Earth Day
* **SGA SAVES Chair Amy Wyer**
* No report
* **Judicial Council Report-Chief Justice Jacob McAndrews**
* No report
* **Announcements**
  + Free condoms will be available at DSU Auditorium tonight.
  + Volunteers are needed for the Family Enrichment Center on March 30th.
  + Spirit Masters will have a Meet and Greet tomorrow. The due date to apply is March 20th.
  + Matti Springate is planning an event for the Arabic Honor Society next month.
* The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM.