



Senate Meeting Minutes

Fifth Meeting of the Twenty-Sixth Senate - Tuesday, September 15th, 2026

1. Call to Order

- a. The regular meeting of the WKU Student Government Association was called to order on September, 15th 2026, at 5:00 PM by Speaker of the Senate Veronica Butler.

2. Roll Call

- a. Roll was called by Speaker Butler.
- b. Absences
 - i. Senator Hardesty
- c. Quorum was met.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. **Minutes were approved.**

4. Guest and Student Speakers

a. Amelia Kolb - Civic Dialogue Cohort

- i. As you all know American Politics today are not the easiest thing to talk about, my dissertation and work we are doing in Student Activities this semester is a Civic Dialogue Group
- ii. I hope that you all in SGA would be interested in applying for the Civic Dialogue Cohort
- iii. This would be a group that will talk about those difficult things
- iv. I believe Caden Lucas will send out that application within the next few days
- v. We will also be working with Vanderbilt University, leading a workshop with them and hopefully in the spring going to Vanderbilt and leading the same thing with them

b. WKU Counseling Center

- i. Thank you all for having me, I'm here to share some updates of the WKU Counseling Center
- ii. I'm proud to announce that we are now fully staffed! We also have four interns!
- iii. We talk about mental health in a reactive way, but now with a fully staffed counseling center, we are able to shift our focus to a more preventive one.
- iv. We're working to vamp up our social media because we have to be where students are. I would ask that you look for us on social media and repost, share, all those things.
- v. We are also allowed to be mobile now, we can now have office hours in residence halls.
- vi. If you all are available we would love to collaborate with you!
- vii. Senator Tucker questioned if there's any attempt to request a first consultation virtually and not just over the phone talking to a stranger.
- viii. The representative then responded that they have client consultation, it's a 15 minute appointment to assess the clients needs. If your need can't be taken care of by the Counseling Center, we want to get you the help you need. Clients are still able to call, they can also email or walk-in. We're also looking at different initiatives.

ix. Senator Ismail introduced themselves and informed the representative of an initiative their committee has coming up and stated that they would love to collaborate with the Counseling Center

5. Officer Reports

a. President: **Caden Lucas**

- i. Whats up everybody! Glad so many new faces are here!
- ii. I highly encourage you all to apply for the civic dialogue cohort
- iii. We have one last senator at-large spot open, I'd love to nominate Cayden Bussell
 - a. Senator Tucker gave a speech of affirmation for caden Bussell
 - b. appointment passed
- iv. ConstitutionFest is from 12-4 on Thursday, we will be grilling burgers, free swag, you can also register to vote. Come hang out and celebrate with us! There's also a signup genius so please sign up for that
- v. There is also a form out for other RSOs to come and table at ConstitutionFest, we'd love to have you
- vi. Dr. Holly Drummond has been working on some student success thing, they would like our feedback on what we should name that platform, go ahead and vote on that roster. There is also a sign up form for some focus groups, please take a look at that too.
- vii. Homecoming is approaching! Be on the lookout for a nomination form for homecoming queen for SGA. You can nominate yourself or someone else.
- viii. Please be safe at the IU game this weekend!
- ix. Senate sung happy birthday to Senator Morris
- x. I am thankful for all of you and all you do!

b. Vice President: **Jakob Barker**

- i. Scholarships have been out for about three weeks now, we are currently sitting at 104 submitted applications
- ii. 36% of those submitted are of those non-traditional students which is that new scholarship we launched this year
- iii. Continue to let people know about scholarships and let me know if you're interested in grading scholarships

c. Chief Financial Officer: **Will Derryberry**

- i. What's up SGA, super excited to see a full senate here pretty soon!
- ii. Orgaid is due september 29th, I will be speaking at the RSO presidents round table to remind them to fill it out

d. Chief of Staff: **Gabi Pace**

- i. If you guys want to fill out a Dancing with The stars bracket they're printed out in the office
- ii. We are out of all the Dental Hygiene vouchers for the fall semester
- iii. We currently have 2 TI-84 calculators left
- iv. I'm starting to plan the Christmas party!

e. Chief Communications Officer: **Cayden Bailey**

- i. I am a sad guy today because the Broncos lost tonight
- ii. The SGA shirts are in the office, so head to the office after the meeting!
- iii. There a post going out to night about the extended hours about some of the extended

- hours for dining options
- iv. Send me your graphic requests two weeks in advance
- v. Follow our LinkedIn and facebook!

f. Speaker of the Senate: **Veronica Butler**

- i. We will be using our E voting platform again
- ii. New senators, please come to my office for an orientation!
- iii. Please submit an absence excuse even if you have to leave early from a meeting

g. Secretary of the Senate: **Molly Ricke**

- i. Hi guys! Hope you have all had a great week, keep sending me those meeting minutes!
Thanks!

6. Committee Reports

a. Legislative Operations Committee: **Amelia Tucker**

- i. We reviewed one piece of legislation this week, please take a look at that on new business

b. Enrollment and Student Experience: **Jackson Smith**

- i. We're continuing to meet with people to possibly have an outdoor recreation spot
on campus
- ii. We also have a bill coming up to get more dental vouchers

c. Outreach and Public Relations: **Gage Czirr**

- i. Our first video we've made is finished and should be up tomorrow!
- ii. Let me know if ya'll have any content ideas
- iii. Come to ConstitutionFest!

d. Campus Improvements and Sustainability: **Ethan Vietze**

- i. We have a bill that should be on New business next week

e. Action and Opportunity Committee: **Jade Ismail**

- i. My committee meets every Tuesday around 4:10, I'd inspire you to come to mine
- ii. Were working on tabling for suicide prevention and some sort of Halloween

f. Student Mental Health and Wellbeing / Campus Safety and Security: **Tyreesha Morris**

- i. My committee met today to discuss Toppers Talk about it
- ii. Thank you all for the birthday wishes

g. Campus Safety and Security Committee: **Elizabeth Allen**

- i. Our committee meets every Thursday around 5 PM

h. Community Relations: **Landon Terry**

- i. We met with the preston center

- ii. We have a bill on new business
- iii. We are working on the veterans day 5k event

7. Special Orders

a. Judicial Council Report: Sophie Stirling

- i. Election Codes Meeting
- ii. As a JC, we have made amendments to our constitution, we will be voting on it tonight
- iii. Presented a powerpoint on new constitution amendment

b. Swearing In: Sophie Stirling

- i. Cayden Bussell- senator At-Large

c. University Committee Reports

Committee on Academic Quality: Simon Petruska

- i. We spoke on safety in a couple of areas on campus

Master Plan Committee: Jakob Barker

- i. They're reshaping how Master Plan works, we're basically just aligning Master Plan right now

University Athletic Committee: Molly Ricke, Henry Fisher

- i. We have our first meeting tomorrow at 3 PM

Parking and Transportation Services Appeal Committee: Amelia Tucker, Landon Terry, Jackson Smith

- i. The first meeting is September 23rd

Faculty Senate Budget and Finance Committee: Isaiah Wilson

- i. Our first meeting is October 1st

Graduate Advisory Council: Vacant

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Ethan Vietze

I. We met today and the meeting went longer than expected, we voted on there being another student on the committee so there will be another rep soon

Faculty Welfare Committee: Miles Harvey

- i. No report

8. Unfinished Business

Constitutional Amendment 10.2.1

-Unanimously passed

9. New Business

Resolution 4-26-F. Shuttle Bus Tracking Improvements

10. Announcements

- i. Don't forget to get your T-shirt!

11. Adjournment

- a. Senator Vietze made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- b. The motion was seconded by Senator Tucker.
- c. The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

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First Reading: 9/15/2026

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Resolution 4-26-F. Shuttle Bus Tracking Improvements

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support
a GPS

tracking system for the shuttle system on the iWKU app.

WHEREAS: The current shuttle map within the campus app displays static route lines without
providing live

location tracking for operating buses, leaving students uncertain of exact bus arrivals, and

WHEREAS: WKU students rely heavily on campus transit for daily travel between residence
halls, academic

buildings, and commuter parking lots, making reliable scheduling essential, and

WHEREAS: Weather conditions, traffic congestion, and peak travel hours frequently cause delays that static

maps cannot reflect, leading to long outdoor wait times during inclement weather, and potentially keeping students from arriving at class on time, and

WHEREAS: Integrating real-time GPS tracking—showing dynamic bus positions along active routes—is an

industry standard across higher education transit systems that significantly improves safety, accessibility, and convenience, and

WHEREAS: Providing live location updates maximizes the utility of existing campus app infrastructure to

better serve the student body, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will

support a GPS tracking system for the shuttle system on the iWKU app.

AUTHORS:

Landon Terry, Sophomore Senator

Isaiah Wilson, Senator At-Large

SPONSORS:

Community Relations Committee

Action & Opportunity Committee

