

## SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

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- The nineteenth meeting of the sixteenth Senate was called to order by Ryan Richardson at 5:07 pm on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- The minutes from the last Senate meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
- **President – Andi Dahmer:** An overview of President Caboni’s Budget Proposal is given. An additional \$18 million budget cuts will be necessary in April due to cuts in state funding for higher education. These will be largely programmatic cuts. Savannah has worked with the Budget Council throughout the process. Forty vacant positions have been eliminated. Ninety to one hundred positions have been cut. The University College has been completely eliminated. This means all of the academic programs in this college will be moved to other colleges. The Honors College will not be eliminated. Regional campuses will move to the DELO office, meaning they will now be more student centered and target the workforce in those specific communities. The campus-wide salary will increase; however, it will be merit based. The Composite Academic Score (CAI) for admission will be raised to 60. A large goal is to remove duplicated services and move to a shared services model. Students will still be able to work on campus. A new provost will be employed by next year. Student fees are also being reevaluated to increase transparency. If programs are cut, the cut will not occur immediately. Students will still be allotted the time to finish out the program and graduate before it is removed. All employees who are being cut will be notified mid-March preceding spring break and will remain employed until July 1<sup>st</sup>. Andi is in support of Bill 3-18-S. The Campus Safety Seminar will be tomorrow. Parking Structure 3 opened Monday.
- **Executive Vice President – Savannah Molyneaux:** If you have more Budget Council questions feel free to contact Savannah. She acknowledges that some of the proposals may seem unfavorable; however, the deficit forced tough decisions. Members of Faculty Senate are also upset about the new Aramark contract.
- **Administrative Vice President – Kara Lowry:** A budget overview is given. All bills regarding funding need to be brought to Kara before Senate.
- **Chief of Staff – Connor Hounshell:** Bill 8-18-S now has additional contacts.

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

- **Director of Public Relations – Amy Wyer:** If you have not filled out the committee brochure Google Form, do so as soon as possible.
- **Director of Academic and Student Affairs (DASA) – Emily Houston:** The First Generation Scholarships will be up tonight or tomorrow. The deadline is March 27<sup>th</sup>. The search for a new provost is still ongoing. They did a training on eliminating biases last week.
- **Director of Information Technology – Smita Peter:** No report.
- **Speaker of the Senate – Ryan Richardson:** If you send him a funding bill, it will not be placed on the agenda unless it has been approved by Kara. The Organizational Aid committee needs to meet with Ryan after the meeting.
- **Secretary of the Senate – Asha McWilliams:** Make sure to get your office hours. Senators must get one office hour each week. Be sure to sign in and out of the binder to log your hour. Senate meeting minutes will now be emailed to the Senate each week.
- **Academic and Student Affairs – Ashley Cox:** No report.
- **Campus Improvements – Garrett Edmonds:** The Campus Safety Seminar will be in the Senate Chambers tomorrow at 5pm.
- **Legislative Research – Lillian Nellans:** The legislation for tonight has been approved. Their committee will not be meeting tonight.
- **Public Relations – William Hurst:** They will be meeting after senate.
- **Diversity and Inclusion – Mark Clark:** No report.
- **Sustainability – Ian Hamilton:** They had their first showing of their spring movie series last Thursday and it went well. They will not be meeting this Thursday; they will now start meeting biweekly to plan for their Earth Day festival.
- **SGA SAVES – Ashlyn Jones:** No report.
- **University Committee (Student Research Committee – Brigid Stakelum, Academic Quality Committee – Olivia Simpson, Athletic Committee – Logan Hornback):** Student Research Committee. They discussed their March conference and their keynote speaker's schedule. Their keynote will be given by Dr. Kendra Cherry, a post doctorate studying physical therapy. Academic Quality Committee. They are working on changing the academic probation policy from a 1.8 to a 2.0 GPA. They are also looking into extending the drop date with a "W". Athletic

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Committee. The baseball and softball schedules have been finalized. April 26<sup>th</sup> will be the first annual Top-sys, a banquet for WKU athletes.

- **Judicial Council Report – Annalicia Carlson:** Thanks everyone who attended the forum yesterday. Voting will be April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. You must file on Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup> after the meeting. There will be a mandatory election code meeting following senate on the 3<sup>rd</sup> for those who are running.
- **Student Speaker – Hunter Smith:** He supports Resolution 3-18-S.
- **Student Speaker – Luke Edmonds:** Encourages students to think positively when there are so many awful things going on in the world right now. Colossians chapter three verses one and two are read.
- **Student Speaker – Nila Rogers:** She supports the addition of an ISEC senator in SGA. She is an Honors Student and member of Chinese Flagship.
- **Student Speaker – Olivia Simpson:** If anyone has comments on the academic probation change or the extension of the drop date, let her know.
- **Unfinished Business**
- **Resolution 2-18-S**
- Resolution 2-18-S has been tabled until next week.
- **Resolution 3-18-S**
- Will Hurst makes a friendly amendment changing “inrementently” to “incrementally”
- Resolution 3-18-S has been passed by unanimous consent.
- **Bill 8-18-S**
- Dallas McKinney makes a friendly amendment changing the seats to account for the removal of the University College.
- The friendly amendment is not accepted as friendly.
- Amanda Harder makes a friendly amendment to add a definition of each new seat.
- The friendly amendment is not accepted as friendly.
- Alex Sergent makes an amendment simply adding the ISEC senator seat, not the first generation and transfer/nontraditional seat.
- The amendment fails.

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

- Bill 8-18-S fails.
- **Bill 10-18-S**
- Amanda Harder makes a friendly amendment to return unused funds to senate discretionary.
- The amendment is not friendly.
- Brigid Stakelum makes a friendly amendment changing “dialog” to “dialogue”
- Mark Clark motions to table the bill until next week.
- Bill 10-18-S is tabled until next week.
- **Announcement – Ashton Jones:** The WKU Forensics team is sponsoring the Black Excellence Exposition tomorrow at 7 in the DSU Auditorium.
- **Announcement – Michael Starmer:** The Young Americans for Freedom will be meeting tomorrow at 5 in DSU 2122.
- **Announcement – Andrew Merritt:** Fix it Fest will be tomorrow from 12-5 in DSU night class.
- **Announcement – Asha McWilliams:** Toppers Got Talent it tonight at 8:15 in the DSU Auditorium, the doors open at 7:50 and it is \$3. Come out to support AOII and the Arthritis Foundation.
- The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:02 pm.