

SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

- The first meeting of the sixteenth Senate was called to order by Ryan Richardson at 5:00 pm on August 29, 2017.
- The minutes from the last Senate meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
- **President- Andi Dahmer:** Applications for senate seats will be available after this meeting. If you are not elected, you are still welcome to serve on other committees. SGA is a very important organization on campus and this is an important year with our new school President. Introduction of committee chairs. The following committees: Campus Improvements, SGA SAVES, Diversity and Inclusion still have applications available for committee chair.
- Chief Justice Annalicia Carlson swears in committee chairs.
- Chief Justice Annalicia Carlson swears in the Senators elected in Spring 2017.
- Chief Justice Annalicia Carlson swears in the members of the executive cabinet.
- **Executive Vice President- Savannah Molyneaux:** Savannah will always be available to help anyone with any questions regarding SGA. The sign-up sheet to join university committees is passed around the chambers.
- **Administrative Vice President- Kara Lowry:** Kara is responsible for the budget and is the chair of the Organizational Aid committee, which awards funding to clubs on campus. Discussion of the budget.
- **Chief of Staff- Connor Hounshell:** Connor helps the SGA President (Andi Dahmer) and maintains the SGA office. If anyone needs to talk to someone in the office, go to Connor first. An overview of the meeting's proceedings are discussed with a summary of the constitutional amendments that will be made.
- **Director of Academic and Student Affairs- Emily Houston:** Emily is in charge of all of the scholarships granted by SGA. Scholarship information and deadlines will be discussed in the coming weeks. The earn a computer program gives students an opportunity to be granted a refurbished computer after completing 40 service hours. Those applications will be out next week.

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- **Director of Public Relations- Amy Wyer:** Amy will be sending out emails regarding elections. All SGA updates will be on Instagram and Twitter. Live updates are posted on Twitter during all SGA meetings. Amy will also be giving campaign tips next week. The importance of appropriate social media conduct for SGA senators is also discussed.
- **Director of Information Technology- Smita Peter:** Smita takes care of the SGA website. On the website, updates are listed regarding attendance and bills.
- **Speaker of the Senate- Ryan Richardson:** General introduction. Committee preference sign-up sheets are passed around the SGA chambers. Dress code in the senate is outlined. The most casual outfit allowed for SGA senators is the SGA polo with jeans, otherwise, senators are to dress business casual. The senate retreat will be on September 15th at 4pm and will help senators familiarize themselves with each other and learn SGA procedural rules. Nametags will be out next week.
- Speaker of the Senate Ryan Richardson's appointment of Asha McWilliams to Secretary of the Senate was approved by unanimous consent.
- Chief Justice Annalicia Carlson swears in Asha McWilliams to Secretary of the Senate.
- **Secretary of the Senate- Asha McWilliams:** No report.
- **Legislative Research- Lillian Nellans:** Legislative research committee has two jobs: legislation research for senators proposing bills and researching what other SGA's are doing to come up with new, innovative ideas for WKU.
- **Public Relations – Will Hurst:** The public relations committee talks to students in DSU each week about problems they're facing and how they feel about SGA bills.
- **Student Affairs – Ashley Cox:** Student affairs committee focuses on grading scholarships and grants.
- **Diversity and Inclusion – Divya Gangavelli:** No report.
- **Sustainability- Ian Hamilton:** Sustainability committee emphasizes sustainable initiatives on campus. Diddle Arena now has a recycling program. Students can volunteer 2-3 hours of their time to recycle after a basketball game and will receive a free t-shirt. The committee is also aiming to expand the SGA bikes program. There will be a movie screening in October. Next meeting Thursday from 5:30-6:30 in the SGA chambers.

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- **University Committee Report – Savannah Molyneaux, Andi Dahmer:** The graduate catalog is complete and under review. The software is in final stages of development. WKU is planning 6 lunch and learn sessions to provide advice to potential graduate students. Andi discusses Garret Conference Center renovations and informs students of their request to gain student input on the renovations. This will also be a job within the University Committee later in the year.
- **Judicial Council Report – Annalicia Carlson:** The new fall 2017 election codes are out. Changes are discussed. Senate excuse forms must be filled out and reviewed by the judicial council. They prefer that those forms are filled out 24 hours in advance. Study sessions do not count as an excuse. Senators are allowed no more than three unexcused absences. Judicial Council has a legal services partnership and legal options for students are discussed. Contact the legal services department for more information. If you are called out of order by the speaker, you will be sent to judicial council. If you are running for a position, you need to stay after the meeting to meet with Annalicia. There will also be a meeting Wednesday at 7:30 for those that cannot make it today. Those interested in running must attend one of these meetings. Judicial Council is still in need of one more justice, contact Andi Dahmer for more information if you are interested.
- Chief Justice Annalicia Carlson swears in Devan Richardson as an associate justice.
- **Student Speaker- Anna McAvoy:** Anna has created a program where reusable shopping bags are available to anyone who donates 25 plastic bags. Those plastic bags will then be taken off campus to be recycled as they cannot be recycled on campus.
- **Student Speaker- Andrew Henderson:** Editor in Chief of the College Heights Herald. The College Heights Herald is the independently student-run paper of WKU. You can find the College Heights Herald around campus and in some places off campus (Kroger). There is also a website (wkuherald.com). They are in print Tuesday and Thursday. If you are interested in becoming involved, you do not have to be a journalism major.
- Lucas Knight's motion to suspend the bylaws is passed by unanimous consent.
- Lucas Knight's motion to move Bills 1-17-F, 2-17-F, 3-17-F, 4-17-F, 5-17-F, and 6-17-F into unfinished business is passed by unanimous consent.
- Lucas Knight's motion to return into the bylaws is passed by unanimous consent.
- **Unfinished Business**

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- The new election codes are passed with unanimous consent.
- President Andi Dahmer stresses the importance of concise debate due to time constraints.
- **Bill 1-17-F**
- Connor Hounshell makes a friendly amendment removing Annalicia Carlson as a contact.
- Bill 1-17-F is passed with unanimous consent.
- **Bill 2-17-F**
- Bill 2-17-F is passed with unanimous consent.
- **Bill 4-17-F**
- Bill 4-17-F is passed with unanimous consent.
- Speaker Ryan Richardson informs senators that absences to office hours and committee meetings will be treated the same as absences to senate meetings. Senators are allowed no more than three unexcused absences.
- **Bill 5-17-F**
- Amy Wyer makes a friendly amendment of changing “this in” in line 22 to “this is.”
- Bill 5-17-F fails.
- **Bill 6-17-F**
- Bill 6-17-F fails.
- William Hurst’s motion to re-enter debate and re-vote on the bill is passed.
- Bill 6-17-F fails.
- **Announcement- Andi Dahmer:** There will be a meeting Wednesday at 7:30 for anyone interested in running for a senate seat that couldn’t attend tonight’s meeting.
- **Announcement- Lucas Knight:** DSU is hosting DISCOVERFest tomorrow from 3-6 to allow students to see what organizations are on campus.
- **Announcement - Ryan Richardson:** Committee assignment sheets need to be turned in after the meeting.

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- **Announcement - Amy Wyer:** If any current senators want to be at the SGA table tomorrow at DISCOVERFest let Amy know. There will also be applications available for those interested in running for a senate seat at the SGA table.
- The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:37 pm.