

SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

- The twenty-third meeting of the sixteenth Senate was called to order by Ryan Richardson at 5:01 pm on April 3rd, 2018.
- The minutes from the last Senate meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
- **President – Andi Dahmer:** On May 1st there will be no Senate Meeting because we will be having the Senate Banquet from 5-7 at Outback Steakhouse on Scottsville Road. An overview of the updated Kentucky postsecondary education budget is given. There will be a 2% reduction in funding to the Gatton Academy. The updated budget allows universities to remove tenured professors. Pension reform will also largely effect WKU. Tuition raise ceilings will likely lead to tuition raising 6%. Andi doesn't not believe we should exceed the 6% tuition cap increase.
- **Executive Vice President – Savannah Molyneaux:** April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. The Talisman is working on publishing the sexual assault awareness stories by the end of this month. They will also be putting up posters about it as well. She had a budget council meeting last week to determine their role in the second phase of budget cuts. They will not be as involved in the second round.
- **Administrative Vice President – Kara Lowry:** A budget overview is given.
- **Chief of Staff – Connor Hounshell:** Big Red Volleyball is coming up. We may create an SGA team of 6-8 people. If you have any questions about campaigning, Connor can give you advice.
- **Director of Public Relations – Amy Wyer:** Follow SGA social media for all election updates. If you are not running for re-election or are a senior that will be graduating, Amy would appreciate your help at the polling booths.
- **Director of Academic and Student Affairs (DASA) – Emily Houston:** All of the scholarships have been graded. Study Abroad had over 100 applicants, Summer Term had 70, and there were 24 First Generation Scholarship applicants. There will be open forums for the Provost Search Committee tentatively at 1pm on April 16th, 17th, and 18th.

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- **Director of Information Technology – Smita Peter:** Everything will be updated on the website tonight. The voting system should be up next week.
- **Speaker of the Senate – Ryan Richardson:** The voting system should be up next week. New senator appointments need to see Ryan following the meeting. Big Red Volleyball will be on the agenda next week.
- **Secretary of the Senate – Asha McWilliams:** Make sure to get your office hours, sign in and out please.
- **Academic and Student Affairs – Ashley Cox:** Thanks everyone for helping to grade scholarships.
- **Campus Improvements – Garrett Edmonds:** They have been working on the Campus Safety Walk.
- **Legislative Research – Lillian Nellans:** All of tonight's legislation has been approved. They will not be meeting following Senate.
- **Public Relations – William Hurst:** No report.
- **Diversity and Inclusion – Mark Clark:** They have cultural competency legislation up tonight. They will also have a table at the Earth Day Festival.
- **Sustainability – Ian Hamilton:** Their Earth Day Festival will be April 19th from 10-2 in Centennial Mall and they are still looking for volunteers if you would like to help.
- **SGA SAVES – Ashlyn Jones:** They will be meeting Thursday at 5.
- **University Committee (Student Publications Committee – Amanda Harder, Preston Health Advisory Council – Amy Wyer):** Student Publications Committee. They voted for the Editor in Chief of the Talisman to be Evan Heichelbech and the Editor in Chief of the Talisman to be Hannah Good. The first oral debate for the Herald lawsuit will be April 6th. If anyone is interested in joining the Herald or the Talisman, there will be an Ice Cream Social April 19th from 1-3 outside the Student Publications Building. Preston Health Advisory Council. They are working on starting Phase 3 of renovations and updates. There may be a golf simulator.
- **Judicial Council Report – Annalicia Carlson:** It is election season which is a busy couple of weeks. All those running must attend the meeting following senate. April 17th is the day we will have the midnight election results party in the Senate Chambers. During the next couple of weeks, all 6 other justices will be watching to

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make sure everyone follows the election codes. If anyone else witnesses a violation of the election codes, contact Annalicia at any time.

- Dillion McCormick motions for Tony Pham to be appointed as a Senator.
- Tony Pham's nomination as a Senator is approved by unanimous consent.
- Lucas Knight motions for Brigid Stakelum to be appointed as Public Relations Committee Chair.
- Brigid Stakelum's nomination as Public Relations Committee Chair is approved by unanimous consent.
- Chief Justice Annalicia Carlson appoints Tony Pham as a Senator.
- Chief Justice Annalicia Carlson appoints Brigid Stakelum as Public Relations Committee Chair.
- **Student Speaker – Luke Edmunds:** Reads Ephesians Chapter 3, encouraging unity to get things done.
- **Student Speaker – Brigid Stakelum:** Discourages hate speech in the Senate chambers. She stresses that identities are not opinions but facts.
- **Student Speaker – Olivia Simpson:** A presentation on her life while being bisexual is given. Stresses that religion should be used to love and support, not hate.
- **Student Speaker – Mark Clark:** Continues to stress the problem of discrimination.
- **Student Speaker – Francis Wilson:** He got to speak with President Caboni and the Student Input Team to present the data from the Student Input Survey today. One issue he has with the election codes is the requirement of serving for a full-year in senate before running for an executive position.
- **Student Speaker – Jeremy McFarland:** Stresses the importance of supporting the LGBTQ+ community.
- **Student Speaker – Adam Murphy:** Speaks out against discriminatory rhetoric.
- **Student Speaker – Jayden Thomas:** Thanks everyone for speaking today and encourages supporting the LGBTQ+ community.
- **Resolution 4-18-S**
- Jayden Thomas makes a friendly amendment adding Dr. Kiasatpour as a contact to the bill.

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- Resolution 4-18-S passes.
- **Bill 19-18-S**
- Bill 19-18-S is tabled until next week.
- **Resolution 5-18-S**
- Connor Hounshell makes a friendly amendment adding Olivia Simpson as an author of the bill.
- Resolution 5-18-S passes.
- **Resolution 6-18-S**
- Resolution 6-18-S has been pulled.
- Ian Hamilton makes a motion to move out of the bylaws.
- The motion passes.
- Ian Hamilton motions to move Bill 20-18-S into unfinished business.
- The motion passes.
- Ian Hamilton motions to move back into the bylaws.
- The motion passes.
- **Bill 20-18-S**
- Bill 20-18-S passes.
- **Announcement – Luke Knight:** If you're interested in policy work for the LGBT community, the monthly Bowling Green Fairness Meeting is April 9th in Cherry Hall Room 206A.
- **Announcement – Harper Anderson:** Western does need more blood donors for the blood drive, if you want to get involved, talk to Harper.
- **Announcement – Ryan Richardson:** New senators need to meet with Ryan.
- The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:20 pm.