The second meeting of the 11th senate was called to order at 5 p.m. on Tuesday September 4th, 2012

There were 27 senators present. Senator Mullins moved to approve the last meeting's minutes. Passed.

Officer Reports

President Cory Dodds

I am speaking at the assembly of freshman tonight. Some of the older folk might remember a picnic with the president. That is being organized now. The dates possible are October 22nd and October 25th. Elections are September 19th and 20th. Applications are due Friday at 5 pm. Encourage your friends. Presidential appointments are in the agenda. Those appointed show leadership. Executive action is up for first read.

Executive Vice President Keyana Boka

Hi. At the meeting we went over goals. We talked about study abroad moving forward. International reach is big deal here. I met with the president to learn his goals for study abroad. We meet every week. September 30th is the SGA retreat. It is in ICSR. You will learn about sga, and a meal is provided.

Administrative Vice President Cain Alvey

Remember the budget is online. We received $12,500 by an anonymous donor for study abroad. Org. Aid, meet me after this. We will set up times to meet.

Speaker Christopher Costa

We have just been getting stuff straight. Remember only 3 excuses total. Fill out the excuse form. You're all doing a great job.

Staff Reports

Chief of Staff-Travis Taylor

You are encouraged to stop by the new office. Office hours are 8 to 5. It is small, but we have a work station. We are working on the retreat.

Director of Public Relations-Drew Mitchell

We have been getting coverage in The Herald. Keep updated with The Herald. It is important to get your feedback.

Director of Academic and Student Affairs-Brittany Crowley

We are working with the study away office. We did this last year. We give away $800 a semester. It is divided into 8 100 dollar scholarships. We will still do academic transcript vouchers.

Director of Information Technology-Sarah Hazelip

I am getting training for the website.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs-Hannah Garland

We are working on scholar development, study abroad, and teach abroad. You were assigned to committees. We will have a quick meeting after.

Campus Improvements-Mallory Chaney

If you are in my committee we will meet outside. We don't have any official business, but I would like to get some started.

Legislative Research-Nikki Seay

We will have a meeting shortly after this. We will talk about a good time to meet.

Public Relations-Hayley Wilkins

We will meet after senate out in the hall.

Student Affairs-Natalie Broderick

We will have a meeting after senate. We don't have anything major. We can start brainstorming ideas.

Special Orders

Student Speakers

Student: I was talking to Cory about the academic calendar. I deal with the Agriculture department. I received emails about the change. If this happens some people won't come to WKU. WKU would be the only one that fully requires this. Freshman came to me and asked why I told them to come here. I've talked to a lot of people. They all think this is a terrible idea. Most of my department are commuters. They can't drive here 4 days a week. They are more willing to go elsewhere. Most students agree. Being an ambassador, I hear from a lot of people. 7 weeks is not enough time for a class.

Graduate student in the History department: I am in strong support for the resolution. The change is hard for classes that have writing and research. It is taking affordable and eliminating it. International students come here because it is cheap. If you are voting against this, you are voting against the student body.

Unfinished Business

Presidential Appointments

Senator Broderick moved to approve appointment. Passed.

Resolution 1-12-F

Senator Garland: At the end of summer a proposal for change in the semester to 4 shorter terms was made. Students would take two or three classes. It would be like taking all biterms. We have found a lot of problems with this. The number of weeks for a class would be cut in half. No other public university in Kentucky has deviated from 15 weeks. Travel for events will be nearly impossible. There would be little flex in amount of courses. Students would spend more time on camus. That is hard for commuters, non traditional students, and students with jobs. There would be only two different choices of models instead of hours. You could take either a heavy load or light load. There would be a tuition increase. Currently you pay for 12 hours, but you can take up to 18. If you take more than minimum you have to pay for every hour.

Technical Questions

What are the benefits?

Senator Garland: There are no benefits. More money is the goal.

Cory Dodds: There is a better likelihood of success in quarters, but those have 11 weeks so it's different than this plan.

You can read the proposal at wku.edu/convocation.

Senator Broderick: If this passes what does that mean?

Cory Dodds: We do not have authority of policy, but it makes the student opinion clear.

Passed.

New Business

Presidential Executive Action

Announcements

Travis Taylor: There will be an executive meeting in the office after senate.

Senator Broderick: I encourage you to speak up during meetings.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m. on Tuesday September 4th, 2012.