WKU SGA Student Senate Minutes

September 14, 2010

The 4th meeting of the 9th Senate of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University was called to order at 5:08pm on Tuesday September 21, 2010 with the Speaker of the Senate in the chair.

There were 17 Senators present.

Absent Senators were Hilderbrant, Riggs, Thornton.

The minutes from September 14, 2010 were approved.

*Guest Speaker*

**Leadership and Volunteerism – Hunter Williams**

Hunter Williams

* Up ‘Til Dawn will take place March 16th and Relay for Life will take place April 29th.
* It is not too late to get involved in DLI (Dynamic Leadership Institute)
* Office is currently working on Student United Way Campaign
* Make-A-Difference Week
  + "Jail Cell"
  + $25 to nominate a person to be in the jail cell and nominated person is asked to raise $25 more to get out of jail.
* VIP (Volunteers in Progress)
  + September Project is coat drive benefitting Coats for Kids
  + Oct: Care Packages for Soldiers; letter writing day and packing day in DUC (date and time TBD)
  + Will also be working with Humane Society
* Spring Projects
  + Alternative Spring Break - Memphis $75 per student
  + Weekend in the Woods - overnight leadership retreat for freshmen only (November 12-13)
  + LeaderShape: 60 students will be taken. See office for further information.

*Officer Reports*

**President – Colton Jessie**

* The Fall 2010 Senator Election is underway on TopNet. Be sure to participate.
  + There will be an election results party at midnight Wednesday. GADS will be provided.
* The first home football game was Saturday (September 18). SGA grilled at Topperville. This event was a success. At least 100 people were fed by SGA.

*Senator Shaw asked Speaker Wingate if the senate had quorum.*

**Executive Vice President – Kendrick Bryan**

* Student Life Foundation meeting is this week.
* Remember to vote in the Student Senate Election on TopNet.
* The SGA is in talks with Governor Beashear’s office. We have invited him to campus to meet with students and participate in a Q&A.
* The Executive Cabinet is working to schedule Dine with Decision Makers in early December.
* The new SGA website will look great. Keep up the good work, Cory Dodds.

**Administrative Vice President – Wade Pierce**

* Tailgating on Saturday was very successful.
* Pens and cups have been purchased.
* Aramark funding was used to pay for tailgating needs on Saturday.
* Organizational Aid interviews begin Wednesday September 22, 2010.
* Remind other organizations that funding (up to $500) is available.

**Speaker of the Senate – Austin Wingate**

* Bills are due each Tuesday by 3pm. This is a firm deadline. No late bills will be accepted for the agenda.
* Remember that before a bill can be moved into second read that it must go through the Legislative Research Committee (Elieen Forsythe – chair).
* Wednesday September 22, 2010 is the memorial for Lt. Yates.

*Staff Reports*

**Chief of Staff – Charlie Harris**

* Will be giving university committee report later.

**Public Relations Director – Jessica Wurth**

* A new brochure was created and used at the information fairs. A few minor changes will be made to these.
* The Senate Election poster is up on the Current Students Page with a link to direct students to the ballot.
* Provide-A-Ride posters and guide cards are being developed.
* SGA has an ad in the online version of the Herald.

**Director of Academic and Student Affairs – Billy Stephens**

* Tailgating was successful and enjoyable, and SGA is looking for further ways to expand the tailgating experience.

**Director of Information Technology – Cory Dodds**

* Continuing to move forward with the website redesign. Expected launch date remains October 1, 2010.

*Committee Reports*

**Academic Affairs Committee– Brandon Logan**

* Today committee will be finalizing Study Abroad and Scholar Development Grant Applications so that they may be updated on the website.
* Currently working to develop legislation for remedial scholarships to assist transfer students that had general education credits that did not transfer from one university to another.

**Campus Improvements Committee– Kaylee Egerer**

* SGA Campus Clean Up will be held October 19, 2010 during Make A Difference Week. Traditionally this has been held before dark. We intend to do that this year as well.
* Plans for a Campus Safety Walk are being made.
* A bill was sent to committee for review, and we will take a closer look at it. We hope to have it up for first read by the next scheduled Senate meeting.

**Legislative Research Committee– Eileen Forsythe**

* Continue to develop ideas for new legislation.
* Meetings will be held at 5pm in SGA Office (DUC 130) on Thursdays.

**Public Relations Committee – Ann-Blair Thornton**

* Report was given by Daniel Shaw.
* Plans are being made for committee members to schedule speaking engagements with other organizations. Some legislation for that will be up soon.
* Looking to have advertisements (particularly posters) in areas of DUC where not all students have permission to post items (places other than bulletin boards, etc)
* Committee is working on lyrics for “Party in the SGA”
* Meetings will occur at 5:30pm in the hall just outside the Senate chambers

**Student Affairs Committee – Emmy Woosley**

* Please attend the meeting immediately following Senate at the end of the hall in conjunction with Campus Improvements.
* Will be discussing funding for Fair Trade t-shirts to be worn at event promoting fair trade.
* Will be writing a bill for funding for GPS unit for Trio Program.

*Special Orders*

**Senate Executive Committee Report – Charlie Harris**

* Most of meeting consisted of faculty members trying to clarify the rules of the Senate.
* Currently working on institutional transfer credits. This is great news for students! The Senate is trying to make the transfer of credits simpler.
* Athletic Director Ross Bjork spoke at the meeting and suggests bridging the gap between athletics and academics at WKU. Bjork would like to see highlights of students’ academic achievements at athletic events as well as highlights from athletics at commencement.

**Judicial Council Report – Dajana Crockett**

* Senator Karmiller and Senator Powell have been removed.
* Senator Davis’s resignation was officially accepted.
* Reminder to all Senators: it is extremely important to attend both Senate and Senate Committee meetings. You are allowed two (2) excused absences with the third resulting in a meeting with judicial council. You are allowed one (1) unexcused absence with the second resulting in a meeting with judicial council.
* Meetings are 4pm on Fridays.

**Bowling Green City Commission Report**

* No report.

**University Athletic Committee Report**

* Committee met at Mr. Brown’s house for dinner.
* A mere 5% of the university’s budget goes to athletics
* Men’s basketball schedule is causing interference with those students attending the required amounts of classes. It is the goal of the committee to ensure that the schedule in the future does not require these students to miss such a large amount of classes.

*Old Business*

**Speaker Appointments – Austin Wingate**

* Sergeant-at-Arms J.D. Shadburne

*Senator Egerer moved that the body move into a vote on this matter.*

*Appointee was approved unanimously.*

*New Business*

**Organizational Aid Appointments – Wade Pierce**

* Please review these and be prepared to vote next week.

*Senator Egerer inquired if a student must be a sitting Senator in order to participate on the Organizational Aid Board.*

*Administrative Vice President Wade Pierce answered that at student is not required to be a sitting Senator. He or she must only be a full-time student.*

*Questions and Announcements*

* Kaylee Egerer
  + President Ransdell will be attending the meeting next week. Please dress accordingly.
* Daniel Shaw
  + Saturday September 25, 2010 is the Bowling Green International Festival.
  + The event is held downtown. Many of the participants in this festival are WKU students. Please stop by the festival any time between 9:00am – 7:00pm.
* Colton Jessie
  + Attended first meeting of the International Club. There are a few members of this club running for election. Looking forward to attending all of the meetings this year. Be looking for legislation on this matter soon.
* Wade Pierce
  + The Herald has been doing a fantastic job. Articles are written well and are showcasing the good work that this organization is doing for the student body. Thanks to Mike Stunson for working so hard with us.
  + The Organizational Aid Board will meet briefly after adjournment.
* Kaylee Egerer and Emmy Woosely
  + Campus Improvements and Student Affairs will be having a joint meeting at the end of the hall.
* Austin Wingate
  + The Fallen Soldier memorial is in Diddle room 1513. Please stop by and observe this.
* Katie Stillwell
  + Committee Heads: please be filling out the committee report sheets that are provided for you. A blank template of these will be sent out to each of you. Please send those in to Secretary as soon as possible each week.

*A motion to adjourn was made. The motion was seconded and passed.*

The meeting adjourned at 5:27pm on Tuesday September 21, 2010.

Katie Stillwell, Secretary of the Senate

Student Government Association

Western Kentucky University