Senate Meeting Minutes

Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Twenty-Second Senate - Tuesday, April 18th 2023

**1. Call to Order**

* **The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.**

**2. Roll Call**

* **Speaker of the Senate Yulia Mishchuk took the roll call.**
* **Quorum was met.**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

* **The minutes were approved.**

**4. Guest and Student Speakers**

* **Geoffrey Hagerty gave a speech expressing his gratitude to members of SGA for being an inclusive, understanding environment.**
* **Senator Will Hemenover made a motion to move out of bylaws.**
  + **The motion was seconded.**
  + **The motion was unanimously approved.**
* **Senator Will Hemenover made a motion to move all items in new business into unfinished business.**
  + **Senator Will Hemenover gave a speech in affirmation to the motion.**
    - **Hemenover noted that it was the last meeting of the current senate, and therefore, if these bills were not moved up, then nothing would come of them.**
  + **The motion was unanimously approved.**
* **Senator Neel Patel made a motion to move voting on all legislation to google forms instead of roll-call or voice vote.**
  + **The motion was seconded.**
  + **Senator Neel Patel gave a speech in affirmation to the motion.**
    - **Patel stated that voting by google forms would make the process easier.**
  + **The motion was unanimously approved.**
* **Senator Will Hemenover made a motion to move into bylaws.**
  + **The motion was seconded.**
  + **The motion was unanimously approved.**

**5. Officer Reports**

* **President Cole Bornefeld gave his report.**
  + **Bornefeld thanked the senate and the student body for allowing him to serve as Student Body President.**
  + **Bornefeld thanked senators for their dedication to serving the student body.**
  + **Bornefeld noted that SGA had distributed over $28,000 in scholarships and $20,000 in Organizational Aid.**
  + **Bornefeld noted that 50 pieces of legislation had been written by the senators.**
  + **Bornefeld noted that despite this student government being one of the youngest in the institution’s history, it still achieved renown from faculty at WKU.**
  + **Bornefeld stated his optimism for the future of SGA.**
* **Executive Vice President Garrison Reed gave his report.** 
  + **Reed noted that, when reviewing legislation passed over the year, he realized just how much the Senate had accomplished this year.**
  + **Reed looks forward to seeing what senators will do in the future.**
* **Administrative Vice President Sam Kurtz gave his report.** 
  + **Kurtz noted that the budget had been updated.**
  + **Kurtz noted that the final bill to distribute Organizational Aid Funding was in unfinished business.**
* **Chief of Staff Lauren Willett gave her report.**
  + **Willett reminded senators to attend the live announcement of election results.**
  + **Willett notified senators that a google form would be sent out to evaluate the Executive Cabinet’s performance over the year.**
* **Director of Public Relations Preston Romanov gave his report.**
  + **Romanov reminded senators that elections were still open until midnight.**
  + **Romanov reminded senators when and where the live announcement of election results would take place.**
  + **Romanov notified the senate that, due to the efforts of senator Callison Padgett, the SGA TikTok page had made its debut.**
  + **Romanov also commended the young senate for accomplishing so much over the year.**
* **Director of Information Technology Aniyah Johnson gave her report.**
  + **Johnson noted that the budget had been updated.**
  + **Johnson noted that the resource newsletter had been added to the SGA website.**
  + **Johnson noted that there was a delay in updating the legislative archive.**
* **Director of Enrollment and Student Experience Donte’ Reed gave his report.**
  + **Reed noted that all the winners for scholarships had been decided for the semester.**
  + **Reed reminded senators to attend the live announcement of the election results.**
* **Speaker of the Senate Julie Mishchuk made a motion to override the veto of Bill 44-23-S.**
  + **The motion was seconded.**
  + **President Bornefeld gave the Executive Cabinet’s reasoning for overriding the veto of Bill 44-23-S.**
  + **Speaker of Senate Julie Mishchuk made a speech in affirmation of overriding the veto of Bill 44-23-S.** 
    - **Mishchuk cited what she saw as flaws in the arguments made by the Executive Cabinet.**
  + **A time was reserved for debate.**
  + **Senator Sydney Denney made a motion to amend the bill to remove her authorship from the bill.**
  + **A time was reserved for voting.**
  + **The motion was defeated.**
* **Speaker of the Senate Julie Mishchuk gave her report.**
  + **Mishchuk was pleased that the Senate made the final decision on Bill 44-23-S.**
* **Secretary of the Senate Ethan Huffaker gave his report.**
  + **Huffaker gave a series of personal shout-outs to members of the student government.**

**6. Committee Reports**

* **Legislative Operations Committee Chair Elizabeth DeLozier gave her report.**
  + **DeLozier thanked senators for their patience and cooperation over the year.**
  + **DeLozier notified senators about the committee’s plans to hold an end-of-the-year party.**
* **Campus Improvements and Sustainability Chair Will Hemenover gave his report.**
  + **Hemenover notified senators about the tabling event for Earth Day taking place on the coming Friday.**
  + **Hemenover invited senators to help him and the committee to prepare for the event.**
  + **Hemenover thanked his committee for their excellent work over the year.**
* **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Chair Juan Tomas gave his report.**
  + **Tomas thanked his committee for their excellent work.**
  + **Tomas thanked the senate for his experience in SGA.**
* **Student Mental Health and Welbbeing Committee Chair Olivia Feck gave her report.**
  + **Feck reminded the senate about Mental Health Week.**
  + **Feck invited the senate to serve during Mental Health Week.**
  + **Feck thanked her committee for their excellent work.**
* **Community Relations Committee Chair Sydney Denney gave her report.**
  + **Denney invited senators to view the resource newsletter on the SGA website.**
  + **Denney commended her committee for their excellent work.**

**7. Faculty Senate Reports**

* There were no reports.

**8. Special Orders**

* **Chief Justice Justin Goins gave his report.**
  + **Goins thanked members of SGA for the opportunity to be the Chief Justice.**
  + **Goins noted his plans to join SGA while in law school.**
  + **Goins encouraged senators to reach out to him if they are interested in learning about the law school application process.**
* **SGA Representative for the Budget and Finance Committee Sam Kurtz gave his report.**
  + **Kurtz announced the “Battle of the DJs” event.**
* **Senator Juan Tomas was named Senator of the Month.**

**9. Unfinished Business:**

* **Bill 48-23-S: Organizational Aid Funding April 2023.**
  + **Administrative Vice President Sam Kurtz presented the bill.**
    - **Kurtz noted that the Organizational Aid Board recommended these three applicants after the end of their deliberation process.**
  + **A time was allotted for non-debatable technical questions.**
    - **Senator Rush Robinson asked a question concerning where Administrative Vice President Sam Kurtz had received his “sick fade”.** 
      * **Administrative Vice President Sam Kurtz clarified at which barber shop he had received his “sick fade”.**
  + **A time was allotted for debate.**
    - **Senator Ethan Huffaker motioned to call the previous question.**
      * **The motion was seconded.**
      * **The motion was unanimously approved.**
  + **A time was allotted for voting.**
  + **The bill was unanimously approved.**
* **Resolution 5-23-S. Resolution to Support Water Bottle Filling Station in EST**
  + **Katie Lane and Trevor Clark presented the resolution.**
  + **A time was allotted for questioning.**
  + **A time was allotted for debate.**
    - **Senator Will Hemenover gave a speech in affirmation.**
      * **Hemenover stated that there are not many water bottle filling stations on top of the hill and that this resolution would help with that problem.**
  + **A time was allotted for voting.**
  + **The motion was unanimously approved.**
* **Bill 49-23-S. A Bill to Amend the Constitution of the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University**
  + **Senator ShyAnte’e Williams presented the bill.**
    - **The bill would add duties to the graduate senator position increase their cooperation with the Graduate Student Association and other graduate student senators.**
  + **A time was allotted for questioning.**
  + **Senator Ethan Huffaker made a motion to amend the bill to change the title to “A Bill to Amend the Bylaws of the Student Government Association Constitution”.**
    - **The motion was taken as unfriendly.**
    - **The motion was withdrawn.**
  + **Senator Ethan Huffaker made a motion to table Bill 49-23-S and Bill 50-23-S.** 
    - **The motion was unanimously approved.**

**10. New Business**

**11. Announcements**

* **Senator Salvador Leon made a motion to adjourn the meeting.**
  + **The motion was seconded.**
  + **The motion was unanimously approved.**

**12. Adjournment**

* **The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.**