Senate Meeting Agenda

Tenth Meeting of the Twenty-Fourth Senate - Tuesday, November 19th 2024

**1. Call to Order**

1. The regular meeting of the WKU Student Government Association was called to order on November 19th, 2024, at 5:02 PM by Speaker of the Senate Sarah Vincent.

**2. Roll Call**

1. Roll was called by Speaker Vincent
	1. Absences.
		1. Senator Dilts
		2. Senator Evans
		3. Senator Lynn
		4. Senator Zim
		5. Senator Whipple
		6. Senator Yates
		7. Senator Yelton
	2. Quorum was met.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

1. Minutes were approved.

**4. Guest and Student Speakers**

1. Preston Reed, Brayden Gross, and Jordan Wonka come to discuss diabetes awareness and inclusion on campus.
	1. Diabetes affects 11% of Americans with many not knowing that they have it!
	2. We need to foster a more inclusive environment here on campus for those with diabetes!
	3. Walk for Diabetes was held this past Thursday, where the student presenters surveyed students about how they thought diabetes inclusion could be addressed on campus.
		1. 73% of students surveyed thought there was little awareness about food safety policy on campus.
	4. Call to Action: encourage students, promote awareness, highlight resources available
	5. Senator Bryant: What are some diabetic-friendly foods that we can offer here on campus?
		1. Preston Reed: Things like sugar-free ice cream
	6. Senator Lucas: What is your background with this initiative?
		1. Preston Reed: This is our HON251 Civic Engagement Project, and we feel as though SGA is the best route for us to do this through.
2. Dr. Leslie North, Director of the Office of Sustainability, is here to speak with us about their initiaitves on campus. Please see notes under Bill 17-24-F.
	1. Question for Senator Farmer: What can we do for students who are looking to donate?
		1. You can donate by leaving non-perished items in the bin on our porch or by contacting our office directly!
3. Lilly Pollitzer from Student Activities
4. Katy from the Boys and Girls Club!

Motion to move out of bylaws by Senator Robinson

Seconded by Senator Jerdon

Motion by Senator Kurtz to move **Bill 20-24 F** to Unfinished Business

Second by Senator Robinson

Reason: time sensitive

Voice vote: Unanimous Yes

Motion to move **bills 18/18-24 F** to move to Unfinished Business

Seconded by Senator Bryant

Reason: Time Sensitive

Voice Vote: Unanimous Vote

Motion to move back in by-laws by Senator Finch

Second by Senator Barton

Motion to move out of by-laws by Bryant, Second by Robinson.

Motion to move unfished business to before by-laws by Senator Bryant, Second by Robinson

Unanimous Vote

Motion to move back into by laws by Bryant

Seconded by Robinson

**5. Officer Reports**

1. President: **Sam Kurtz**
	1. I like the Christmas spirit I’m seeing in the Senate!
	2. He would like to commend SGA and the Senate for their diligence and work this semester to inspire change on campus for the betterment of the student body.
	3. Wishing everyone a safe, fun winter break! But let’s come back next semester ready to work!
	4. Tonight, the Christmas Party is going to be great, and a shoutout to Anne-Marie for setting everything up!
	5. Shoutout to all our seniors who are graduating as well, especially Chief Justice Ellen Henderson!
2. Vice President: **Donté Reed**
	1. Congratulations to our senators that are graduating!
	2. If you’re interested in grading scholarships, please reach out to VP Reed ASAP!
	3. Thank you for passing the Boys and Girls Club bill!
3. Chief Financial Officer: **Ethan Taylor**
	1. Thank you for passing the organizational aid bill for the WKU Men’s Soccer Club!
	2. $345.60 comes out of PR budget for senior stoles.
	3. As far as Legislative Discretionary goes, we are over hflway through the budget going into the spring semester.
	4. We will miss our seniors!
	5. Shoutout to everyone who was on Homecoming Court, and our Speaker, Sarah Vincent, for being crowned Queen!
4. Chief of Staff: **Anne-Marie Wright**
	1. No Present, but there are supplies in the conference room that need to be picked up.
5. Chief Communications Officer: **Preston Jenkins**
	1. Everyone be safe traveling home for Thanksgiving!
	2. There is an issue with our graphics on Instagram, so please like, share, and comment on an SGA post when you see it!
	3. There is going to be a new SGA t-shirt graphic/logo design competition, with two $250 scholarships being given out for each one! This will be sent out to the student body over winter break!
	4. Senior stoles have been ordered!
	5. Thank you to the Senate for all your support this semester.
6. Speaker of the Senate: **Sarah Vincent**
	1. We have passed 21 bills at this point in the semester, which is up from last year! You all are doing a great job of using our budget and using it effectively.
	2. Senator of the Semester will be announced at the Chirstmas Party.
7. Secretary of the Senate: **Hadley Whipple**
	1. No report.

**6. Committee Reports**

1. Legislative Operations Committee: **Hannah Evans**
	1. Send in your bills!
2. Enrollment and Student Experience: **Savanna Kurtz**
	1. The scholarships are in and we need help grading! We need all hands on deck.
3. Outreach and Public Relations: **Ryan Dilts**
	1. I'm working on some bills for next semester!
4. Campus Improvements and Sustainability: **Rush Robinson**
	1. Thank you for passing the bill for the Office of Sustainability!
	2. Alligators can re-grow their teeth up to 3,000 times in their lifetime.
5. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: **Megan Farmer**
	1. Tomorrow from 3-6PM is the Giving Thanks event! Please be there!
6. Student Mental Health and Wellbeing: **Sophia Bryant**
	1. We’ve had discussions about student mental health on campus and the resources that are available to the student body.
	2. We want everyone to make it through with a smile on their face!
7. Community Relations: **Annie Finch**
	1. No meeting today, go to the Christmas party!

**7. Special Orders**

1. Judicial Council Report: **Ellen Henderson**
	1. This is her last meeting!
	2. Senator King is our Chief Justice Verdict Award winner of the semester!
	3. She is always a resource!
	4. The Judicial Council is nominating Associate Chief Justice Morgan Ammons to be Chief Justice with current Chief Justice Ellen Henderson graduating.
	5. Senator Bryant: In affirmation, she’s going to be great!
	6. Voice vote, unanimous yes.
2. Swearing In: **Ellen Henderson**
	1. Outgoing Chief Justice swore in Chief Justice Morgan Ammons.

University Committee Reports

1. Student Life Foundation: **Donté Reed**
	1. Next meeting is soon! Report to come!
2. Committee on Academic Quality: **Donté Reed**
	1. No Report.
3. Master Plan Committee: **Garrett Price**
	1. No Report.
4. University Athletic Committee: **Kaison Barton**
	1. **We have our last meeting tomorrow!**
5. Parking and Transportation Services Appeal Committee: **Megan Farmer, Rush Robinson**
	1. No Report.
6. Faculty Senate Budget and Finance Committee: **Ryan Dilts**
	1. No Report.
7. Graduate Advisory Council:
	1. No Graduate Senator; No Report
8. Colonnade General Education Committee: **Chloe Ralston**
	1. No Report.
9. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: **Jax Price**
	1. No Report.
10. Strategic Plan Implementation Committee: **Bradley Wagoner**
	1. No Report.
11. Faculty Welfare Committee: **Savanna Kurtz**
	1. No Report.

**8. Unfinished Business**

1. **Bill 16-24-F:** Funding for Fresh Vouchers
	1. Senator Jerdon met with Dr. Sales about her need for meal vouchers at Fresh Food Company.
		1. The need for these vouchers is muchgreater at the end of the semester than at other times.
	2. Senator Wells: Will there be a process for how they’re distributed?
		1. Senator Jerdon: The office of the Dean of Students handles that directly and has the resources to know about your meal plan statu.
	3. Senator Barker: How have they met this need in the past?
		1. Senator Jerdon: Dr. Sales says that she does a lot of begging to get them, and SGA would be able to step in and amend that process.
	4. Senator Redig: Is there a system for ways that students can donate their meal swipes?
		1. Senator Jerdon: It used to exist but was not broadcasted well. A refurbished program is currently in the works.
	5. Senator Bryant: Would you be open to lowering the vouchers to 60 since we’re getting closer to the end of the semester where they’re more needed.
		1. I am not opposed to that, Dr. Sales has said that anything helps.

Motion by Senator Bryant to amend the 5th whereas close to say 60 vouchers instead of 80, and the purpose and therefore clauses to say $729.00

Taken as friendly.

Unanimous vote.

Senator Kaison: Point of information to CFO Ethan Taylor: Can we afford this?

$4,011 left in Legislative Discretionary if all pending and passed bills were spent.

Senator Barotn: Motion to amend the total vouchers to 40, and the final cost to $486.00.

Taken as friendly

Voice vote, Unanimous yes.

Speeches:

Senator Ismail: Vote yes! This is a great initiative!

Senator Zing: This is a great idea because in the dorms students often showcase food needs, so this is a great way for SGA to help alleviate this.

Voice vote, unanimous yes.

1. **Bill 17-24-F:** Funding for the Office of Sustainability
	1. Dr. North, Director of the Office of Sustainability, is here to speakwith us about her office and show her support for this bill.
		1. The Office of Sustainability is open to both students and staff!
		2. Our funding is limited but our needs are many, we appreciate any and all help from SGA!
	2. No Question
	3. Voice Vote, Unanimous Yes
2. **Bill 18-24-F:** Funding for the Cramming and Cookies Tabling Event.
	1. Senator Wagoner: This bill will be for a tabling event to alleviate stress for students during finals week. We will offer the academic resources SGA already has, in addition to snacks/sweets and some gifts for students as well.
	2. Senator Barton: Can we make a flyer for this event?
		1. Senator Wagoner: Yes!
	3. Senator Redig: Since we just heard about diabetes inclusion, can we provide some diabetes-friendly options for students?
		1. Yes!
	4. Senator Ismail: Where are these items coming from?
		1. Items are coming from Walmart, and doughnuts are likley to come from GADs.
	5. Senator Bryant: Would you be open to doing a table at both DSU and The Commons to reach more students?
		1. Yes!
	6. Senator Farmer: The block you’ve chosen is directly during a finals time slot, so can you move the timeslot back to include these students.

Motion to amend the time of the bill to 10:00AM to 12:30PM by Senator Farmer,

Taken as friendly

Voice vote, unanimous yes.

Motion to amend the 6th whereas clause to include gluten-free and diabetic options for students by Speaker of the Senate Sarah Vincent

Taken as friendly

Voice vote, unanimous yes.

Debate:

Senator Finch: We have done this in the past and it worked very well, so let’s do it again!

Vote:

Voice vote, unanimous yes.

1. **Bill 19-24-F:** A Bill to Fund a Heat Press for the WKU Fashion Merchandising Department
	1. Senator Wells: The Department og Fashion Merchandising has asked for our help in acquiring a heat press the department. To my knowledge, we have never allocated money to this secgtor of campus, so this is diversifying our reach as the Student Government Association.
	2. Questions:
		1. Senator Bailey: Can anyone use this outside of the Department use it?
			1. TBD, there is potential for that.
		2. Senator Robinson: Did you talk to the contacts of this bill about the need of this heat press?
			1. The Department has experienced significant budget cuts as it relates to equipment, so this is needed.
		3. Senator Finch: Would they be willing to split it?
			1. Maybe so, it would require me to reach out.
		4. Senator Jerdon: Is this time-sensitive to the point that we need to pass it now? So, can we wait to pass this in the spring semester?
			1. Supposedly, yes.

Motion by Senator Barton to table the bill, seconded by Jerdon.

- Doesn’t see this bill as being necessary immediately.

Voice vote, unanimous yes.

Senator Lucas is abstaining.

1. **Bill 20-24-F:** Funding for the Boys and Girls Club Toy Drive
	1. Lily Pollitzer is here to speak with us about this iniaitive from the Student Activities office.
	2. Katy is also here as the lead from the Boys and Girls Club.
	3. We did this last year, and it went really well; however, this year we will not be wrapping gifts to avoid confusion.
		1. 1 service hour will be offered per gift given, with a cap of 5 hours!
	4. Mission Statement of the Boys and Girls Club: Enable all young people, especially those who need our assistance, to have the skills they need to be productive, caring, and responsible citizens.
		1. The need for this organization is substantial, and the age range is wide.
	5. Lily Pollitzer: Student Activities saw this event last year and wanted to get involved. We want to help you all with the promotion of this toy drive.
	6. Debate:
		1. Senator Norman spoke in affirmation because the students in the Boys and Girls Club are deserving of these toys!
	7. Vote:
		1. Voice vote, unanimous bill.
2. **Bill 21-24-F: Organizational Aid Funding Fall 2024**
	1. CFO Taylor is ensuring these students get the same opportunity as other students to get aid when they applied and did everything correctly. CFO Taylor wishes to correct his mistake with his bill.
	2. Senator Wells: How will this influence the allocation of organization aid next semester?
		1. It will just change how we allocate the levels of aid which organizations receive.
	3. Debate:
		1. Senator Farmer: Let’s commend CFO Taylor for admitting his mistake.
	4. Vote:
		1. Voice vote, Unanimous yes.

**9. New Business**

All moved to unfinished business

**10. Announcements**

1. Senator Ismail: Let her know if you want to table tomorrow
2. Senator Jerdon: There's a box in the front desk for pack the pantry, don’t take the food in the SGA office!
3. Senator Lucas: Come see me this Thursday from 10AM to 1PM to write a thank-you note to WKU Facilities Management Staff
4. Justice Payne: This is her last SGA meeting; she wants to thank everyone for their work this semester! Please keep the spirit of this organization!

**11. Adjournment**

1. Motion to Adjourn by Senator King
2. Seconded by Senator Robinson
3. 6:15 PM adjournment
4. Voice vote, unanimous yes.

First Reading: 10/12/2024
Second Reading: 10/18/2024
Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 16-24-F: Funding for Fresh Vouchers**

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to

allocate $972.00 to the Office of the Dean of Students to help purchase Fresh Food Company Vouchers.

WHEREAS: The money will come from the Legislative Discretionary Fund, and

WHEREAS: The Office of the Dean of Students has a program that offers free Fresh Food Company vouchers to those in need, and

WHEREAS: The vouchers are $12.15 each and funded solely from donations, and

WHEREAS: The Student Government Association will provide funding to the Office of the Dean of Students, and

WHEREAS: The funding will be used to purchase 80 Fresh Food Company Vouchers, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University will allocate $972.00 to the Office of the Dean of Students to help purchase Fresh Food Company Vouchers.

AUTHORS: Gabriel Jerdon, Senator At-Large

SPONSORS: Enrollment and Student Experience Committee

 Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Committee

 Campus Improvements and Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS:  Dean of Students Office, deanofstudents@wku.edu

First Reading: 10/18/2024
Second Reading:
Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 17-24-F: Funding for the Office of Sustainability**

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $500.00 to the Office of Sustainability.

WHEREAS: The money will come from the Legislative Discretionary Fund, and

WHEREAS: The WKU Office of Sustainability is responsible for many initiatives on campus, including a food and resources pantry that is accessible to all students, and

WHEREAS: Potentially fund sustainability projects brought forth by the student body, and

WHEREAS:  The food pantry has almost run out of toiletries and personal products that they provide to students, and

WHEREAS:  The funds from the passage of this bill will be used to offset the cost of replenishing resources within the pantry, and

WHEREAS:  Dozens of students utilize this pantry weekly, especially towards the end of the semester, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $500.00 to the Office of Sustainability.

AUTHORS: Rush Robinson, Junior Senator

SPONSORS:  Campus Improvements and Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS:  Leslie North, WKU Director of Sustainability, leslie.north@wku.edu

First Reading: 10/18/2024
Second Reading:
Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 18-24-F: Funding for the Cramming and Cookies Tabling Event.**

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $325.00 for the Cramming and Cookies Tabling Event.

WHEREAS: The money will come from the Legislative Discretionary Budget, and

WHEREAS: The event will take place from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM on Monday, December 2, 2024, and

WHEREAS: SGA will promote its commitment to the mental well-being of WKU students, and

WHEREAS: SGA will provide snacks, hot chocolate, and personal care/wellness gifts like stress balls, candy, mugs, stickers, etc. to students at a tabling event, and

WHEREAS: This event will provide students with a stress-free environment during finals week that will help them prioritize their mental health during this stressful time, and

WHEREAS: $175 will be used for Christmas cookies, donuts, and hot chocolate, and

WHEREAS: $150 will be used for gifts, such as stress balls, candy, mugs, and stickers, etc. from Walmart or Target, and

WHEREAS: SGA will provide scantrons and pencils at the booth, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $325.00 for the Cramming and Cookies Tabling Event.

AUTHORS: Bradley Wagoner, First Generation Senator

Guan Zhou Sim, Senator At-Large

Annie Finch, Community Relations Committee Chair

Sophia Bryant, Mental Health and Wellbeing Committee Chair

SPONSORS: Community Relations Committee

Mental Health and Wellbeing Committee

CONTACTS: Executive Cabinet

First Reading: 10/18/2024
Second Reading:
Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 19-24-F. A Bill to Fund a Heat Press for the WKU Fashion Merchandising Department**

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to

allocate $240.00 for the purchase of a heat press for the WKU Fashion Merchandising Department.

WHEREAS: The money will come from the Legislative Discretionary Budget, and

WHEREAS: WKU Fashion Merchandising is working on its first ever WKU Design Week to be launched in the Spring of 2025, and

WHEREAS: The department has experienced equipment budget cuts requiring external funds

to purchase the heat press, and

WHEREAS: The heat press will be used to apply heat transfer designs to apparel and

accessories for WKU Design Week, coursework, and registered student organizations within the Department of Applied Human Sciences, and

WHEREAS: The primary users of the press will be WKU fashion majors (approx. 70 students

currently) and members of our RSO Fashion, Inc. (Roughly 28 students per year, and

WHEREAS: The purchase of the heat press $240.00 ([link to heat press](https://a.co/d/hteX5D9)) includes a 3-year

warranty, and

WHEREAS: The department has no history of having a heat press and should SGA

purchase one the expected lifetime is 5+ years, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University will allocate $240.00 towards the purchase of a heat press for WKU

Fashion and Merchandising.

AUTHORS: Jenna Wells, Senior Senator

SPONSORS: Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Committee

CONTACTS: Seth Howard, Fashion Merchandising Professor

Seth.howard@wku.edu

Dr. Ann Embry, Interim Department Chair

ann.embry@wku.edu

First Reading: 10/18/2024
Second Reading:
Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 20-24-F: Funding for the Boys and Girls Club Toy Drive**

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $200.00 for a Toy Drive benefiting the Boys and Girls Club.

WHEREAS: The money will come from Legislative Discretionary Budget, and

WHEREAS: Students can donate new toys for children ages 3-16 from November 20th through December 3rd. Gifts can be dropped off at the SGA front desk, and

WHEREAS: One service hour will be awarded per toy donated, with a maximum cap of 5 service hours, and

WHEREAS: $200.00 will purchase extra toys, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $200.00 for a toy drive benefiting the Boys and Girls Club of Bowling Green, Kentucky.

AUTHORS:  Savanna Kurtz, Sophomore Senator

Donte Reed, Student Body Vice President

SPONSORS:  Enrollment & Student Experience

CONTACTS:  Savanna Kurtz, savanna.kurtz482@topper.wku.edu,

Donte Reed steven.reed824@topper.wku.edu,

Lilly Pottlitzer, lilly.pottlitzer021@topper.wku.edu

First Reading: 10/19/2024

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 21-24-F. Organizational Aid Funding Fall 2024**

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate funding to the selected Registered Student Organization (RSO).

WHEREAS: $200.00 from the Organizational Aid budget will be allocated to the WKU Men’s Soccer Club, and

WHEREAS: The Organizational Aid Board has conducted careful analysis of the submitted application, finding respective financial need in the Registered Student Organization above.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $200.00 from the Organizational Aid budget to the aforementioned Registered Student Organizations.

AUTHORS: Ethan Taylor, Chief Financial Officer

SPONSORS:  Legislative Operations Committee

CONTACTS: Organizational Aid Board, ethan.taylor043@topper.wku.edu (Chair)

 Hannah Evans, Member

 Gabriel Jerdon, Member

 Guan Zhou Sim, Member

 Malick Ibrahim, Member

 Rush Robinson, Member

 Jax Price, Member