Senate Meeting Minutes

Twelth Meeting of the Twenty-Fourth Senate - Tuesday, January 28th, 2025

1. **Call to Order**
	1. The regular meeting of the WKU Student Government Association was called to order on January 28th, 2025 at 5:02 PM by Speaker of the Senate Sarah Vincent.
2. **Roll Call**
	1. Roll was called by Speaker Vincent
	2. Absences
		1. Senator Lun
		2. Senator Norman
		3. Senator Ralston
		4. Senator Sim
		5. Senator Wagoner
	3. Quorum was met.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
	1. Minutes were approved.
4. **Guest and Student Speakers**
5. **Officer Reports**
6. President: **Sam Kurtz**
	1. It is time to pass the torch on to the younger generation of students. Be sure to spread the word about SGA elections that way we can have a wide range of students represented.
	2. New email policy with the PR team and WKU
		1. Moving forward, any all-student email that is related to SGA or has SGA in the title can only be sent out by the SGA cabinet.
		2. Reach out to exec if you have something you would like to promote it.
	3. Be thinking of ways to get creative with the voucher programs we have. Uber vouchers can be a great way to incentive your events. Reach out to Anne-Marie if interested.
	4. Appointments:
		1. Molly Ricke for Senator at Large
			1. Molly would like to join SGA to become more involved on campus and increase her leadership skills while helping the student body.
				1. Voice Vote

Unanimous yes

* + 1. Blake Graham for Judicial Council
			1. Blake is a junior majoring in criminal studies. He is excited to network and get involved in SGA through JC. He thanked President Kurtz for this appointment.
				1. Voice Vote

Unanimous yes

* + 1. Samantha Lein
			1. Samantha is a senior studying public relations. In her time at WKU, she has been involved in many leadership roles on and off campus. She is wanting to be an advocate fro student life at western. With her time left at WKU, she wants to continue to help students feel at home here.
				1. Speech in Affirmation from Senator Bryant
				2. Voice Vote

Unanimous yes

* + 1. Gavin Grawe
			1. Gavin is a sophomore legal studies major here at WKU. He has become familiar with the justice system and has become passionate about it. He would like to serve the student body in this way.
				1. Voice Vote

Unanimous yes

* 1. Quote of the day: 2 Timothy 1:7
1. Vice President: **Donté Reed**
	1. $12,000 of scholarship money was given in the fall and we have a little over $11,000 to be given out in the spring.
	2. $500 will be donated to the Heather Strode Scholarship Fund.
	3. Thank you to everyone who helped spread the word about scholarships.
	4. We need 8 students to represent SGA at the faculty awards, let VP Reed know if you are interested.
	5. Reach out if you are interested in exec and have any questions.
2. Chief Financial Officer: **Ethan Taylor**
	1. Legislative Discretionary has $4,737
		1. It is our responsibility as a senate to spend the money you request and do as much research as you can when asking for an amount.
	2. Organizational Aid is open and due Feb. 28th at 5:00PM.
3. Chief of Staff: **Anne-Marie Wright**
	1. New calculaters and have new vouchers ready to go!
4. Chief Communications Officer: **Preston Jenkins**
	1. SGA interviews for a promo video are still happening. CCO Jenkins will be sending his availability out and he needs 3-4 people to sign up.
	2. SGA design contest winners have been chosen and will be released soon.
5. Speaker of the Senate: **Sarah Vincent**
	1. Senator Finch, Senator Reddig and Senator Evans all resigned.
	2. Senator Lucas has been nominated for LOC Head
		1. Speech in affirmation from Senator Barton.
		2. Voice Vote
			1. Unanimous yes
	3. Senator Wells has been nominated for community relations
		1. Voice Vote
			1. Unanimous yes
6. Secretary of the Senate: **Hadley Whipple**
	1. Reminder for committee secretaries to send me their meeting minutes
7. **Committee Reports**
	1. Legislative Operations Committee: **Caden Lucas**
		1. New meeting time is immediately after the SGA meetings.
		2. Submit your bills before and be prepared to attend the meeting for your bills.
	2. Enrollment and Student Experience: **Savanna Kurtz**
		1. Reminder that scholarships are due April 4th and the Gregory Mckinney Leadership scholarship is due February 21st.
	3. Outreach and Public Relations: **Ryan Dilts**
		1. No report.
	4. Campus Improvements and Sustainability: **Rush Robinson**
		1. Campus safety walk is coming up. It will be around sundown and will end at the bottom of the hill.
		2. Scooter racks are in the works.
		3. Reminder about office of sustainability.
		4. Fun fact of the day is that is 1,400 species of grass in the United States.
	5. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: **Megan Farmer**
		1. Meetings are at 4:00PM on Tuesdays.
		2. Working on ADA compliance within residence halls and apartments.
	6. Student Mental Health and Wellbeing: **Sophia Bryant**
		1. Hoping to bring back old ideas like Hilltopeers and the cooking class.
	7. Community Relations: **Jenna Wells**
		1. Community Builder excellence scholarship is important so if you have any BG conncections reach out to Senator Wells.
8. **Special Orders**
	1. Judicial Council Report: **Morgan Gammons**
		1. Reminder that senators are permitted 3 unexcused absences. Please use the form on the website. Be sure to get your office hours as well.
		2. JC will still meet on Wednesdays at 7:00PM. Will be meeting bi-weekly until election season.
	2. Swearing In: **Morgan Gammons**
		1. Swearing in of new appointments that occurred during the meeting.

University Committee Reports

1. Student Life Foundation: **Donté Reed**
	1. Meeting tomorrow at 8:30 AM.
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. No report.
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 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.
12. **Unfinished Business**
13. **Bill 19-24-F:** A Bill to Fund a Heat Press for the WKU Fashion Merchandising Department
	1. Presentation by Senator Jenna Wells
		1. Any student will be able to use this as well. The fashion merchanidising department had overspent in the past which is why SGA is covering this. We are wanting to include some sort of SGA branding on the machine to ensure students know who funded it.
	2. Questions
		1. Senator Price
			1. Would this not fall more under org aid?
				1. Response: Since it is a department, it does not fall under organizational aid.
		2. Senator Barton
			1. Is this a need or a want?
				1. Response: It is a need according to their dean, it will also be used in curriculum.
		3. Senator G. Price
			1. I saw on the reviews that it was not always a great option. Is this the best price option?
				1. Response: This is the one the department chair sent me.
	3. Debate
		1. Affirmattion
			1. Senator Farmer: This is a great bill to get this involved in funding a unique department. This will be of aid to students and professors.
			2. Senator Barker: Would like to applaud Senator Wells for her work on this. It fulfills a need and is a direct way to give back to the student.
			3. Senator Lucas: Seconded the appluas. We have an opportunity to fill the gap that the university could not. This is our responsibility of us as senators.
			4. Senator Ismail: I think there is no reason not to vote yes on this bill since all students can use it.
			5. Senator Bryant: I like the idea of a sticker that says SGA that way we can set a precedent for the way we support the student body.
			6. Senator Bailey: It is easy to overlook smaller departments and it sends a good message to the smaller departments.
		2. Negation
			1. None.
	4. Voice Vote
		1. Unanimous yes

**Announcements**

**-** There is a Basketball tailgate on February 20th on South Lawn with a cornhole tournament and free food!

**11. Adjournment**

Senator G Price motioned to ajourn.

Senator Robinson seconded.

It was voted to ajourn at 5:47 PM.

First Reading: 10/18/2024
Second Reading: 1/28/2025
Pass: Yes

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

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