Senate Meeting Minutes

Twentieth Meeting of the Twenty-Fourth Senate - Tuesday, April 15th, 2025

1. **Call to Order**
   1. The regular meeting of the WKU Student Government Association was called to order on April 15th, 2025 at 5:04 PM by Speaker of the Senate Sarah Vincent.
2. **Roll Call**
   1. Roll was called by Speaker Vincent
   2. Absences
      1. Senator Ismail
      2. Senator Lun
      3. Senator Olmos
      4. Senator Reinnick
3. **Approval of Minutes**
   1. Minutes were approved.
4. **Guest and Student Speakers**

**-** Vice President Reed read off the list of Bluegrass Leadership Scholarship and recognized them. Congratulations!!

**-** He then presented the winners of the Brent Chumbly scholarship winner! Congratulations!

**5. Officer Reports**

1. President – **Sam Kurtz**
   1. Happy Tuesday!
   2. Thank you to everyone that was part of SGA Polloza. It was a great event and the best Sunday on South Lawn ever!
   3. President Kurtz is excited to see the progress of the next executive board and the next senate.
   4. Thank you the legislative branch this year. You all absolutely killed it. Great job clearing out the Legislative Budget.
   5. Shoutout to JC, they did such a great job. Very limited drama this year which is admirable.
   6. Continue to work hard in SGA and be grateful for those around you.
   7. Thank you to the executive cabinet. They absolutely killed it this year and their support does not go unnoticed.
   8. Core values of SGA:
      1. SGA is for everybody. Everyone should always feel welcome in the chambers and feel free to reach out to us.
      2. Community relations is super important. SGA has become involved in the community so be sure to maintain that. A community that loves their students will benefit them the most.
      3. SGA is most successful when it is used to be a light. Be the light on the Hill. Make sure you always share the light and do your best to serve others rather than yourself.
      4. Be for the students always. These people are your best friends and use each other to help continue helping the student body. Look out for your fellow senators.
   9. SGA is on an upwards trajectory and it needs to keep growing. Continue to push forward and strive for greatness.
   10. Whatever you do, remember you are representing SGA always. Hold yourself to that higher standard that students expect of you. Do little things throughout your day to remind the students that you are there for them.
   11. The greatest honor of President Kurtz life is serving with some extremely talented people. You all are incredible and if you ever need anything please reach out.
2. Vice President – **Dontè Reed**
   1. Thank you everyone who came today and everyone who helped to grade scholarships. We had 295 total applications this semester. They will be done by the end of this week.
   2. Thank you to the senate for spreading the word about these scholarships. We now have admissions wanting to work with us due to that.
   3. Shoutout to President Kurtz for seeing something in me for executive cabinet. CFO Taylor, it has been an honor to lead with you. COS Wright, thank you for all your hard work in the office. CCO Jenkins, we have loved all your hard work on PR and we are so grateful. CJ Gammons, love the no drama this year, its been great.
   4. Thank you to everyone for this opportunity that I have been given to serve the students. I have become more comfortable with you all each meeting and speaking in front of crowds is not easy for me. This organization has helped me to grow. You can be anything you want to be but you have to work for it. Put the work in.
3. Chief Financial Officer – **Ethan Taylor**
   1. Final budget report of the twenty fourth senate.
   2. SGA Polloza will cost us about $7600 and I will know a final total after I get the receipts. It was a great event.
   3. Banquet Budget has been cleared out. Shoutout COS Wright.
   4. Org Aid checks need to be picked up ASAP. If you know someone who was awarded money, please tell them to come to the front desk as soon as possible. If the do not pick them up, they cannot apply for money next year.
   5. Huge website update will occur this week.
   6. Thank you to the senate for you incredible work this year. I am so proud of all the things you did. I am so proud that you guys cleared out the discretionary budget. You blew out expectation out of the water.
   7. To exec and JC, it has been such an honor to serve with you giys and I am so glad I decided to run. I could not pass up this opportunity to have one of the coolest positions on campus.
   8. It’s been an absolute honor and I hope I made you proud. Thank you.
4. Chief of Staff – **Anne-Marie Wright** 
   1. I had the best time at SGA Polloza. It was such a perfect day and the DJs were awesome (shoutout Sofia!!). I am so proud of everyone that put so much into this event.
   2. Moving forward, do not be afraid to dream big and think outside the box. Nothing is too crazy as long as it benefits the students.
   3. The office is a little bit messy but please make sure to keep your stuff cleaned up in the office. If you order things they will be in the office. Let me know if you need purchasing.
   4. It has been such an honor working with you guys. I never could hav imagined my self in this position. I have seen such a shift in this organization and I am so proud of the chage we have seen I this organziaiton. I will be cheering you on from afar for the next few years. So proud for RKJ leadership. Thank you guys for everything.
5. Chief Communications Officer – **Preston Jenkins**
   1. Happy Tuesday! Thank you for coming to SGA Polloza. It was a great time and everyone had so much fun. The images have been sent out!
   2. T-shirts (white) are in the office. The red ones are coming on Tuesday. Stolls should be here near the end of next week. I am doing my best to get them here ASAP.
   3. The students who designed the shirt got scholarships which is super excited. I am so happy we were able to do that as an organization.
   4. It has been amazing to meet you all and work with you all this year. I appreciate all the hard work the senate has done and for bearing with me on graphics. It has been an amazing year. The Instagram hit 3k the other day!! I appreaciate you all hyping up our posts!
   5. Elections close at 8:30PM! Make sure everyone votes!
6. Speaker of the Senate – **Sarah Vincent**
   1. If you are running for re-election, our results party is at 8:30 in this room! Wear PJs!
   2. If re-elected you must come next week on Tuesday, April 22nd at 5:00pm for swearing in and Speaker of the Senate elections. Please text me if you are interested.
   3. Thank you to everyone for being such a great senate. You all have made my job so easy. The appointments have been such a stellar senate and have shown such resilience. Shoutout to the committee heads for having so much drive. The events we have had have been so awesome. Shoutout to Senator Lucas and Senator Whipple for all their help. I am so thankful for all of exec and how awesome they have been. Shout out to PJ!!!!
   4. Thank you to the advisors as well. They have been such great resources.
   5. Thank you for bearing with me through mistakes and air balls. You all have been so patient with me.
7. Secretary of the Senate – **Hadley Whipple**
   1. I have loved serving as secretary and everyone has done such a great job!

**6. Committee Reports**

1. Legislative Operations – **Caden Lucas** 
   1. Great to see you all for our final meeting. It has been an honor to work along side everyone. This position has been so great because I have gotten to see the drive throughout the senate. Thank you for a great year.
2. Enrollment and Student Experience – **Savanna Kurtz**
   1. Happy Election week!
   2. Shoutouts to our scholarship winners. Shoutout to everyone on zoom. Shoutout to exec for setting the bar so high. Thank you to VP Reed for being such a mentor to me and changing the way we do scholarships.
   3. We still have a lot more scholarships to grade. Come help if you’re interested.
3. Outreach and Public Relations – **Ryan Dilts**
   1. Thank you to my committee members and you all did a fantastic job. Jax is always smiling. Thank you all for a great year.
4. Campus Improvements and Sustainability – **Rush Robinson**
   1. Shoutout to Caroline for being so centered on our purpose. Jacob, you are up next. You are the future of SGA. I see a lot of myself in you and I cannot wait to watch you lead. Thomas, you are the GOAT. You are always very grounding and have always been there. I appreciate all you involvement. Eli, you are a sleeper agent. You have great ideas and are involved heavily and you do great work.
   2. I am very grateful to have served as a senator for the past three years and now I get to be President. I hope to make SGA more of a resource and I want SGA to be in the same group as SARC, Counceling Center etc. I am humbled and grateful for this opportunity.
   3. To those who are not returning, I am so thankful to have worked with you. I cannot wait to serve the next senate.
5. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – **Megan Farmer**
   1. I have served on SGA for three years and I love the direction it is going in.
   2. Words of advice
      1. What other people think of you is none of your business.
      2. “Thank you” are the two most important words.
      3. Be as kind as you can even when it is hard.
6. Student Mental Health and Wellbeing – **Sophia Bryant**
   1. Thank you all for supporting me at SGA Polloza. I had the best time. Biggest thank you to my committee members. We grew from 2 to 4, which is the most we have had in a year and a half. I cannot wait for mental health week. I am so grateful to have had this position for a year and a half. There is going to be big changes and I am excited for the growth we are about to see.
7. Community Relations – **Jenna Wells**
   1. This past weekend at Bunny Hop was great! Thank you Bradley! We will be tabling during finals week at the commons.
   2. Thank you for the best three years in SGA! It has been so fun and awesome! If you need anything please reach out.

**7. Special Orders**

1. Judicial Council Report – **Morgan Gammons**
   1. Thank you to everyone who has filed to run for re-election. Show up tonight for the election party! I had a great time at SGA Polloza! Thank you for everyone who has been here for me. Shout out to exec for being so awesome! I am so thankful for this opportunity! A new chief justice will be elected next week.
2. Swearing in – Morgan Gammons
3. University Committee Reports
   1. Student Life Foundation: **Donte Reed**
      1. I did not remember to shout out Sarah Vincent. Thank you!!!
   2. Committee on Academic Quality: **Donte Reed**
      1. No report.
   3. Master Plan Committee: **Garrett Price**
      1. No report.
   4. University Athletic Committee: **Kaison Barton and Emily Reinnick** 
      1. No report.
   5. Parking and Transportation Services Appeal Committee: **Megan Farmer, Rush Robinson** 
      1. They are starting to scan license plates in lots and parking structure, please be careful where you are parking. If you have a question, go ask in their office in DSU.
   6. Faculty Senate Budget and Finance Committee: **Ryan Dilts**
      1. No report.
   7. Graduate Advisory Council: **Donte Reed**
      1. No report.
   8. Colonnade General Education Committee: **Chloe Ralston**
      1. No report.
   9. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: **Jax Price**
      1. No report.
   10. Faculty Welfare Committee: **Savanna Kurtz**
       1. No report.

**8. Unfinished Business**

**9. New Business**

**10. Announcements**

**11. Adjournment**

**Motion to Adjourn by Senator Robinson**

**Seconded by Senator Lucas**

**Voice Vote**

**Unanimous yes**