Senate Meeting Minutes

Sixth Meeting of the Twenty-Fifth Senate - Tuesday, September 16th, 2025

**1. Call to Order**

1. The regular meeting of the WKU Student Government Association was called to order on August 26th, 2025, at 5:01 PM by Speaker of the Senate Pro Tempore Karlee Powell.

**2. Roll Call**

* 1. Roll was called by Speaker Powell
	2. Absences
		1. **Senator Reinneck**
	3. Quorum was met.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

1. Minutes were approved.

**4. Guest and Student Speakers**

 **a.** Todd Stewart

1. AD Director Todd Stewart discussed the current state of WKU athletics in terms of programs, events, facilities, and overall performance.
2. AD Stewart is also interested in what ideas students would have to bring more students to games and get them involved in WKU Athletics, especially sports programs that may not receive as much hyper-representative or support from the student body.
3. AD Stewart has an interest in SGA Senators and members coming and speaking to various athletic teams about SGA’s mission and to showcase that we represent them as well.
* Motion to move out by laws by Senator Pace.
	+ Seconded by Senator Rettig
	+ Voice Vote
		- Unanimous Yes
* Senator Pace motioned to move **Bill 6-25-F** to unfinished business.
	+ Seconded by Senator Rettig
	+ Voice Vote
		- Unanimous Yes
* Senator Rettig motioned to move Unfinished business to before officer reports.
	+ Seconded by Senator Pace
	+ Voice Vote
		- Unanimous Yes
* Motion to move back into by-laws by Senator Lucas.
	+ Seconded by Senator Barker
	+ Voice Vote
		- Unanimous Yes

**5. Officer Reports**

President: **Rush Robinson**

1. Senator Vietz is resigned from his current position as Senator-At-Large, but President Robinson appointed him to be the Ogden College Senator.
	1. No sort of any questions, debate, passed with an unanimous voice vote.
2. Constitution Day is tomorrow, and elections start tomorrow at 4PM!
3. The office will be open for Parent & Family weekend so bring your family up to the office and show them around!
4. Let President Robinson know if you’re having any trouble with contacts or need support!
5. Use his Calendly to schedule a meeting with him!

Vice President: **Savanna Kurtz**

Scholarships are out and open!

Chief Financial Officer: **Gabriel Jerdon**

Org Aid is about to close, let me know if you need anything or help!

Chief of Staff: **Maggie Yelton**

1. Swipe-It-Forward is still in process; we’re in the process of getting all of that information to put it on the website. It is functional, we’re just waiting for some final information.
2. Please keep the office clean and tidy. If you have an event, please clean up after yourselves! Also, if you’re looking to store things in the office, you must let her know!

Chief Communications Officer: **Preston Jenkins**

1. There are flyers for the elections to go up after 4PM tomorrow!
2. Lots of work in progress with the Outreach and Public Relations Committee!

Speaker of the Senate: **Hadley Whipple**

No Report.

Secretary of the Senate: **Karlee Powell**

Send me your committee meeting minutes!

**6. Committee Reports**

Legislative Operations Committee: **Caden Lucas**

1. Reviewed 12 bills so far! That’s AWESOME!!!!
2. The Bill/Resolution portion of the website is updated with all LOC resources and functions. Please use it accordingly!
3. There is a lot of good and productivity that can come from civil discourse, and I love that about this Senate. Please keep that in mind moving forward.
4. Be careful moving business before office reports so we know the state of things before we vote to spend money. It is very important to hear from all of the officers.

Enrollment and Student Experience: **Jakob Barker**

1. Thank you to everyone who helped with Meet N’ Greet, it was a great event!
2. Anybody can vote in these elections, so please remind people of this!
3. Scholarship tabling is happening tomorrow!

Outreach and Public Relations: **Cayden Bailey**

1. Setting up meetings with various partners on campus!
2. Reached out regarding maintenance of Chandler Hall; specifically, regarding the lack of clocks.

Campus Improvements and Sustainability: **Emily Reinneck**

1. No Report.

Action and Opportunity Committee: **Jade Ismail**

1. Suicide Prevention Month tabling is coming soon next month!
2. Thank you to everyone contributing to SGA!

Student Mental Health and Wellbeing: **Veronica Butler**

1. We’re launching Toppers Talk About It, a mental health awareness campaign. Looking at events to occur possibly in the beginning of November. Student video interview campaign.

Community Relations: **Bradley Wagoner**

1. Going shopping soon for the basket for the Veteran’s Day 5K!

**7. Special Orders**

Judicial Council Report: **Blake Graham**

1. The JC has set standards for what a Senate excuse should be. Your excuse should follow these principles to the T. Please be professional, thorough, and valid.
2. Put campaign posters on bulletin boards that are reserved for student use ONLY!
3. 33 candidates are running for office this cycle!
4. We held a disciplinary meeting yesterday where 3 Gatton students brought allegations of several election codes violations against another Gatton, found them not guilty and they are still running.

Swearing In: **Blake Graham**

1. Swore in Senator Ethan Veitze as the Ogden College Senator.

**University Committee Reports**

Committee on Academic Quality: **Jaden Marshall**

* Met today where we discussed the by laws of the Committee.

Master Plan Committee: **Maggie Phelps**

* No Report.

University Athletic Committee: **Garrett Price**

* First Meeting is tomorrow!

Parking and Transportation Services Appeal Committee: **Evan Tuck, Jaden Marshall, Cayden Bailey**

* First meeting is tomorrow with Senator Bailey.

Faculty Senate Budget and Finance Committee: **Jakob Barker**

* No Report.

Graduate Advisory Council: **TBD**

Colonnade General Education Committee: **Caden Lucas**

* Meeting coming up soon!

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: **Will Derryberry**

* First meeting today! Several classes were added to the curriculum.

Faculty Welfare Committee: **Ciin Lun**

* No Report.

Student Life Foundation: **Savanna Kurtz**

**-** We met today, report coming next week.

**8. Unfinished Business**

**Bill 4-25-F. A Bill to Fund the Pumpkin Carving Contest Fundraiser benefiting Hope Harbor, Inc.**

* Work has been done to amend some various parts of the bill to include some various partnerships as well as updated prices and logistics for the bill.
* The event was moved up a week to October 22-23rd.
* POI by Senator Lucas to VP Kurtz about the date of the event,

VP Kurtz: This is the date that Exec. had planned on Pink Walk being, so it could be an issue with these events happening at the same time.

* Motion by Senator Ismail to change the date of the event to just October 23rd.
	+ No debate on the bill
	+ Voice Vote
		- Unanimous yes

**Bill 5-25-F. A Bill to Fund Giveaway Initiatives to Increase Publicity of the Student Government**

* Motion by Senator Bailey to table this bill
	+ Second by Barker
	+ Voice vote
		- Unanimous yes

**Resolution 1-25-F: Resolution to Support the Transfer Center Event at SKYCTC**

* Discussed the importance of this event and this is an opportunity for SGA to make WKU a campus that is even more open and friendly to Transfer students. Great opportunity for SGA to showcase its representation of transfer students and bring awareness.
	+ No Questions
	+ Debate:
		- Affirmation by Senator Marshall to recognize the importance of SGA’s involvement in this event.
		- Affirmation by Senator Ismail to recognize the greatness of this bill and Senator Rettig’s work.
	+ One-sided debate
	+ Voice vote
		- Unanimous yes

**Bill 6-25-F. Funding for the Borrow-a-Calculator Program.**

* Motion by Senator Pace to amend the price of the bill to $398.64 for four calculators and four chargers.
* Currently we have all our TI-84 calculators checked out and thus we have no more to hand out to students, despite increased student interest. There is a clear need to grow the program.
* Senator Lucas: How many calculators do we currently have in the program?
	+ 10 TI-84.
* Senator Ismail: What does the process for checking out the calculator look like?
	+ Initially they must come in and check out via our accountability process, then they have a week to have it, they can then come back in and check it out for another week at a time.
* Senator Humble: Have you all reached out to any alumni who may be interested in further building up the Calculator program?
	+ No, we have not, simply because we have always funded this through the Senate.
* Senator Butler: Could we establish a program where every semester we make a call for donated Calculators?
	+ Yes.
* Senator Ismail: Could we make it to where there are a few calculators that we could do as daily rentals?
	+ Yes.
* Senator Price: I know that there is a one semester maximum for borrowing it, but I feel like it could be helpful for us to have a system where students aren’t waiting, almost like a daily rental.
	+ We understand, it is just based on the process that we currently have and the number of calculators that we have.
* Senator Luun: Could we reach out to the Math Department to see if we could partner with them since they are requiring a lot of these.
	+ That could be possible, but based on what we know from student feedback, that would likely be very difficult.
* Senator Barker: We have the capability to provide more directly for the students here, and we should do that here and now.
* Senator Tucker: I move to amend the bill to read 6 calculators with an updated price for it, seconded by Senator Marshall, taken as friendly by the authors.
	+ Affirmation: Senator Bailey; there is a clear need, and we should spend the money to provide these for the students.
	+ Affirmation: Senator Tucker; having more calculators will never be a problem, and this is a physical need on this campus that we can help amend.
	+ Affirmation: Senator Humble; we only have so much of a funding, and we have more opportunity to do that.
		- Response: This is our highest demand and largest growing program, it will not be here today and gone tomorrow, so we should expand. We can look to expanding this program to departments in the future in a different bill.
	+ Question by Senator Petruska: Would we be able to shorten the rental period?
		- Yes, potentially. We can look at amending the process.
	+ Affirmation: Senator Harvey, we should just go ahead and do six and move on because there is a clear need right now.
	+ Affirmation: Senator Tucker: The more students we can reach the better. It matters to that one specific student, and it should matter to us just the same.
	+ Affirmation: Senator Rettig:
* Motion by Senator Barker to call previous question on the amendment.
	+ Seconded by Senator Bailey
	+ Voice vote
		- Unanimous yes
* Motion to amend Bill 6-25-F to read 6 calculators instead of four.
	+ Voice vote
		- Unanimous yes
* Motion by Senator Tucker to call the previous question on the Bill
	+ Seconded by Senator Barker
	+ Voice vote
		- Unanimous yes
* Motion to pass Bill 6-25-F
	+ Voice vote
		- Unanimous yes

**9. New Business**

**Resolution 2-25-F. Resolution to Support the Implementation of a Direct Link between the Hilltopper’s Concerns Form and the myWKU Page**

**10. Announcements**

* Senator Humble: Big Red Rise is next Wednesday at 6AM on South Lawn! Show up and show out!
* Senator Martin: This Thursday is the first meeting for Amnesty International
* Senator Marshall: MPHC Yard Show will be this Friday! Come out!
* President Robinson: Election Party this Friday at 4PM in the SGA Chambers!
* CCO Preston: Grab a flyer!
* Senator Karlee: Next week is National Hazing Prevention Month so we’re coming out!

**11. Adjournment**

Senator Ismail moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:37pm, Senator Barker seconded, unanimous voice vote.

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:
**Bill 4-25-F.     A Bill to Fund the Pumpkin Carving Contest Fundraiser benefitting Hope Harbor, Inc.**

**PURPOSE:**        For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $320.00 for the Pumpkin Carving Contest fundraiser benefiting Hope Harbor, Inc.

**WHEREAS:**      The Pumpkin Carving Contest is a campus-wide fundraising event organized by the Action & Opportunity Committee, and

**WHEREAS:** The event will be on Wednesday, October 22th, from 3:00pm to 5:00pm on South Lawn, and

**WHEREAS:**      A pallet of 100-150 pumpkins from Hodge Family Farms will be purchased for $250.00 and stored in the basement of DSU until the day of the event, and

**WHEREAS:**      A $70.00 “Boo Basket” will serve as the contest prize to incentivize participation including a [heated weighted blanked](https://www.amazon.com/greenoak-Electric-Auto-Off-Protection-Certified/dp/B0D385GHCJ/ref%3Dsr_1_1_sspa?crid=2FCPTCN15LTWI&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.198FH-QAk7Rq8Z0cM-q_MVuuh3A8kbs2PmIl6NIxGdx2Lh66Omj_9jtLrjWB6lmlK9a0dsfUhBtH_LWTpCi8ZGJulOsYw8-3coQLU4pnojux7Fsh5vtgOO4cZuwNhV5hEwbl_SKwK97DwhIUP51PbSiKNnS2td73tKndVqKkyvxyDHg67iIoTKF14SiPvbwvH2ahIxxaKUuOmnik6dYv_AYv0-BFQyBkSFZKvZhtjZzCp-6NiYNTvv6jHwviUjh91z1z63If24tJSSdlvZ_dNLnynhmGDEp38fQsvR4dqiI.Wa-NcJNvQhMmKwy7aJdD_E6UyImuUyo2pQnPi0i8iPs&dib_tag=se&keywords=weighted%2Bheated%2Bblanket&qid=1756399069&sprefix=weighted%2Bheated%2B%2Caps%2C145&sr=8-1-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9hdGY&th=1), [candles](https://www.amazon.com/Auelife-Candles-Scented-Harvest-Cinnamon/dp/B0F66SHR8S/ref%3Dsr_1_3_sspa?crid=3TZYS5RU4G677&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.Do_INNaAAPiKNY7ue15BxdSTEIQT_GY5HB_vuy7hx3lvTOrFJuHTJgqBGY3mWb_0BHaK8CpMDLx6VDSz9Pq7t-OkqzrSvKIhsaKzEgz30lfeiqPxFCdfffH-foTd3EvISfwjzkIbo4qTt_m85Pd6h2n121KUzsoMjNRPB2VIbgl53oHxkJ8e63Km8rffUtwHDFG4hDeo1YFOVqk_P9doK9QO5J0l4y0PyMVutQfgBBy1pEtnNkmiGr_35H662rMTBDXrk1QkagbkQp-ox_a8AfVuCr5FtPeuZTDKsccQpec.yKDwr5-PrMs1Lzas7Ezaq0lelJ76EvmliOaggWPrC4s&dib_tag=se&keywords=fall%2Bcandles&qid=1756399165&sprefix=fall%2Bcandle%2Caps%2C138&sr=8-3-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9hdGY&th=1), and assorted gifts from donors, and

**WHEREAS:** The event is in partnership with the Alpha Chi chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi and the Chi Eta chapter of Phi Gamma Delta. These greek organizations have also offered to cover the price of pumpkin carving materials as well as help promote the event, and

**WHEREAS:** The pumpkins carved will be given the opportunity to be displayed outside of Centennial Mall the following day, Thursday, October 23rd from 5:00pm to 8:00pm, and

**WHEREAS:**      There will be a $10.00 entry fee to carve a pumpkin with a maximum of 2 carvers per entry. The entry fee will be paid directly to the Hope Harbor GoFundMe. A confirmation of payment will be required for registration and will be overseen by the Action & Opportunity Committee, and

**WHEREAS:** All proceeds from the event will be donated to Hope Harbor Inc., as a part of their fundraiser, and

**WHEREAS:** The panel of judges will be selected from distinguished faculty and will not participate in the event to allow for blind evaluations, and

**WHEREAS:**      This contest will provide both a fun, seasonal activity for the WKU community and meaningful support for survivors of sexual violence, and

**THEREFORE:** Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University allocate $320.00 to fund the Pumpkin Carving Contest benefiting Hope Harbor Inc.

**AUTHORS:**       Jade Ismail
                                Action & Opportunity Committee, Chair

**SPONSORS:**     Action & Opportunity Committee

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 5-25-F. A Bill to Fund Giveaway Initiatives to Increase Publicity of the Student Government Association.**

**PURPOSE:** For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to allocate $164.57 to purchase giveaway items for a tabling event to increase the publicity of the Student Government Association.

**WHEREAS:** The Student Government association will purchase the following: [JBL Clip 3 Bluetooth Speaker](https://www.walmart.com/ip/Clip-3-Speaker/941777402?classType=undefined&variantFieldId=actual_color) ($49.95), a box of [Titleist Pro v1 golf balls](https://www.walmart.com/ip/2023-Titleist-Pro-V1-White/1099735262?classType=VARIANT&from=/search) ($45.58), a [Sol De Janeiro travel kit](https://a.co/d/4vZdCQd) ($34.00), and [32 oz hydrojug](https://a.co/d/3D1Fu0T) ($34.99), and

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

**WHEREAS:** The tabling event will take place daily from September 23-26th, from 12-3 PM, and

**WHEREAS:**  The tabling event will take place outside of DSU in Centennial Mall, and

**WHEREAS:** There will be two separate giveaways with different items as to attract a wide variety of individuals, and

**WHEREAS:** Students can enter the giveaway by following the Instagram account, Tiktok account, and completing an information form with their name and phone number, and

**WHEREAS:**  Senators will be able to volunteer for the tabling event, in exchange for office hours, and

**THEREFORE:** Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $164.57 purchase giveaway items for a tabling event to increase the publicity of the Student Government Association.

**AUTHORS:**  Cayden Bailey, Senator at Large

Julianna Mitchell, Senator at Large

Gabi Pace, Senator at Large

Molly Ricke, Sophomore Senator

**SPONSORS:**  Outreach and Public Relations Committee

**CONTACTS:**  DSU Operations/Special Events - dsu.operations@wku.edu

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 6-25-F. Funding for the Borrow-a-Calculator Program.**

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

$439.92 to the Borrow-a-Calculator program.

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

**WHEREAS:** $415.96 will go towards the purchase of four (4) TI-84 calculators ($415.96) from

Amazon and four (4) chargers ($19.96), and

**WHEREAS:**  All current calculators have been rented out and are in high demand, and

**WHEREAS:** Students can come to the SGA office to rent a calculator for the time they need it, with

one semester being the maximum borrowing period, with a weekly re-check in period,

and

**WHEREAS:** The students will provide their name, phone number, Toppermail, and WKU ID number

to be able to borrow a calculator.

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

 University will allocate $439.92 for the Borrow-a-Calculator program.

**AUTHORS:** Gabi Pace, Senator At-Large

Maggie Yelton, Chief of Staff

Sarah Beth Meador, Student

**SPONSORS:**  Enrollment and Student Experience Committee

**CONTACTS:**  Maggie Yelton, Maggie.yelton768@topper.wku.edu

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Resolution 1-25-F:** Resolution to Support the Transfer Center Event at SKYCTC

**PURPOSE:** For the Student Government Association (SGA) of Western Kentucky University to support the tabling event for transfer and prospective students at SKYCTC.

**WHEREAS:** The Transfer Center event will be held at SKYCTC, Building L, on October 28th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM; and

**WHEREAS:** This event provides an opportunity to expand awareness of the Student Government Association and its contributions to both the university and the surrounding community; and

**WHEREAS:** The event aims to encourage transfer and prospective students to consider enrolling at Western Kentucky University; and

**WHEREAS:** Members of the Student Government Association will be present to assist with tabling and engage with attendees; and

**WHEREAS:** Student Government Association merchandise will be utilized to promote the organization and increase visibility; and

**WHEREAS:** The event will serve as a platform to explain the newly developed form of the SGA Promise Scholarship, which is being tailored to better support non-traditional students; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University formally supports and participates in the tabling event for transfer and prospective students at SKYCTC.

**AUTHORS:**  Sydney Rettig, Transfer Senator

**SPONSORS:** Action & Opportunity Committee

**CONTACTS:** murphjh@wku.edu

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Resolution 2-25-F. Resolution to Support the Implementation of a Direct Link between the Hilltopper’s Concerns Form and the myWKU Page**

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support the Implementation of a Direct Link between the Hilltopper’s Concerns Form and the myWKU Page

WHEREAS: The Hilltopper’s Concerns Form on the Student Government Association website serves as the most readily accessible route for a student to contact their Senator and/or the Executive Cabinet, and

WHEREAS: The Hilltopper’s Concerns Form is located, at minimum, five (5) clicks away from WKU’s main page, and

WHEREAS: Streamlining the process of contacting the office of the Student Government Association further aligns the mission of this organization to address student needs, interests, and opinions as clearly outlined in the preamble of the Constitution, and

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

University will support the Implementation of a Direct Link between the Hilltopper’s Concerns Form and the myWKU Page.

AUTHORS:   Jakob Barker, Sophomore Senator

SPONSORS: Enrollment and Student Experience Committee

CONTACTS:    Gabriel Jerdon, gabriel.jerdon982@topper.wku.edu