Senate Meeting Minutes

Fourth Meeting of the Twenty-Fifth Senate - Tuesday, September 2nd, 2025

1. **Call to Order**
	1. The regular meeting of the WKU Student Government Association was called to order on September 2nd, 2025, at 5:02 PM by Speaker of the Senate Hadley Whipple.
2. **Roll Call**
	1. Roll was called by Speaker Whipple.
	2. Absences
		1. None.
	3. Quorum was met.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
	1. Minutes were approved.
4. **Guest and Student Speakers**
	1. Dr. Timothy Caboni
		1. Thank you for your leadership. You are an important voice for the students. You represent an important constituency.
		2. You hear things first, so if you need to get to me, you have a way.
		3. Thank you for your personal efforts. You help us do better for you and your constituents. I hope you will continue to be advocates for making students' lives better. The leadership of our university is here for you.
		4. Senator Marshall asked how we can engage students with SGA. Dr. Caboni responded by saying how the relationship between Campus Activities and SGA can grow. Along with them we can develop student programing. There are other opportunities outside of our yearly concerts we can do. He also stated that we are having challenges with our residence halls. WKU does not own them because the Student Life Foundation owns them. We need to strengthen our relationship with them. Phase One is doing renovations on Normal and Regents while we continue to make progress on our 40–60-year-old buildings. The long-term goal is to break ground on the other half of our first-year village. By fall of 2030, Hilltopper, McCormick, and Rhoades will be replaced. We are going to get to a place where our institution has a competitive advantage with no more communal style livings. The last thing Dr. Caboni stated was to get your friends and fellow students engaged because that is what college is about.
		5. Senator Derryberry asked what Dr. Caboni’s coolest thing he has done at WKU. Dr. Caboni answered that it was creating the opportunity for our marching band’s 100th year anniversary in London. He also stated that he gets to go to Congress and be a part of the CFP. He says that every day is a privilege to be in the spaces he is in and the day he forgets that is the day he needs to step down. A good life is about doing work that is meaningful to you.
		6. Caboni’s three rules of tailgating: put it in a cup, don’t be a jackass, and go to the game.
5. **Officer Reports**
	1. President: **Rush Robinson**
		1. I have Dr. Caboni’s phone number and other important staff members’ numbers if you are in need.
		2. This upcoming Monday I have a Faculty Senate meeting and that is where Resolutions must be passed. If you have a Resolution you need to attend.
			1. Senator Ismail asked if we are able to act on Resolutions before they are passed by the Faculty Senate. President Rush stated that you need to attend the meeting if it is in support of change being made on campus (ex: 24-hour study spaces).
		3. Elections are coming up, so make sure you are encouraging people to run.
		4. The single greatest procedure that saves the most lives is washing hands.
	2. Vice President: **Savanna Kurtz**
		1. Update on the Bluegrass Leadership Scholarship which has been funded to award 15 applicants $1,000 scholarships across Kentucky and Tennessee. This will allow us to have more leadership engagement from rising Freshmen.
		2. Committee Appointments
			1. Garrett Price- University Athletic Committee
			2. Maggie Phelps- Master Plan Committee
			3. Sydney Rettig- University Athletic Committee
			4. Voice Vote
				1. Unanimous Yes.
	3. Chief Financial Officer: **Gabriel Jerdon**
		1. Budget Updates
			1. $32.80 on Senate Discretionary
			2. $100.00 on Voucher Program
			3. 97.36 on Executive Discretionary
			4. 355.72 on Office Supplies
			5. 677.21 on Food
		2. Tell people to apply for Organization Aid.
	4. Chief of Staff: **Maggie Yelton**
		1. No report.
	5. Chief Communications Officer: **Preston Jenkins**
		1. PR Request- email me to schedule a meeting as soon as possible. The quicker you get this going, the better. There is a whole team on graphics now, so we will work together as a committee to get it done. The link to the request form is on the SGA website.
		2. Senator Humble asked if he can submit a request before legislation is passed. Chief Communications Officer Jenkins answered yes.
	6. Speaker of the Senate: **Hadley Whipple**
		1. It is officially September, so start counting office hours. If you go to any SGA event it counts as hours.
		2. If a guest is speaking, the only person who should be typing on their computer is the secretary. So just be aware!
	7. Secretary of the Senate: **Karlee Powell**
		1. Reminder to send your committee meeting minutes to my top email.
6. **Committee Reports**
	1. Legislative Operations Committee: **Caden Lucas**
		1. When submitting legislation, please submit it in the form of a google document.
		2. The deadline to submit legislation for review is on Mondays at 4:00pm.
		3. The Constitution Day celebration will be in Centennial Mall on September 17th. There will be some cool opportunities for community engagement.
	2. Enrollment and Student Experience: **Jakob Barker**
		1. 13 people attended our committee meeting last week.
		2. There was a good conversation with Miles, a Minton RA, about HRL and how to involve them.
		3. Met with Dr. Sales.
	3. Outreach and Public Relations: **Cayden Bailey**
		1. New tik tok and posters will be posted soon.
		2. Mini microphones for tailgates.
		3. Bill in new business.
	4. Campus Improvements and Sustainability: **Emily Reinneck**
		1. Bill in new business.
		2. Meeting after Senate Meeting.
	5. Action and Opportunity Committee: **Jade Ismail**
		1. Bill in new business- heated blanket for prize.
		2. Collaborative tabling events in the works with other committees.
		3. Meet every Tuesday at 4:15.
		4. Sippin’ in September event is tomorrow!
	6. Student Mental Health and Wellbeing: **Veronica Butler**
		1. Event in October in the works for Mental Health Awareness Week.
		2. Meetings scheduled with Dr. Sales and Dr. Gabard in the coming weeks.
		3. Meet in Student Activities every Tuesday at 4:30.
	7. Community Relations: **Bradley Wagoner**
		1. Drafting the bill for the Veterans Day 5k at meeting today.
7. **Special Orders**
	1. Judicial Council Report: **Blake Graham**
		1. Code meetings are next week.
		2. Information can be found in my student-all email or on the SGA website.
	2. Swearing In: **Blake Graham**
		1. Garrett Price- University Athletic Committee
			1. No report.
		2. Maggie Phelps- Master Plan Committee
			1. No report.
		3. Sydney Rettig- University Athletic Committee
	3. University Committee Reports
		1. Committee on Academic Quality: Jaden Marshall
			1. No report.
		2. Master Plan Committee: Maggie Phelps
			1. No report.
		3. University Athletic Committee: Garrett Price
			1. First meeting is on September 17th.
		4. Parking and Transportation Services Appeal Committee: Evan Tuck, Jaden Marshall, Cayden Bailey
		5. Faculty Senate Budget and Finance Committee: Jakob Barker
			1. Meeting on Thursday.
		6. Graduate Advisory Council: Ciin Lun
			1. First meeting next Thursday.
		7. Colonnade General Education Committee: Caden Lucas
			1. Revised Quality Enhancement Plan
			2. Next meeting is September 30th
		8. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Will Derryberry
			1. First Meeting is September 16th.
		9. Strategic Plan Implementation Committee: TBD
		10. Faculty Welfare Committee: TBD
8. **Unfinished Business**
	1. **Bill X-25-F:** Funding for the Student Government Association “Meet n Greet.”
		1. Voice Vote
			1. Unanimous Yes
		2. Amendments: Move the third sentence of the fifth whereas, change total to $128.54 for Jimmy John’s
		3. Presented by Senator Barker
			1. This bill fills a need to get students involved and meet with senators. This will allow interested students to see how the senate operates outside of senate meetings. This will create interest and spark a competitive
		4. Questions?
			1. None.
		5. Speeches of Affirmation
			1. Senator Marshall states that they have been working on this and is proud of the bill.
			2. Senator Lucas states that this is a great way to get students involved.
		6. Speeches in Negation
			1. None
		7. Voice vote
			1. Unanimous Yes.
9. **New Business**
	1. **Bill 3-25-F**. Funding for the SGA Big Red Rise Event
	2. **Bill 4-25-F**. A Bill to Fund the Pumpkin Carving Contest Fundraiser benefitting Hope Harbor, Inc.
	3. **Bill 5-25-F**. A Bill to Fund Giveaway Initiatives to Increase Publicity of the Student Government
10. **Announcements**
	1. Speaker Whipple states that it is impressive that we have almost perfect attendance three weeks in a row.
	2. Senator Marshall states that he is the Vice President of the Why Knot US initiative and they are hosting a Powderpuff tournament.
	3. Senator Ismail announced that Sippin’ in September is tomorrow.
	4. Senator Martin announced there is tryouts for Women’s Club soccer coming up and that on September 18th is the first meeting of Amnesty International.
	5. Senator Lucas announced that if you have any ideas for downtown BG contact him.
11. **Adjournment**
	1. Senator Barker made a motion to adjourn.
	2. The motion was seconded by Senator Lucas .
	3. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05pm.

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 2-25-F. Funding for the Student Government Association “Meet n Greet.”**

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

allocate $78.81 towards funding food and drink for the Student Government Association “Meet n Greet.”

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

WHEREAS: A competitive and informed Student Government Association election process is an essential aspect of serving the student body of WKU, and

WHEREAS: Over one hundred (100) students expressed interest in the Student Government Association during M. A. S. T. E. R. Plan and additional students attended the second meeting of the twenty-fifth senate and committee meetings, and

WHEREAS: The funds from this bill will be used to incentivize the event and provide food and drink for all students interested, including $68.25 for [Jersey Mike’s Subs](https://www.jerseymikes.com/menu/catering/order/subs-by-the-box) and $10.56 for [sodas](https://www.walmart.com/ip/Pepsi-Cola-Soda-Pop-2-Liter-Bottle/13424325?classType=REGULAR&adsRedirect=true)) , and

WHEREAS: The Student Government Association “Meet n Greet” will take place on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 4:30pm in the Student Government Association Offices. At this event, students will have the opportunity to meet their college’s senator, committee leaders as well as attend a Senate meeting at 5:00pm immediately following the “Meet n Greet.” This Senate meeting will also serve as a formal election codes for students interested in running for a position, and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky  University will allocate $78.81 towards funding food and drink for the Student Government Association “Meet n Greet.”

AUTHORS: Jakob Barker, Sophomore Senator

SPONSORS: Enrollment and Student Experience Committee

CONTACTS: Jakob Barker, jakob.barker429@topper.wku.edu

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

**Bill 3-25-F. Funding for the SGA Big Red Rise Event**

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

allocate $119.92 for the SGA Big Red Rise Event

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

**WHEREAS:** The SGA Big Red Rise event will serve as a “Senior Sunrise” to promote community for seniors and establish traditions for future classes of Hilltoppers, and

**WHEREAS:** The event will be held on Wednesday, September 24 at 6:00 A.M. on South Lawn, and

**WHEREAS:**     $119.92 will be spent on 8 dozen donuts from Krispy Kreme, and

**WHEREAS:** The SGA Campus Improvements and Sustainability Committee as well as the WKU Alumni Association will both table at the event to promote their respective organizations, and

**WHEREAS:** SGA Volunteers will collect all trash after the event concludes, and

**WHEREAS:** Photo opportunities would be available and encouraged in order to promote new traditions at WKU, and

**THEREFORE:** Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will allocate $131.00 for the SGA Big Red Rise Event.

**AUTHORS:** Emily Reinneck, Senator At-Large

Malachi Humble, Senior Senator

Ciin Lun, Mahurin Honors College Senator

Nolan Rongey, Senator At-Large

Simon Petruska, Senator At-Large

**SPONSORS:** Campus Improvements and Sustainability Committee

**CONTACTS:**   WKU Special Events Office, special.events@wku.edu

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 29th, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on South Lawn, and

**WHEREAS:**      A pallet of 100-175 pumpkins from Hodge Family Farms will be purchased for $200.00, and

**WHEREAS:**      A $120.00 “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), [fuzzy boots](https://www.amazon.com/Litfun-Slippers-Genuine-Slipper-Chestnut/dp/B0DL8K4XNR/ref%3Dsr_1_3_sspa?crid=3VIZLX4XXSQEJ&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.mknNylA3fHKZ2Vaj8yexyUPc94zyPS8K4xmAG2W7jSsWxlwlCnhSO8dW5HzXfKbkFzRhLh3C2YyNmsInVk-VbTf3Xk9DSuoycNKonKx00kJQxY0qlp8pWUUdhVfMkDqDp3VfF47adv4eeSM1fe-MKeWsj5FIC5I4OguimFamxXrjgZL4rT3Qqspf1m0-4X-pPhH99WxiQVff5TUDKPjYkM8upDqU-63txY3MtfPl5N2mc9FmYy5flRzqgt8HFzzF_5-v_tpgB_MaE7pw9rPO0BxEUjd7tSjlM55iskfcrh8.Er1p7tPaifl4RFE5SXWgEpdq-elttZX5WLmB7S0LXgc&dib_tag=se&keywords=uggs%2Bwith%2Bfur&qid=1756399336&sprefix=uggs%2Bwith%2Bfur%2Caps%2C138&sr=8-3-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9hdGY&th=1&psc=1), and assorted seasonal gifts, and

**WHEREAS:**      There will be a $15.00 entry fee to carve a pumpkin, 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