West Virginia University

Student Government Association

September 9th, 2015

E Moore Hall, 7:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order (7:35)
2. Roll Call
   1. Vice Chair Merow - present
   2. Governor Dirkman - present
   3. Governor Fitzwater - present
   4. Governor Humphrey - present
   5. Governor Kaska - present
   6. Governor Kiess – present
   7. Governor McIntyre - present
   8. Governor Moneyhun - present
   9. Governor Richardson - present
   10. Governor Riggins – present
   11. Governor Sabatino - present
   12. Governor Seabolt - present
   13. Governor Thompson - present
   14. Governor Waris- present
   15. Governor Watson – absent
   16. Athletic Councilor Ferrera - present
   17. Athletic Councilor Taylor – present
3. Reading and Approval of the Minutes
   1. Governor Humphrey: I would like to add an extension of remarks to last weeks minutes by unanimous consent
   2. VP Morgan : Anyone opposed? (no) Okay, seeing none, we’ll move on.
4. Open Student Forum I
   1. Dakota Workman: College Republicans meeting Thursday at 7pm in Ogelbay 103.
   2. Ankur Kumar: Up All Night update: We’re doing an Up All Night after the home football game this weekend. This has never happened before and will occur this Saturday after the game! Our theme will be military so we hope to see you there!
   3. President of Young Dems: Weekly meetings at 7pm in Blackwater Room on Thursday. Be there!
   4. Graduate Student Senate Presentation: I am Morgan Leach, we have been working on graduate student issues and have finally come up with a model that we are trying to pursue. We’ve looked at other schools and we are proposing the Graduate and Professional Student Senate. We furnish senators to different committees and also to SGA to have grad students being heard and taken care of. This occurred because of issues within grad student life at the university. Tonight we are just trying to introduce ourselves as a Graduate and Student Senate and we are working on a resolution with SGA right now just so we can look at issues that need assessed. If you are a grad student looking to take a leadership role, please come out. More to come next week, as we’ll do the first reading of our resolution, so that’s it.
   5. VP: Thank you, anyone else?
   6. My name is Morgan King and I am president of Residence Hall Association. We’ll be meeting at Lincoln Hall on Monday at 7:30 pm in Lincoln Hall Theater Room.
   7. Jonathan Riseberg: Hey guys, this building is incredible. Someone really took the time with the art and everything. So great. In the CAC, this next week, on Monday/Tuesday we have Barry Green a famous bassist coming to lecture and then perform. 5pm on Monday, lecture at 3 and concert on Tuesday at 8. Block Hall downstairs in CAC. Art Movement still looking for donations so we have to finish up the mural by the PRT That’s all.
   8. Lane Horter: Hey everyone, this Friday is the first night of Mountaineer Idol at 8pm in the ballrooms of the Lair. Come out!
   9. Alexis McMillan: I work at the CS&L at WVU. Some announcements, Governors Day to serve is this Friday thru October 11th. Gives you 4 weeks to choose a day to serve. Lots of ways to get involved. Coca Cola sponsoring a new contest called “Refresh my Room”. If you do 10 hours of service and log them in iserve, you will be eligible to win several prizes (tv, fridge, etc). If you have questions about how to get involved, please email us and let us know! Sep 28 is Good Neighbor Day and as part of the movement and partnering with folks on campus, a good opportunity to get out and do some service. Any student on campus can get involved. IF you search for Good Neighbor Day on iserve you can find SGA’s opportunity here so sign up! Thanks!
   10. Layne Veneri: SOCK –IT, on September 19th having a “Walk for Awareness” at Cross-fit Ridgeline. Some WVU athletes will be there. This will be at 10 am and it is $15 and all proceeds will go towards funding medical costs for kids in WV fighting cancer. Visit SOCK-IT website/twitter if you want to register!
   11. Governor Kaska: Last week, I informed everyone on a survey I’m conducting to help out with a new program at the libraries. If you guys would like free food at the libraries once a week, please go fill this out and help us out. Go see SGA and my twitter for the link!
   12. Sarah Glenn: Career and Internship Fair next week. I have cards/flyers to take to clubs. I come every year to speak about this and to solicit your help to get friends/students/members to participate. (DATE) Some of them are same companies but also different companies each day. Large range (amazon, HP, coke, target, PNC, KPNG, etc.) A lot of students don’t realize that they need to start looking for a job now if they’re graduating in May. Please start looking now because many of these companies are recruiting employees for next summer/fall. All of the info about who is coming is on Mountaineer Trak or our website careerservices.wvu.edu. We’re sending out targeted messages, would really appreciate to encourage your members and peers to come out! Lots of resources on our website about how to effectively work at career fair. We have 3 booths left so if you know anyone who doesn’t know what to do but wants to participate, have them come and we’ll walk them through the process. Engineering event later in September for internships.co-ops, fulltime jobs for engineering students. Hit the ground running and it will give you a huge advantage when it comes to getting a job/internship. Follow our twitter account and share the flyer! Thank you!
5. The President’s Weekly Address
   1. President Capel: Welcome everyone to our first meeting here at E. Moore Hall. This is a special day because it has been a long time coming. This is the student life building so it’s symbolic that we’re here to serve for our students. I want to talk about the building. Built in 1928, an excellent example of this style of architecture in the entire state. When it was built, it was dedicated to women’s PE and housing for female students. Features fireplace, French doors and balconies. Named after principle of Woodburn Institution. Serves as an educational structure for female students. PE outreach for local children, international study programs, and art events. One of those women who were so very successful was Betty Boyd who this lounge was named after. She made many additions and loved this building. It is symbolic we’re here in this lounge because she was known for her love of students. I would like to read the preamble for the WVU Constitution to remind of us those duties. “We, the students of West Virginia University, desiring to preserve within our University an atmosphere of open exchange of ideas with discussion, inquiry, and self-expression to insure the personal freedoms and general welfare of the students within our University, to promote principles of diversity, and to continue in our tradition of responsible self-governance, do hereby establish this Constitution of the West Virginia University Student Government Association.” My hope is that we continue to live by this and serve our students well in the years to come. Thank you.
6. Governor’s Reports
   1. VC Merow: Dining has more options across campus, you just have to ask them. I’ve been working with a guy from NYU and testing an APP called “Swipe Me” so it’s like tinder for meal swipes. Say if, I am a student and I’m in need of a meal swipe, so it matches you with someone willing to give away swipes. Let me know if this sounds like a good idea. Thanks!
   2. VP: Vote to move back into open student forum1
      1. Second, all those in favor, all those opposed (no opposition).
   3. Governor Dirkman: Last week I had a meeting and made a lot of progress. They are starting out with two dates (lair) Saturday October 3rd and Tuesday November 3rd (8-2). $27 or billed to insurance. Good step forward. Brought to my attention that students getting into student health on the weekend are becoming a problem, so I will look into that. Mountaineer Pharmacy opened over the summer in the Student Health building.
   4. Governor Humphrey: It was a fun and busy weekend. Went back to wheeling and took my dog to the local pool which was awesome. First of all a great meeting with myself and Jason Olen on trying to change Maniacs Bylaws and working with AC’s and VP Morgan on changing those bylaws. Open switch textbook and resource committee, targeted to develop course guides. Determined working with first year seminar committee to develop content for WVU 199 class textbooks. Tonight was the showing of the Hunting Ground, a film about sexual assault on campus, a panel of experts there afterwards for a discussion. Great to see so many people out engaging in that. Thank you.
   5. Governor McIntyre: A student brought to my attention a few things with Evansdale that need improvements. One thing, in Lincoln hall, students don’t have access to towers after hours to swipe in to use computer labs and things. That’s obviously an issue and meeting with Dean Farris about that next week. I am working on a survey pretty soon about Off0campus housing experiences. Getting help with that from another student, Annalisa, another thing I want to talk about. Alright, something I want to discuss, (Reads news story about AG complaint against Copper Beech) I had friends Freshman year stay in those buildings and form my POV, if I had something on my bill, I wouldn’t have known it was illegal. I asked students in the last few hours and they confirmed this and that they didn’t know it was legal. This is why students need a voice for these things. This has driven home everything I am trying to do. Just seeing this in the news, so if you’re interested in joining Student Renter’s Alliance, please let me know.
   6. Governor Richardson: So we had a meeting with CFO Narvel Weese, and our discussion was about tuition rising and why. What is the reason and it is really coming down to state funding. This is why we have SALA and why student government needs to push more and travel to Charleston. We look like a private university compared to the funding we get compared to other state universities. Another thing, they had it was a performance management energy savings program, after it was completed, various changes have been made and the university has saved 3.4 million dollars in energy savings. It lifts a financial burden as well; my dream for WVU is to see a completely solar powered campus. Imagine how much we could save if we did that. 3% of our total budget goes towards utility costs. In addition, I wanted to talk about recycling. I also look at recycling bins and Styrofoam is not recyclable and plastic bottles, please rinse them out before you put them in the receptacles. I have even seen facility management employees dump recycling bins into the trash. Please be mindful and do the right thing.
7. Athletic Councilor Reports
8. Executive Reports
   1. Haley Quigley (director of student connections): hi everyone, the Mountaineer Leadership Program still has applications available and those are available until Friday. Last night we had a mixer and it was very successful. Thank you to everyone for coming. We plan to review applications this Sunday and get back to applicants on Sunday evening. Please be there if you requested an intern, 6pm on Wednesday! Thank you.
   2. Erin Heeter (director of student orgs) Our first SOPAC meeting witll be at 7pm in Rhododendron Room on Sep 15th. We’ll talk about Grants, Iserve, clothing, etc. Please be there!
   3. Press Secretary Barnhart: hi, on behalf of PR/comm team. Thanks to everyone who made it to our social hour we had before this meeting. Thank you all for coming out. Hopefully we can get the AC on for next week.
9. Unfinished Business
10. 2015-2016 SGA Budget – President Capel: this is going to be the same budget that you all saw last week. Only the changes now, we have worked with the university and have found alternative resources for the stipends and the retreat as well. What you’re about to vote on is to pass on budget as is and not consider stipends on anything as those will not come out of our budgets.
11. Vp: any questions? Three discussion points?
12. Governor Humphrey: motion to vote on budget as presented by President Capel by roll call
    1. Vice Chair Merow - aye
    2. Governor Dirkman - aye
    3. Governor Fitzwater - aye
    4. Governor Humphrey - aye
    5. Governor Kaska - aye
    6. Governor Kiess – aye
    7. Governor McIntyre - aye
    8. Governor Moneyhun - aye
    9. Governor Richardson - aye
    10. Governor Riggins – aye
    11. Governor Sabatino - aye
    12. Governor Seabolt - aye
    13. Governor Thompson - aye
    14. Governor Waris- aye

VP Morgan: congrats this has now passed.

1. New Business
2. Executive Appointments – President Capel: First up, director of LGBTQ affairs, Mr. Jake Matthews
   1. Jack Matthews: hello, just a little bit about me, I am from Charleston, WV. I am a sophomore and I am really happy to be in this position to make a positive difference on campus. I come from a background, so I’ve seen and experienced some things that people haven’t really thought about so I am thankful to be in this position to help people along the way.
   2. VP: any questions? Okay, so at this time, if there are no questions or discussions. Entertain a motion.
   3. Governor Waris: I motion that we vote via secret ballot
   4. (BOG votes on Executive Appointment)
   5. VP Morgan: Would you bring him back in, please congratulate, Executive Director of LGBTQ Affairs, Mr. Jake Matthews.
   6. President Capel: Next up is our appointment for elections chair, Ms. Emma Harrison, as you know she is a freshman but has family members who have been involved with this process before. Her brother, Josh Harrison, who served in this position for four years. She is the best candidate and will be a great addition to SGA and a great lections chair.
   7. Emma Harrison: I am from Morgantown and I am a freshman. I am really excited for this opportunity. Homecoming is right around the corner so I am excited for opportunities to come.
   8. Governor Thompson: What experience outside of having your brother/mom do you have with this kind of thing?
   9. Emma: I went to girls state so I know about the elections process and I want to go into politics, so I want to learn from the inside out and I Think this would be a really good way to do that.
   10. VP: any questions?
   11. Governor Humphrey: My question, and you mentioned Girls State, and in relation to SGA elections, the homecoming elections will be in a month or so, have you been around or physically been near elections taken place on campus? Have you been around an election here on campus, first hand on the scene?
   12. Emma: I have been to debates and I know how that process works and I’m not trying to base anything off of my family’s experiences, but I want to learn for myself and I have read the code, so I want to do that.
   13. Governor Seabolt: What are your plans to improve the homecoming election this coming month?
   14. Emma: I would hope there would be less fines overall and more voter turnout. More of a tradition instead of something everyone does. I want everyone to be excited about it.
   15. Governor Kaska: Sort of expanding on Governor Seabolt’s question, what are plans to increase voter turnout for homecoming turnout and SGA elections?
   16. Emma: I would do a survey to see the best places and most heavily traveled areas. Somewhere people go so they don’t have to go out of their way.
   17. VP: any more questions? 2nd round-
   18. Governor Seabolt: I like the idea of having alternative locations such as the PRT. May I direct this question towards President Capel, is that okay to hold voting outside at places like that?
   19. President Capel: I don’t think there is a rule against that but I wouldn’t really recommend that because of the weather, so we wouldn’t want those machines damaged.
   20. Governor Humphrey: We talked about this when we met, do you still stand by when you say you want to decrease the funding that goes into elections but increase voter turnout?
   21. Emma: can I add something, with the PRT, I would say near where people walk because I just want people to be aware. SGA does a lot of work and a lot of people are not aware of what they are actually voting for. It will make a difference if more people vote.
   22. VP: any other questions? Discussion?
   23. Governor Richardson: I do support this nomination. I do remember Josh’s hard work, but I do trust George’s nomination and I think it is a good choice. Being the fact that she is a freshman should not prevent her from being able to hold in this capacity. I do believe that if we put this off, homecoming applications are due Thursday, it could cause problems for that process to move forward.
   24. Governor Thompson: This is not speaking in favor or against, if we’re looking just in terms of the election that is upcoming, that is a poor way to go about this. This is along term thing. Let’s not just push this through solely because of that reason.
   25. Governor Humphrey: one of my concerns, it is rightfully justified, I am a firm believer that you learn by participating and it takes a certain amount of first hand experience. One point I think that I stand by making is the fact that if we are going to go about trying to find someone unbiased. We always look from within when finding executives. It is what has happened in the past. In terms of trying to get that experience factor, which I value, you know you look at companies and they want people who have on the ground experience. My point goes back to the fact that you learn by doing and that is just an inadequacy that I see. Moving away from elections but towards a judicial capacity. It wouldn’t be someone that was systemically picked from within the organization. Thank you.
   26. President Capel: Governor Humphrey’s comment is totally justified, however, that is not a luxury that we have right now due to changes in elections code. Regardless of who we nominate for this position, it will required a tremendous amount of training because of those changes from last year.
   27. VC Merow: going off of what Governor Humphrey said, that is the reason that we’re having so many issues with this. Every year, friends of friends run for these positions, which leads the bias and discrepancy. This is the chance to eliminate that and have no bias and no one from within SGA. This is chance to start over from the trouble we’ve had in the past.
   28. Governor McIntyre: let me give, you know, above all else they are supposed to be unbiased. In theory, the philosophy is supposed to be that the Supreme Court is nominated without bias, but that should trump all. Finding someone who is unbiased in these elections is such a rare find in elections chairs. Let’s think about how difficult it would be to find someone to fill this spot that doesn’t have bias.
   29. Governor Riggins: I kind of came to the fire when I was here and I had no experience in SGA, so I think she would do the same.
   30. Governor Humphrey: 1) the main point, there was a connection made already. I’m not saying there is already bias induced. 2) Who else applied? Not necessarily in giving out names, how many applicants were there? That is important to know going forward.
   31. Governor Richardson: my point, people aren’t knocking down the door for these positions and the fact that we have a volunteer is crucial and George said that this is the best choice that we have. It is a great choice which is a great point to make and for the coming years in SGA.
   32. Brewster: one of the things, a lot of discussion about experience, no one else is qualified to do this except for her. She is interested and willing. George and Ashley interviewed all of you as freshman and they trusted in you and they said this is a good candidate for a governor’s position. As freshies they picked you too. It is comical too to hear from people about experience about people who are pretty inexperienced to be on the board.
   33. VP: final comments?
   34. Governor Humphrey: I would say, I would disagree with that. I also think that in regards to making decisions about personnel in regards to the board. It is a subjective experience. My experiences within this organization are different from everyone else. I served as an intern for an entire year. I looked at all freshman applying for first year applicants for the leadership program. I sure as hell couldn’t do this as a freshman.
   35. Governor McIntyre: Okay, let me try to find some ground here, first of all, let me say. This has nothing to do with whether or not George or Ashley made the right decision. This is in essence our final decision. We had a chance to talk to Emma. I don’t think anyone should be acting like we didn’t because we did. At the end of the day, she is a special circumstance. There is nothing in our bylaws that says we cannot appoint a freshman. I was an intern as a freshman, and I got experience that way and I had no problem with that I then moved to ES and now I’m here. I don’t see that point at all.
   36. VP Morgan: close discussion entertain motions
   37. Governor Riggins: move to vote on this appointment, by secret ballot
   38. Governor Kaska : second.
   39. VP: okay, the motion on the floor is to recall role
       1. Vice Chair Merow - present
       2. Governor Dirkman - present
       3. Governor Fitzwater - present
       4. Governor Humphrey - present
       5. Governor Kaska - present
       6. Governor Kiess – present
       7. Governor McIntyre - present
       8. Governor Moneyhun - present
       9. Governor Richardson - present
       10. Governor Riggins – present
       11. Governor Sabatino - present
       12. Governor Seabolt - present
       13. Governor Thompson - present
       14. Governor Waris- present
       15. Governor Watson – present
       16. Athletic Councilor Ferrera - present
       17. Athletic Councilor Taylor – present
3. VP: ballots go around.(BOG Votes) -- Congratulations to our new elections chair, Emma Harrison. Next, we will move into committee appointments. I am up for an appointment for this, so Governor Merow will take over during the second portion of this.
4. Committee Appointments: President Capel- reads first block : “Julie Merow, Dustin Seabolt, Jason Olen, Morgan Goff, Samantha Shimer, Shannon Redmon, Tanner Jones, Breanna Kreutzer, Brandon Cole, Savannah Lusk. Rogerio Cardoso”
   1. VP Morgan: any questions? Discussion?
   2. Governor Riggins: I motion that we go about this by block voting
   3. Governor Kaska: I motion that we vote block via affirmation
   4. Governor Riggins: withdraw motion
   5. Governor Waris: Second.
   6. VP Morgan: all in favor, Aye, all those opposed, nay. (VC Merow, Governor Seabolt, and Governor Humphrey abstain from voting), Governor Richardson did not vote as he was not present.
   7. VC Merow: Move to second group, President Capel
   8. President Capel: reads second block: “Ashley Morgan, Molly Callaghan, Erin Heeter, Trevor Kiess, Jihad Dixon, Spenser Wempe, Tori Moneyhun, Lauren Daub, Chris Hickey, Kris Elmer, Dillon Muhly-Alexander.”
   9. VC Merow: Any questions for President Capel, any discussion? Motions?
   10. Governor Seabolt: move to vote by acclimation by block
   11. Governor Waris : second
   12. VC Merow: all in favor by acclimation say aye (AYE), opposed say nay, abstain? (Governor Kiess & Governor Moneyhun abstained) Governor Richardson did not vote, as he was not present.
   13. President Capel: One more appointment for the communications team, Ms. Jordan Wilcher.
   14. Jordan: I am AOE sorority, help with PR team and group relations chair. I also worked with High School Young Dems twitter account and I always try to help with all types of PR. So any questions?
   15. Governor Kaska: So I was just wondering, for this position, are there any new things you would like to do?
   16. Jordan: something I had thought about, with WVU Greek life, they do Meet The Greeks, but I would like to do something like that with the governors/executive committees to show what we’re doing and how we’re staying involved on campus.
   17. VP Morgan: any questions? Any discussion on appointment?
   18. Governor Seabolt: I like this because it will make SGA seems more fresh. Motion to vote by secret ballot.
   19. Governor Kaska: second
   20. VP Morgan: please put your names on these and pass them to AG when you finish. (BOG VOTES) Any other ballots? Maintain order while AG counts ballots. Congratulations, you’ve been appointed! That concludes new business, move into open student forum II
5. Open Student Forum II
   1. Governor Humphrey: Commenting a little off of Governor Richardson’s report, there are a n umber of exciting things relating to student affordability. Chancellor hill is calling for state legislature to restore 350 million dollars for them to take action to maintain that funding. Historical trend we’ve seen, public knowledge that can be found, over the past 10 years, we’ve seen higher ed funding in WV decrease from 26% in 2006 to 19% in 2014. Investment in Higher Ed is one of the leading causes of increasing tuition. It is important that SALA engages in these conversations. Looking forward to continue hearing more about this.
   2. Dakota Workman: I forgot to mention, SALA will meet next Tuesday in the Blackwater Room at 6pm. Looking to talk about a lot of issues including that of college affordability. Send more ideas for plans we can push.
   3. Tanner Jones: Hi everyone, I am Tanner jones and on the 23rd of this month we will have our study abroad fair in the ballrooms of the lair Encourage you to come out if you’re interested in study abroad and we’ll talk about all kinds of trips. Something to work in regardless of major. Something to pad resume and it looks really good. If you have any questions, please let me know. The time will be 9-4.
   4. Governor Seabolt: 1) formal fraternity recruitment is September 26, if you’re interested please talk to me after the meeting. 2) kudos to VC Merow for stepping up and chairing the meeting when VP Morgan had to step out.
   5. Governor Riggins: Ole miss and Miss state are rivals and joined up and raised over $12,000 for SO and I think this is something we could do for with Pitt for a great cause.
   6. Andrew Sutherland: good neighbor day is on Iserve, log on and search for opportunity. This is an event that will be held on diversity week. 12:30-6:30 Merow and Brewster will hope to get a couple hundred students to go out in the community and come back and have a celebration. The Morgantown Marathon is looking for volunteers, proceeds towards VA affairs. On Oct 3rd, habitat for humanity, when you sign in for that even, scroll down to student government and see Tyler Yim for more info.
6. Advisor’s Reports
   1. Dr. Klandorf: I’ve heard from many sources that this building is haunted, so if you see one, let us know. There is a picture of Elizabeth Moore when you enter the building. She was a member of the seminary during the civil war. She was able to prevent the seminary from being destroyed when confederate troops were moving through the area. Gee came to faculty meeting yesterday and looking to give SGA people academic credit. Talking about Big 12, I am unhappy and would lie to see college president get together to have that conversation. I reminded him of our bus ride from the retreat. It would be nice for WVU students, in order to have a better connection to Big 12, should be able to go to any Big 12 university for free. Many of those places, are not many nice places, we could a large group here. Thank you.
   2. Kim Harrison: I want to re-iterate the importance for student orgs to sign up. Please do this! Good Neighbor Day will have these orgs and tables on the green, so if you want to get involved, email me.
7. Announcement
   1. If you have an announcement, let VC Merow know on Tuesdays by 4pm and she will get them on the agenda. (Refer to announcements below)
8. VP Morgan: motion for adjournment?
   1. Governor Seabolt: motion

Announcements

National Suicide Prevention Week is the Monday through Sunday surrounding World Suicide Prevention Day on Thursday, September 10th. Here at WVU, we have an interactive Suicide Prevention Training known as Kognito available for students, faculty and staff offered for free through the HelpWELL program. The 3 trainings target "At-Risk students" "LGBTQ students" and "Veterans". For more information contact Professor Brewster, Governor Fitzwater, Governor Dirkman or Director of Community Service Sutherland.

Don’t forget to stop by Maniac Madness on Friday afternoon from 3-6 p.m. on the Mountainlair Plaza! There will be free pizza, a corn hole tournament, and of course, “Beat Georgia Southern” buttons. Pick up your Maniacs t-shirt and join the fun as we prepare for our game against Georgia Southern on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Mountaineer Field. REMEMBER: YOU MUST HAVE YOUR STUDENT ID TO CLAIM YOUR MANIACS T-SHIRT AND TO ENTER THE FOOTBALL GAME ON SATURDAY.