

**West Virginia University  
Student Government Association  
Student Assembly Meeting  
Media Innovation Center, Evansdale Crossing, 7:30 PM  
September 21, 2022  
2022-2023 Hernandez-Uqaily Administration**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Pareera Uqaily at 7:30 p.m.

**II. Reading of the SGA Mission Statement**

The SGA Mission Statement was read by Vice President Pareera Uqaily

**III. Roll Call**

Roll was called by Executive Secretary Donate

President Pro Tempore Khan- Excused

Senator Amores- Present

College Senator Azinger- Present

College Senator Blair- Present

College Senator Cahill- Excused

Senator Chennuru- Present

College Senator Clark- Present

Senator Conner- Present

College Senator DeLong- Present

College Senator Donner- Excused

College Senator Dozier- Present

College Senator Dysart- Present

College Senator Griffith- Present

College Senator Guschel- Present

Senator Hodges- Present

College Senator Hudson- Present

College Senator Irfan- Excused

Senator Jones- Present

College Senator Kuffner- Present  
College Senator Marquart- Excused  
College Senator McMillen- Present  
College Senator Milam- Present  
Senator Miller- Present  
College Senator Mitchell- Excused  
College Senator Moore- Present  
College Senator Neiswonger- Absent  
College Senator Oursler- Present  
College Senator Patel- Present  
Senator Price- Present  
Senator SantMyer- Present  
College Senator Schwartzmiller- Present  
College Senator Skean- Present  
College Senator Tabidze- Present  
Senator Uqaily- Present  
Senator Volk- Present  
Senator Whalen- Present  
College Senator Wooten- Present  
College Senator Zoglio- Present

#### **IV. Reading and Approval of the Agenda**

College Senator Hudson moved to amend the agenda and add the Data Sciences Club under item B.5 via unanimous consent.

The motion to amend the agenda and add the Data Sciences Club under item B.5 was seconded by Senator Price.

There were no objections, and the agenda was amended.

The motion to approve the agenda was entertained by Senator Price.

The motion to approve the agenda was seconded by Senator Conner.

There were no objections, and the agenda was approved.

#### **V. Reading and Approval of the Minutes**

The motion to approve the minutes was entertained by Senator Price.

The motion to approve the minutes was seconded by Senator Santmyer.

There were no objections, and the minutes were approved.

## VI. Presentation from Campus Recreation

*Craig Boegner:* Craig Boegner is the assistant director of campus recreation. He has been working in higher education, specifically in campus recreation, for the past twelve years and this is his fifth month at WVU. Campus recreation was in the midst of working with SGA before the pandemic occurred, and would like to reconnect.

*Sera Janson Zegre:* Please feel free to follow-up with any of us if anything sparks interest. Campus recreation is under student life and the Office of Student Wellness. Adventure West Virginia, Well WVU, and Collegiate Recovery are all departments which they work closely with, and together they employ the highest concentration of students, second to dining. The Recreation Center is the most obvious part of Campus Recreation, but club and intramural sports, special events, the Craft Center, the Reynold's Hall fitness center, and more also fall under it. Their mission is to promote students and faculty to be active.

WVU has 6.2 square feet per student, with the average among peer institutions being around 10 square feet for recreation per student. This puts WVU in the 19th percentile for space per student. With the B&E building, the statistic has been raised to 6.7 square feet per student. Research has shown that students feel crowded at the Rec Center and feel that it only serves students on Evansdale. In a map of user proportion of Rec Center use among first-time students, students living on Evansdale were 2.5 times more likely to use the Rec Center than those living downtown.

Each year over 5,000 first-time freshmen students start at WVU, but over 20% do not return. The problem is upwards of 16 million dollars. This is a nationwide trend. Specifically in West Virginia, there may be up to an 8% drop in incoming students. Some states are seeing expected increases, but in general, there is a decline in higher education. Much of the focus in higher education is on student retention. Campus recreation may be seen as not as important in this, but research has shown that academic and social engagement, specifically co- and extracurricular activities, are important. Previous studies that have tried to quantify the importance of campus recreation have lacked statistical design.

However, it has been found that students who participate in campus recreation have higher GPA, retention, and graduation rates.

At the university, three years of first-time freshmen students were grouped into use categories of Rec Center use, from never used to heavy used (three times a week) and a stair-step pattern was found between the use of campus recreation and GPA. The same pattern has been found in retention. Researchers then went beyond this to control for the variables of demographics and were able to look at users and non-users of the Rec Center, while excluding those in between. Holding these variables constant, first-time undergraduate students who use the rec center at least once a week or more had statistically significant higher retention rates. They have an 8.4% higher retention and 0.28 points higher on GPA. This could be 1.2 million dollars annually. In student sub-samples that have a higher risk of dropping out, the impact on retention and GPA has been found to be even greater. Social engagement, including campus recreation, is key to retention. However, it is more than just retainment. It's also belonging, community, physical fitness, and well-being. Any investment in the program that serves the entire campus community is an investment, not an expense.

The data presented today was from 2014-2017 when business was as usual, and there was no focus on retention. Now they are trying to increase impact with intentional programming and strategically placed facilities to meet students where they are. In February 2020, Campus Recreation presented to SGA and a resolution was made to create active study rooms and explore bike desks at the downtown library. Since then, three stationary bikes have been moved to the Downtown Library, three stationary bikes have been moved to the Evansdale Library, and an active study room poster was created to provide opportunities to stimulate studying. They have identified three rooms in the Downtown Library in which to install yoga mats and yoga balls and are looking for student leaders to help out. An outdoor fitness facility was also added to the Evansdale Campus in the fall of 2021, including a fitness court, three sand volleyball courts, and basketball courts, which could have fitness programming in the future and are available for club and intramural sports to use. Additionally, there is a new downtown fitness center in Reynold's Hall which had a soft opening in the summer and a full opening this semester. This is a 9,000 foot facility, most of which is fitness floor space. Campus recreation is now in a mission of wanting to market and assess it and are looking for student leaders' help. In the Downtown Library, there are six bikes facing windows. They would love input on these bikes, their positioning, their marketing, or anything else. In the Evansdale

Library, tables were added to the bikes to make them more of a study desk.

Campus recreation is here to help and would love input or ideas on anything.

*Vice President Uqaily:* The handouts are in the Drive, but weren't able to be sent out in email due to the mail app crashing.

*College Senator Hudson:* Like the idea of incorporating the study bikes into the library.

Is there any opportunity to expand that into the Health Sciences' Library? Also, we're 81% below our peers, so within the university's 10-year-plan is there anything about how they will meet people where they are at?

*Craig Boegner:* Some of the peer institution statistics can be a bit misleading, because some have a lot more students than us. WVU isn't as bad as that statistic might represent, but we are low on space, especially downtown. Getting that bottom floor of Reynold's Hall was a big win and we are working with other partners on campus, like housing, to try and get additional space. It's probably not feasible in the 10-year-plan to get a full-blown Rec Center downtown, but that would be great. Anytime a project comes up downtown, we try to see if any of our needs can fit into it.

*Sera Janson Zegre:* Even the student recreation center was student-led. Students recognized that the university needed one and started a petition to make it happen. Student-led initiatives go a lot further and campus recreation will support them. We will get bikes for the Health Sciences' Library.

*Senator Conner:* An obstacle for a lot of freshmen is intramural games being held late at night, past the time the PRT is open. It would be good to work with transportation to figure out a solution, like a bus or later hours for the PRT, for facilities that aren't PRT accessible or PRT time-accessible. Transportation is a big obstacle, especially for students downtown.

*Craig Boegner:* That is definitely on the radar and is also a barrier for club sports at Mylan Park. Campus Recreation is brainstorming ideas to partner with transportation and fix this.

*Senator Amores:* As the Chair of the Mental Health and Well-Being Committee, she feels like she had been focusing on one side of her committee and that physical fitness and health had been a side thought. This presentation has clicked so many bubbles and solved so many problems for her, and she is very thankful for people that are supportive and recognize SGA's goals.

*College Senator Ousler:* With outdoor recreational areas, campus also has a Core

Arboretum. Is this factored into any recreational space calculations? It is a recreational space that needs funding. Putting a cross country trail or running trails and helping with trail maintenance would be an important step and is always needed. There is also the Kaperton Railtrail running from downtown to Evansdale. Has there been any thought to highlighting that or making it more easily accessible for students?

*Sera Janson Zegre:* The arboretum is near and dear to me. In these calculations of space per student, data is only as good as what feeds into it. Pretty sure that outdoor space is not calculated in the space per student. What was presented today was just indoor space per student. The Arboretum and the Kaperton RailTrail are not included in those calculations but they draw a lot of people, and Campus Recreation is focused on utilizing them. Adventure West Virginia has recently opened up a collaboration between the city and university where people can rent outdoor gear along the Rail Trail. This allows people to use things at the Rail Trail without having to transport it, and allows access to the river as well. The rental center is at the Ruby Amphitheater and is open on Friday nights and weekends. It is free to WVU students and \$10 an hour for community members.

*Craig Boegner:* There are partnerships with the city and parks and university that could definitely come in the future.

*Senator Whalen:* One big thing with access is that there is not much advertisement for women's leagues within the rec, and there aren't women's teams for sports like flag football or basketball. Emphasizing groups that are female-focused could be a way to get female students involved and combat female students not feeling comfortable at the Rec Center.

*Sera Janson Zegre:* The data actually shows that more women than men use the Rec Center. However, in intramural sports, far more men participate than women. One of the big barriers that have come up in focus groups among all groups is transportation and parking.

*Craig Boegner:* It's something that we are aware of and is not unique to WVU, it is national. Campus recreation just went to a two-curator coordinator sports model to help upgrade the sports program, and is very involved with the national association. Representatives are going to a regional conference in two weeks and can talk with colleagues to get ideas about similar issues.

*Sera Janson Zegre:* Some of it nationally is challenging the structure components of the leagues and trying to reframe things to make it more inclusive.

## **VII. Open Student Forum I**

No one wanted to be recognized.

## **VIII. The President's Report**

*President Hernandez:* The Executive Vacancy Committee met and interviewed twelve applicants for Elections Chair and Communications Coordinator on Tuesday and Thursday last week. The committee unanimously agreed on the candidates up for confirmation tonight, and if confirmed, they will be onboarded over the next week. Vice President Uqaily and President Hernandez are meeting with President Gee on Friday, September 23 to update him on current SGA initiatives, like legislation and the LiveSafe Campaign. The Big XII Conference application is closed and emails will be sent out soon. Additionally, President Hernandez attended the WVU ACS, Student Advisory Council Meeting, yesterday to discuss projects from the state of West Virginia and SGA's from each campus. Some things which might arise from that are the Month of Service. President Hernandez and Vice President Uqaily have been meeting with the Marshall University Student Body President to discuss what these initiatives might entail, and they will be bringing in smaller colleges from throughout the state.

“Experience has taught me that you cannot value dreams according to the odds of their coming true. Their value is in stirring within us the will to aspire -  
Sonia Sotomayor.

## **IX. Assembly Reports**

*College Senator Oursler:* Will be meeting with Grounds on Wednesday, September 28. If anyone has any concerns with grounds or landscaping on campus that they would like mentioned, please let College Senator Oursler know. Some of the things that they will discuss are pollinator habitats and hazardous trees on campus.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Really enjoyed our informal discussion last week. President Hernandez, Vice President Uqaily, and President Pro Tempore Khan will discuss ways to make those meetings more succinct to encourage more discussion with executives and interns as well. The Spring Retreat will be January 13-14th in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for all Executives and Assembly Members, and the University of Pittsburgh's SGA is super excited to work with us.

Kind reminder that it is the last week of September, so don't forget about Monthly Reports. The link for the monthly reports is in the Drive. Hoping to have headshots taken by Chief of Staff Flower next week before the meeting. College Senator Molinaro resigned last week, so it is formally announced that the administration will be filling the seat for a vacancy in the Chambers College. The application will open tonight and close on Monday, September 26th. There will hopefully be a candidate up for appointment at the next meeting.

## X. Committee Reports

*Senator Price:* Within the Student Experience Committee, there was a meeting with the head of dining services yesterday. Come to the committee meeting to hear about the discussion. This year, the Accessibility and Safety Walks will be combined and held as one to be more logistically feasible. Senator Chennuru is working on setting up an academic advisor meet-and-greet, and will be meeting with Joy Carr next Thursday, September 29th. Committee meetings are held at 6:30 on Mondays on Zoom and in the Cathedral Room this upcoming Monday.

*College Senator Wooten:* The Community Engagement Committee is meeting tomorrow at 6 p.m. in the Cacapon Room

*Senator Conner:* The Government Relations Committee helped with Voter Registration day in the Voter Registration Drive yesterday, September 20th. Remind friends that they can still register if they have not yet already, and don't forget to request an absentee ballot if needed. An application will be launched in early October for student debt forgiveness. The Government Relations Committee is working on getting a graphic out about that to share on social media. Around 50% of students at WVU are eligible for the Pell Grant, so this is applicable to a lot of students.

*College Senator Blair:* The Sustainability Committee currently only has four voting members and would love some more. Even if you can't make our noon Friday meeting times, you can still be a part of the committee. College Senator Blair met with the Office of Sustainability last week and went through shared initiatives between WVU Sustainability faculty and committee. There are a lot of outdoor services being looked into, such as the Campus Bee Garden and trees. They are looking for a lot of student engagement from different organizations. A student sustainability survey is being finalized and will be sent out soon. Please help push that out, as the Office of Sustainability is very interested in that data as well. They have not sent out a student-wide survey since 2019, but the questions asked then vs. now will be very similar for continuation purposes.

*Senator Amores:* The Mental Health and Well-Being Committee is meeting on Friday at 4



p.m. via Zoom. Reach out to Senator Amores or College Senator Dysart to join.

*Senator Santmyer:* The Inclusion Committee sent out an interest form in GroupMe for the committee's clean-up. Please take the time to fill that out. The committee is planning on doing a 10-for-10 survey, so keep a lookout for that. They are also trying to finalize DEI month events and there is document in the Drive for any ideas, questions, or comments. It would also be great for more assembly members to come to the committee to help plan DEI month. The committee is working on legislation to create an Inclusion Advisory Board and is helping the Student Experience Committee with the Accessibility Walk. The committee meets Sunday's at 12 p.m. in the Bluestone Room.

*Attorney General Long:* Governing Documents Committee is switching their meeting location from the conference room to the Laurel Room for the remainder of the semester.

## **XI. Executive Reports**

*Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey:* Wrapped up the Voter Registration Drive on Tuesday. About a dozen students were registered and they talked with many more about voter registration and the election. Would like to continue efforts with voter registration both on and outside of campus. College Senator Wooten, Senator Conner, President Pro Tempore Khan, Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler, and Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey are meeting with Ron Justice, the Director of Local Government Affairs, to discuss reaching out to local high schools and doing voter registration there. Please let Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey know of any feedback or discussion points before their meeting on Monday.

*Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler:* Governor Jim Justice signed HB-302 into law and it was effective immediately. The Mon. County Board of Education had a special session yesterday and there was no mention of the county-wide Pride Flag ban. There will be another meeting this Tuesday, September 27th, and there will be a community-wide rally/protest at 5:00 p.m. before the meeting at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will also be live streamed on Youtube. The emails of board members were sent in a group message if anyone would like to send them a message. If anyone is writing a proclamation, Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler would love to help, or her and Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey could write an open letter or statement to the Board of Education in support of community members and high-schoolers.

Lastly, there are four big amendments on the ballot in West Virginia for this election that are important to understand when voting. The first is the

clarification of the judiciary's role in impeachment proceedings, which amends the State Constitution to say that no state court has authority over impeachment proceedings or judgements made by the State Senate. Voting in support would support this change, while voting against would mean state courts would still have a say. The second amendment is the property tax modernization amendment. This would amend the West Virginia Constitution to authorize the state legislature to exempt personal property used for business activities, like machinery, equipment, inventory, or personal motor vehicles, from property tax. This may sound like a good idea, but a worry is that there is not a plan to make up for the lost revenue which usually goes to public services. This would cut about \$125 million from West Virginia's public services, including funding toward senior citizens, police, teachers, libraries, and first responders. Voting in support of this would exempt them from the taxes, while voting against this would mean the tax would still be in place. The third amendment is the corporation of churches/religious denominations amendment. West Virginia is currently the only state that has prohibitions on churches or religious denominations becoming a corporation. This usually makes it a lot easier for them to conduct business, and nonprofits and businesses register for this. This amendment has a lot of bipartisan support, as the current prohibition is somewhat unconstitutional. Voting in support of this would mean churches/religious denominations would be able to incorporate, while voting against this would mean they would not. The last amendment is the Education Accountability Amendment. If this would pass, the West Virginia Legislature would look over the state Board of Education's rule and policies, and would have the authority to approve, amend, or repeal their curriculum. This is opposed by the West Virginia Board of Education, the Board of Education President, the West Virginia Superintendent of Schools, and one of the two teacher's unions, AFT, in West Virginia. The biggest affects this amendment could have could be on the teaching of history, civics, science, art, sexual health, and critical race theory. If you have questions on these amendments, reach out to Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler.

*Division of Equity and Inclusion Coordinator Elswick:* The West Virginia University Division of Equity and Inclusion is hosting a continuity event on September 29th from 6-9 p.m. on the fifth floor of Evansdale Crossing. This event aims to bring clubs together and meet each other while enjoying food, music, dancing, and highlighting international artists. They will also have a 360 camera. Diversity Week is October 9th-14th. The events have not been finalized yet but will be announced within the next week. The WVU LGBTQ+ center is hosting a free

trip on October 8th to a museum in Pittsburgh, as well as a game night at the Maple House on October 6th from 6-8 p.m. The Office of Accessibility Services is hosting a Night at the Fair Event on September 26th from 5-7 p.m. The location can be found on their social media. If anyone is struggling with mental health feel free to reach out to DEI Coordinator Elswick or the Mental Health and Wellness Committee.

*Chief Information Officer Jackson:* Everyone, except about four people, have been added to the website. Take a minute to find yourself on it and see if there is anything that needs to be fixed. Committees have also been added. If you have changed anything since adding to the Google Doc, please let Chief Information Officer Jackson know so he can get that changed. Shoutout to Vice President Uqaily and Chief of Staff Flower for fixing grammar mistakes. Working on some bio card improvements. If you have any recommendations for the website let Chief Information Officer Jackson know.

## **XII. Old Business**

## **XIII. New Business**

### **A. Student Organization Registrations**

#### **1. Genesis KDC @ WVU**

*Kaya:* KDC stands for Korean Dance Club. KDC's are typically organizations geared toward bringing more people together to create covers and performances based on Korean dance and music. K-pop is a big part of it, but it also involves other genres depending on member's interests. The mission is to build community and engage students of all skill levels with Korean culture and dance, and be a place for students to come and learn together to create collaborative performances with other members. There is already a Korean Culture Club on campus, as well as other student dance organizations. However, there are no organizations devoted specifically to Korean dance. It is important to have this organization, as other schools have them, at competitive and club levels, so WVU should not fall behind.

Currently, KDC has been hosting weekly practices using the free meetings offered by the Office of Student Engagement and Leadership. They have been preparing a performance and prepping for a release party for an album on October 7th. Future goals include larger group events, such as random dance play,

performance showcases, dances involving larger numbers of performers, and events for students that are not members of the club, like dance workshops.

- Senator Price moved to bundle the nominations of all the new student organizations and consider them as one via unanimous consent.
- The motion to bundle the nominations of all the new student organizations and consider them as one was seconded by Senator Santmyer.
- There were no objections and the new student organizations were bundled as one.

## **2. Criminal Law Society**

*Rachel:* WVU College of Law is very civil law based so the club hopes to bring more people interested in criminal law together.

*Natalie:* Criminal Law Society is a student organization at WVU Law for students interested in practicing criminal law in their future careers, such as as private defenders, prosecutors, judges, and more. Plan to use current member and advisor connections in and at the state to create more connections to WVU Law for students interested. Current plans include guest speakers, social events, community involvement such as making young people aware of their rights, court observations, interview preparation and practice, resume building workshops, and mentorships. The club is unique because there are no criminal law clubs at WVU Law, and this would be the first of its kind. There are a lot of interested students, 15 or 16 students alone among second years, and registration has not even been opened up yet to 1st or 3rd year students.

*Senator Price:* You said you hadn't opened it up to 1L and 3L students yet. Do you plan in the future to open it up to 1 and 3L students?

*Natalie:* Yes, we already have a google form ready to send out to those classes, but we're just waiting to get everything approved first.

## **3. The Country Line Dancing Club**

*Maria:* The Country Line Dancing Club is a student organization promoting country line dancing through workshops, meetings, and teaching students how to Line Dance. Line dancing is unique in that it requires no prior dancing experience and very little skill. The club would provide an hour weekly for students to come join the fun while getting a good workout.

*Lauren:* The club meets Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in the E. Moore Hall gym. Last night was the first time we met there. There was a lot of space and we really enjoyed it.

*Emily:* In regular meetings, the first 30 minutes will be spent learning one or two new

line dances as a group. The second 30 minutes will be spent as a Dance Hall where different songs to Line Dance to are continuously played. Additionally, some meetings will be purely Dance Hall meetings.

*Maria:* Currently, there are over 120 members in the club's GroupMe. The first meeting was last Tuesday and there were over 70 people in attendance. Yesterday, at the second meeting, over 80 people showed up.

*Lauren:* Upcoming events include weekly meetings, a tailgate for the Baylor Game, service events such as kids night or community events, and an end of the semester formal.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Are there any motions to entertain opening questions to the gallery?

- Senator Price moved to open questions to the gallery via unanimous consent.
- The motion to open questions to the gallery was seconded by College Senator Moore.
- There were no objections and questions were opened up to the gallery.

*Student Org Liaison Staten:* Can you please send a video of the club Country Line Dancing to Pitbull for those that cannot attend the meeting.

*Maria:* Our secretary works very hard on social media. Unfortunately, we cannot post videos longer than 24 seconds due to copyright claims, but there are 24 second videos of the club Line Dancing on Instagram.

#### **4. Music and Health Club**

*Victoria:* The Music and Health major at WVU is fairly new and currently only has five students in the major. The first person to graduate from this program will be this year. The club will be open to Music and Health majors as well as non-majors who have an interest in the topics. Within the major, there are a couple different possible tracks, such as pre-med, PA, dentistry, and more, so the club would provide a place for the different tracks to come together and discuss their different tracks. The major differs from music therapy, so the club would increase awareness of the major and its options. Goals might include outreach in the hospital, such as sharing music in the children's hospital, or meeting with different clubs to discuss ideas.

#### **5. Data Science Club**

*Caleb Hoffman:* The main goal of the club is to create an academic environment for students interested in data science, whether they are in the major or not. The major was new in fall of 2021 and had six students in the 101 course. Today, the 101 course has about twenty-five students enrolled, so interest has grown on

campus. The club aims to improve interest in the field, create awareness of the major, and make connections within the major amongst years. Unlike in other clubs where data is often linked with math, there is not a lot of math in data science, instead there is a lot of data visualization, statistics, machine learning, data ethics, data wrangling, and computer science. Some clubs may specialize in these subjects, but they don't cover everything this club does. Starting out, the plan is to hold a meeting a month, and once they settle in, they plan to increase that to two meetings a month. Goals include attending a professional convention to connect with businesses and hosting a campus wide event.

**a. Discussion and Voting**

- Senator Conner moved to approve all the student organizations via unanimous consent.
- The motion to approve all the student organizations was seconded by College Senator Blair.
- There were no objections and the student organizations were approved.

**B. FB-2022-17**

*Treasurer Daniel:* The bill includes two travel grants and four non-travel grants. There are conference fees, lodging, and a raffle.

- Senator Price moved to approve FB-2022-17 via unanimous consent.
- The motion to approve FB-2022-17 was seconded by College Senator Oursler.
- There were no objections, and FB-2022-17 was approved.

**C. Confirmation of Executive Nominees**

**1. Travis Weller, *Elections Chair***

*Travis Weller:* Travis Weller is a junior political science major. His main focus is elections and campaigns. His goal in the elections chair position would be to make sure that the elections are secure, accessible, and efficient. He also hopes to work with the Governing Documents Committee on the Elections Code, as they are revising it.

*Senator Price:* What do you believe from any prior experiences that you have, most prepares you for the position of Elections chair?

*Travis Weller:* Travis Weller has been at WVU for two years since transferring freshman year. He has done a lot of research on election administration, most recently on same-day voter registration, as well as on electoral systems. He is currently working on a local campaign where he will be doing canvassing. Additionally, he is coordinating case studies on the West Virginia Elections Public Perception.

*Senator Miller:* Is there any concerns you see right now with the elections system or any

input prior to being in your position?

*Travis Weller:* With the elections code being revised, there should be more clarification in campaign finance and what candidates can and can't do. The code is kind of broad and should be more specified. Other than that it's pretty good.

- Senator Volk moved to bundle the nominees together for consideration via unanimous consent.
- The motion to bundle the nominees together for consideration was seconded by Senator Santmyer.
- There were no objections and the nominees were bundled together.

## **2. Jordan Perry, *Communications Coordinator***

*Jordan Perry:* Jordan Perry is a senior undergraduate student studying criminology with minors in marketing, public relations, and psychology. In formulating what to say tonight, she got very nervous about talking to a room full of strangers, and then began the process of researching who everyone is. The audience is a group of majority 18-25 year olds who would likely appreciate it if a little bit of humor was included in this speech, but this is SGA and we have to be serious all the time. In this role, the communications coordinator needs to understand how to craft messages and media in a way that will be easily understood by audiences, but one that they can connect with as well. To do this, the messages SGA puts out there need to be formulated under the assumption that the public has no prior knowledge of the information that is included. Assuming the audience will receive the messages the same way the organization does internally, will cause SGA to fall short and leave the audience confused about what you do here. SGA is not an elusive figure that makes unilateral decisions for this university. They are our classmates, mentors, and friends. Let's familiarize the WVU student body with how SGA operates, how dedicated the committees are, educate them so they are able to make informed decisions during elections, and change the narrative that SGA only wishes to communicate to the public, to with the public as well. Jordan Perry believes that she can do this and help accomplish all this.

*Senator Price:* What is one specific element of the current SGA communications strategy that you think is not working and how would you improve it?

*Jordan Perry:* Something that is really important when you invite feedback for any organization is to highlight the specific faces behind that organization, building trust, transparency, authenticity, and why your organization is important. Ideas could be inviting committee members to be highlighted on social media and the website, and specifically outlining what you do. You do a lot and the students

should be able to understand where SGA is involved and what on campus they have benefitted from which SGA played a part in. Secondly, it is important to understand what students do and don't know about SGA. That starts with research, potentially putting out a survey. You need to ask questions so that any platforms and initiatives going forward have facilitating and understanding of the student body.

**a. Discussion and Voting**

*College Senator Hudson:* College Senator Hudson has been serving on this Vacancy Appointment Committee for the past few months. In Travis's interview, he had such a grasp of such a complex issue, he had read the entire elections code line by line to get clarification on it, and when he found gaps he looked for ways that we could all collaborate together to improve and strengthen it. He also does not really have any ties to SGA or any of the member's here, which is an ideal person that we want in the elections chair role. He also has an area of emphasis in elections code in his degree and has worked on some of these issues in the past, so he would do fantastic in this role. Jordan blew us away in her interview with all of her ideas, and she would probably love to share them with you all. She will be doing fantastic things for this organization.

- College Senator Hudson moved to end discussion and vote on the candidates via unanimous consent.
- The motion to end discussion and vote on the candidates was seconded by Senator Santmyer.
- There were no objections and the assembly moved into voting.
- Travis Weller, *Elections Chair*, was confirmed with 28 yays and 1 nay.
- Jordan Perry, *Communications Coordinator*, was confirmed with 27 yays and 2 nays.

**XIV. Open Student Forum II**

*Senator Whalen:* Everyone sing happy birthday to Intern Coordinator Backus!

*College Senator Oursler:* The PawPaw Festival is this Saturday at the Core Arboretum from 12:00-5:00 p.m. You can taste Paw Paws and buy trees. If anyone wants to go, let College Senator Oursler know.

*Chief of Staff Flower:* The WVU Wellness and Mental Health Student Advisory Board is accepting applications for new members. Chief of Staff Flower and Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey currently serve as chair and co-chair. If you are interested in administration and giving feedback on mental health services on campus, apply or connect anyone you know that might be interested.



## XV. Advisor's Reports

*Advisor Le:* The student org re-registration period ended last Thursday. There were about 88 organizations that are not in good standing with the office. There will be a make-up workshop next Thursday, September 29th at 6 p.m. on Zoom. If requirements are not fulfilled, the organization will not be recognized and all reservations will be canceled. Secondly, our team has been working in preparation to welcome over 120 participants to the REACH conference this weekend. Third, the Homecoming Royalty Court applications close next Friday, September 30th. Seniors interested in running should go on Engage to submit their application. Excited about the second year of the gender inclusive court.

Want to refocus us a little bit. We seem to be all over the place. There's a lot of things going on, which is totally fine, but sometimes we mix personal lives with SGA lives. Just because you have a personal passion for something, remember that our goal is to be the student government and advocate for our students first and foremost. When we do that really well, it bleeds out to the community and we can focus on the other things. Just be mindful of that when you are thinking about things and talking with students and the community. WVU is a land-grant institution so we have a mission to serve our state, but as an organization you do not have to necessarily do that until you truly build the community that you're trying to build on campus. Just be mindful of that, and your values and political values. Remember that SGA is apolitical; no matter how you may feel personally you have to make sure that you're representing the entire student body. Remember back to yourself in March 2021 and how eager you were to serve this campus. Remember that energy and that will hopefully guide you through the rest of this year. We have a lot of late meetings and long nights and hours, but you want to serve, and you signed up and committed to this. If you ever need someone to talk to, we're here to support you. We're going to have issues and complain about things from time to time, but remember to try and be consistent with messaging. Remember that you are serving the students next to you and the students that aren't here. If you have any questions about your job description and what you should be focused on, the advisors are here to help and support you whenever you need. Pace yourself and take care of yourself. Zoom opportunities and two unexcused absences exist so you can take time for yourself if you need it. Let's continue to work together to build a better WVU.

**XVI. Snaps**

- Senator Amores moved to skip snaps and move straight to adjournment via unanimous consent.
- The motion to skip snaps and move straight to adjournment was seconded by Senator Volk.
- There were no objections and snaps were skipped and moved straight to adjournment.

**XVII. Adjournment**

The motion to adjourn was entertained by Senator Conner.

The motion to adjourn was seconded by College Senator Blair.

The ayes have it. The meeting is adjourned.

West Virginia University  
The Student Assembly - Student Government  
Association Financial Bill: FB-2022-17  
September 21, 2022

As referred by the Bureau of Finance

**An Act**

Making grant appropriations for various student organizations on behalf of the West Virginia University Student Government Association.

***Be it enacted by the Student Assembly of the West Virginia University Student Assembly:***

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Student Government Association Grants to Student Organizations account and not otherwise appropriated, for the Student Organizations listed below for the Fall 2022 Semester per the official WVU Academic Calendar.

**Table of Contents**

**TITLE I: Reformed University Fellowship 2 TITLE II: Reformed University Fellowship 2 TITLE III: Student Investment Club 2 TITLE IV: Women in Business 3 TITLE V: Society of Women's Engineers 3 TITLE VI: Clear the Stress Club 4 TITLE VII: WVU Plant and Soil Science Club 4 APPENDIX A 5 APPENDIX B 6**

For expenses to cover t-shirts.

<b>Reformed University Fellowship</b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Supplies	58 Shirts	\$500.00 <b>\$500.00</b>

### **TITLE II: *Reformed University Fellowship***

For expenses to cover Chick-Fil-A for their Christmas meeting.

<b>Reformed University Fellowship</b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Catering	Chick-fil-A Catering	\$500.00 <b>\$500.00</b>

### **TITLE III: *Student Investment Club***

For Expenses to cover raffle tickets and a PS5 for a giveaway.

<b>Student Investment Club</b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Raffle Tickets	1 Spool	\$45.00
Supplies	1 Playstation 5	\$740.00
		Total Allocated Funds <b>\$785.00</b>

**TITLE IV: *Women in Business***

For expenses to cover Panera catering for a Female Business Panel, where they invite local businesses run by women to come and speak with students, an event will be held November 14th.

<b><i>Women in Business</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Catering	Panera Catering	\$429.58
Gratuity	20% of subtotal	\$86.06
		<b>\$515.64</b>

**TITLE V: *Society of Women Engineers***

For expenses to cover partial lodging for 12 members to attend a national conference in Houston, TX on October 20th to 22nd.

<b><i>Society of Women Engineers</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Lodging	3 rooms x 2 nights	\$1500.00 <b>\$1500.00</b>

**TITLE VI: *Clear the Stress Club***

For expenses to cover t-shirts for members.

<b>Clear the Stress Club</b>	
Item	Quantity Cost
Supplies	50 Shirts \$726.53 Total Allocated Funds <b>\$726.53</b>

**TITLE VII: WVU Plant and Soil Science Club**

For expenses to cover lodging for members to attend a collegiate soil contest in Clemson, SC, from October 16th to October 20th.

<b>WVU Plant and Soil Science Club</b>	
Item	Quantity Cost
Lodging	4 nights x 3 rooms \$1630.00 Total Allocated Funds <b>\$1630.00</b>

**APPENDIX A**

*Financial Bill Total Allocation Amount*

<b>Financial Bill 2022-17 Totals</b>
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Organization Total Cost Reformed University Fellowship \$500.00  
 Reformed University Fellowship \$500.00 Student Investment Club  
 \$785.00 Women In Business \$429.63 Society of Women  
 Engineers \$1,500.00 Clear the Stress Club \$726.53 WVU Plant  
 and Soil Science Club \$1,630.00 Total **\$6,071.16**

## APPENDIX B

### *Requested Amounts Per Organization*

#### ***Financial Bill 2022-17 Totals***

Organization	Total Grant Requested	Total Suggested	Reformed University Fellowship	Student Investment Club	Women In Business	Society of Women Engineers	Clear the Stress Club	WVU Plant and Soil Science Club	Total
Reformed University Fellowship	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00						\$500.00
Student Investment Club	\$758.65	\$785.00		\$785.00					\$785.00
Women In Business	\$429.63	\$429.63			\$429.63				\$429.63
Society of Women Engineers	\$10,785.95	\$1,500.00				\$1,500.00			\$1,500.00
Clear the Stress Club	\$726.53	\$726.53				\$726.53			\$726.53
WVU Plant and Soil Science Club	\$4,092.32	\$1,630.00					\$1,630.00		\$1,630.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,792.85</b>	<b>\$6,071.16</b>							

