

**West Virginia University
Student Government Association
Student Assembly Meeting
Vandalia Lounge, Mountainlair, 7:30 PM
November 20th, 2024
2024-2025 Long-Browning Administration**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Abigail Browning at 7:30 pm

II. Reading of the SGA Mission Statement

The SGA Mission Statement was read by Vice President Abigail Browning

III. Roll Call

Roll was called by Executive Secretary Orcutt

President Pro Tempore Olivero - Present

College Senator Armstrong - Present

College Senator Barbour - Present

College Senator Bielinski - Present

Senator Davis - Present

College Senator Duvert - Present

Senator Fernando - Present

College Senator Ferrell - Absent

College Senator Fleece - Present

College Senator Giggenbach - Present

College Senator Henson - Present

Senator Hoh - Absent

Senator Indomenico - Present

Senator Jones - Present

College Senator Jones - Present

College Senator Kelly - Present

College Senator Khalilullah - Present

College Senator Lieving - Present

College Senator Lipkovitch - Present

College Senator Lutman - Present

College Senator Madden - Present
College Senator Magrogan - Present
Senator Meeker - Present
College Senator Mehring - Present
College Senator Merlin - Present
College Senator Morgan - Present
College Senator Mugnano - Present
Senator Olivero - Present
Senator O'Neal - Present
Senator Plymale - Absent
College Senator Robinson - Present
College Senator Schmieder - Present
College Senator Selders - Present
College Senator Shaffer - Present
College Senator Silva - Present
Senator Street - Present
College Senator Tadros - Present
Senator Vuiller - Present

IV. Reading and Approval of the Agenda

A motion to approve was made by President Pro-Tempore Olivero, Seconded by College Senator Robinson

The minutes were approved.

V. Reading and Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve was made by President Pro-Tempore Olivero, seconded by College Senator Jones

VI. Open Student Forum I

No one was recognized for Open Student Forum I.

Presentation of the West Virginia University Annual Sustainability Report, Traci Knabenshue, Director of Sustainability

Knabenshue: I am not going to be giving a report, but more so talk about our sustainability goals. We work with all ABS units across the University to set these goals. I focus more on the physical campus goals. All of these are publicly available on STAR. We noticed that we have a low level of awareness across the campus community of sustainability. We came up with three main goals: Reduce waste, protect land and water, and lowering emissions. We are focusing on IT activities like reducing printing on campus. It uses paper and energy. We are regulated by the federal government to store water and filter it.

VIII. The President's Report

President Long: BOG members tomorrow and friday, the agenda is posted on the boards website. The internal senates mixer was a great success, and snaps to Sydney for getting that organized. We had a meeting with President Gee to deliver our midterm report. It is time to chill and relax. Please use your break to destress. My quote is "You may affirm absolutely that nothing great in the world has been accomplished without passion."

IX. The Vice President's Report

Vice President Browning: Please fill out the retreat RSVP. I have triboard meetings tomorrow. I hope you all have a good break!

X. Assembly Reports

College Senator Robinson: I have been working on a project for little free library boxes, and the eberly college is going to sponsor 3-4 of them, so we need to have a book drive, so please collect some books and bring them, and you can get service hours for it.

College Senator Merlin: PJ's and BJ's will be from 6-7:30 in the cathedral room.

XI. Committee Reports

Senator Davis: PRT updates will be incorporated next fall.

Senator Indominico: SGA has been invited to table at the research symposium, i will be sending out signups soon.

Senator Street: Narcan can be put in the cabinets upstairs. PRT proclamations are being wrapped up. CGR is organizing a lab equipment drive. We will be tabling to collect equipment and then distribute it out in January. If you're interested in helping, I will send out a sign up sheet.

XII. Executive Reports

Local Governance Liaison Ferguson: City council meeting is tonight. Camping ban got enough signatures to repeal it, so now it has been moved to the public ballot in april. We will be having a drive for the grace shelter from 12-2-12-3. More info on our social media when we get back.

Chief of Staff Risk: SGA has had a lot of partnership with sustainability. Thanks for coming to formal. Share a swipe will be tentatively on December 5th. November reports will be sent out tonight. Get it done by end of break. Secret snowflake signups are in my drive. Take care of yourself over break. Member of the month is Adeline Barbour. Our intern of the month is Dominick Scott.

XIII. Old Business

A. AB-2024-11-02

Elections Chair Coulter explained the bill in lieu of reading it.

President Pro Tempore Olivero: I don't support changing it for the third time in three years. Online voting is impossible for us to get right. We open it up to electioneering and doing it after the campaign hurt the campaign. The absentee ballot didn't work super well even after we sent out the mass email.

Senator Davis moved to open to gallery, seconded by senator street.

Chief of Staff Risk: I do think we equate voter engagement with being involved in SGA. We do represent people who won't be in SGA. Even if that is the only time someone is involved with SGA, their voices are heard. We also did approve a bill that had many statements that were to increase voter turnout. I think that it is super important. The first thing I ever voted on in SGA was elections code changes, and that is the only thing I have not been confident on when voting here.

College Senator Robinson: My question is was there any consideration of doing a hybrid voting system of both in person and online

Elections Chair Coulter: We usually don't have enough personnel to run in person voting.

Senator Olivero: Last election cycle, you would be able to post about the absentee ballot and tell people while youre campaigning to request it. I also don't think that people will remember to vote if we eliminate campaigning during the actual election. I'm concerned about having less people tabling during the election. I am also concerned about mass voting from fraternities and sororities.

Senator Street: I don't think we should settle for the ballot to be fairly accessible when we could have very accessible. 800 is not enough. We have the chance to make it super accessible and I think we should take it.

Senator Vuiller: Also I think that mass voting from Fraternities and Sororities already happens.

College Senator Jones: Fundamentally, this is a question of do we want more or less people voting. The last thing we need on this campus is less representation and involvement.

Senator O'Neal: It is our job to make things as accessible as possible. I've talked to many students and they did not have enough time to vote in the lines. It is our job to make it accessible for them.

Executive Secretary Orcutt: I had multiple people from my college, which is underrepresented, telling me they would have voted if there had been an easier way to do it. With this said, I think it it is foolish to vote against a bill that students are basically asking for.

Sophie Slaughter: I am pretty engaged on campus, and I am never confident on how to vote and it is still hard to vote. Waiting in line is not feasible for everyones schedule. I rushed through the process. My vote would be more informed if I voted from the couch.

Segrid: Voting online would make my life so much easier. I am not on campus outside of class to vote and I don't have time to do it between classes.

Intern Coordinator Skaff: Working the polls is hard and frustrating. We don't have enough people to work the polls. Scheduling is a huge issues

College Senator Merlin: HSC is all alone. I didn't even need to run because I knew not enough people would vote for it to matter. We don't ever need to come downtown. Who is even really taking the time to cheat?

College Senator Morgan: Many people have had issues getting absentee ballots for the Presidential Election, and they will do the same for the SGA election. I think the online voting will help with SGA elections. A lot of us ran on this platform of visibility

College Senator Magrogan: I think there are really good parts of this bill, I just think that instead of eradicating in person voting, we could make absentee voting more accessible. This is a very controversial subject, but to make things easier for both sides, we could try and come to a compromise. I definitely sympathize with it being hard to get out and vote being from HSC. I see both sides.

Senator Jones moved to end discussion and vote. Seconded by College Senator Jones.
Voting by roll call to end discussion.

President Pro Tempore Olivero - NO
College Senator Armstrong - YES
College Senator Barbour - YES
College Senator Bielinski - NO
Senator Davis - YES
College Senator Duvert - YES
Senator Fernando - did not vote, was on zoom
College Senator Ferrell -
College Senator Fleece -YES
College Senator Giggenbach - YES
College Senator Henson - NO
Senator Hoh - absent
Senator Indomenico - ABSTAIN
Senator Jones - YES
College Senator Jones - YES
College Senator Kelly - YES
College Senator Khalilullah -
College Senator Lieving - YES
College Senator Lipkovitch - NO
College Senator Lutman - ABSTAIN
College Senator Madden - NO
College Senator Magrogan - ABSTAIN
Senator Meeker - YES
College Senator Mehring - YES
College Senator Merlin - YES
College Senator Morgan - YES

College Senator Mugnano - NO
Senator Olivero - NO
Senator O'Neal - YES
Senator Plymale - absent
College Senator Robinson - NO
College Senator Schmieder - NO
College Senator Selders - YES
College Senator Shaffer - YES
College Senator Silva - YES
Senator Street - YES
College Senator Tadros - YES
Senator Vuiller - YES

President Long: Point of information, was that to end discussion or vote on the bill

Attorney General Frazier: End discussion.

The meeting then took a brief, 5 minute recess to discuss the issue of whether or not most of the assembly knew that the roll call vote was to end discussion or to vote on the bill.

The meeting resumed at 9pm.

*Senator Davis made a motion to **vote on the bill**, seconded by Senator Street. Voting by Roll Call.*

President Pro Tempore Olivero - NO
College Senator Armstrong - YES
College Senator Barbour - YES
College Senator Bielinski - NO
Senator Davis - YES
College Senator Duvert - YES
Senator Fernando - did not vote, was on zoom
College Senator Ferrell -
College Senator Fleece -YES
College Senator Giggenbach - YES
College Senator Henson - NO
Senator Hoh - absent

Senator Indomenico - ABSTAIN
Senator Jones - YES
College Senator Jones - YES
College Senator Kelly - YES
College Senator Khalilullah -
College Senator Lieving - YES
College Senator Lipkovitch - NO
College Senator Lutman - ABSTAIN
College Senator Madden - NO
College Senator Magrogan - ABSTAIN
Senator Meeker - YES
College Senator Mehring - YES
College Senator Merlin - YES
College Senator Morgan - YES
College Senator Mugnano - NO
Senator Olivero - NO
Senator O'Neal - YES
Senator Plymale - absent
College Senator Robinson - NO
College Senator Schmieder - NO
College Senator Selders - YES
College Senator Shaffer - YES
College Senator Silva - YES
Senator Street - YES
College Senator Tadros - YES
Senator Vuiller - YES

That motion failed.

A motion to extend the meeting by 30 minutes was passed.

President Pro-Tempore Olivero made the motion to amend the agenda, moving the New Student Organization Approval to the next order of business, seconded by Senator Indominco.

That motion passed.

B. New Student Organization Approval

1. WVU Club Wrestling

With none opposed, the organization was approved.

C. AB-2024-11-03

Chief of Staff Risk Read the Bill.

College Senator Lutman moved to end discussion, seconded by Senator Street. That motion passes.

College Senator Robinson moved to vote on the bill, seconded by Senator Street.

Voting by voice, the bill passed.

XIV. New Business

A. AP-2024-11-01

College Senator Barbour read the Proclamation.

College Senator Magrogan: Addie worked super hard on this. Everyone read up on it because it is great.

College Senator Robinson: Yeah, Adeline did great work

Senator Olivero moved to end discussion, Seconded by Senator Davis. The motion passed.

College Senator Silva moved to table the bill, seconded by College Senator Jones. The motion passed and the bill was tabled.

B. FB-2024-21

A motion to approve the bill was made by College Senator Jones, Seconded by Senator Davis. The bill passed.

Elections Chair Coulter was recognized.

Elections Chair Coulter: We amended the bill to include a hybrid method of voting. I emailed the bill to you.

College Senator Robinson: This amendment would change my vote to a yes. I think that in person voting is important to the integrity of voting.

College Senator Selders: I agree with Olivia. This is super important for people that are not on the downtown campus. We need to ensure that everyone can vote, even if they aren't down here.

College Senator Lutman: On the ballot, is there going to be a way for people voting online to know who they are voting for?

Morgan Prunty: Yes, Thanh and I go in and add in extensive detail all of that information in a drop down box. It is a little question mark right next to the name.

College Senator Mugnano: One of my concerns is the ability of people being able to campaign. I am concerned about people who have no prior knowledge of the candidates voting.

College Senator Silva: This is a valid concern, but I don't think it will make that much of a difference.

College Senator Jones: As elected representatives, it is not our responsibility to gatekeep who can vote. Everyone needs to be represented, regardless of their knowledge.

Senator Vuiller: Everyone that votes not, are you completely opposed to vote online or are you okay with the hybrid?

College Senator Madden: I came in with the entirely online voting election. It is more accessible, but it is harder to manage, and that is my main concern. I obviously don't speak for everyone.

The meeting was extended by another 15 minutes.

Senator Vuiller: I hear your concerns, but obviously we had some people come in and speak from outside of SGA, and if the most busy people can't come and vote, those are the people we want to vote the most because they are the most involved on campus. Cutting off that option will be alienating a group of people who are too busy to vote in person or run the polling votes.

Chief of Staff Risk: I don't think this online voting system is the same as previous years. This is a pretty good compromise. That year that we are referencing, not everything was going on was related to the elections code. This is also a pretty chill assembly with better vibes.

Senator Olivero: Personally i am against online voting across the board when you are having it when you are not allowed to campaign, because it takes the presence of the campaign away. It doesn't seem to be fair to rely solely on things like social media rather than actual campaign tabling.

President Pro-Tempore Olivero: I disagree. I appreciate that the authors of this bill were willing to compromise and I think the compromise is pretty good.

President Pro-Tempore moved to end discussion, seconded by Senator Davis.

The motion passed.

President Pro Tempore Olivero - YES

College Senator Armstrong - YES

College Senator Barbour - YES

College Senator Bielinski - NO

Senator Davis - YES

College Senator Duvert - YES

Senator Fernando - did not vote, was on zoom

College Senator Ferrell - absent

College Senator Fleece - YES

College Senator Giggenbach - YES

College Senator Henson - YES

Senator Hoh - absent

Senator Indomenico - YES

Senator Jones - YES

College Senator Jones - YES

College Senator Kelly - YES

College Senator Khalilullah - absent

College Senator Lieving - YES

College Senator Lipkovitch - ABSTAIN

College Senator Lutman - ABSTAIN

College Senator Madden - ABSTAIN

College Senator Magrogan - ABSTAIN

Senator Meeker - YES

College Senator Mehring - YES

College Senator Merlin - YES

College Senator Morgan - YES

Senator Indomenico - ABSTAIN

Senator Jones - YES
College Senator Jones - YES
College Senator Kelly - YES
College Senator Khalilullah -
College Senator Lieving - YES
College Senator Lipkovitch - NO
College Senator Lutman - ABSTAIN
College Senator Madden - NO
College Senator Magrogan - ABSTAIN
Senator Meeker - YES
College Senator Mehring - YES
College Senator Merlin - YES
College Senator Morgan - YES
College Senator Mugnano - ABSTAIN
Senator Olivero - NO
Senator O'Neal - YES
Senator Plymale - absent
College Senator Robinson - YES
College Senator Schmieder - ABSTAIN
College Senator Selders - YES
College Senator Shaffer - YES
College Senator Silva - YES
Senator Street - YES
College Senator Tadros - YES
Senator Vuiller - YES

The bill passes.

XV. Open Student Forum II

Chief of Staff Risk: More social media followers does not equate to winning. That's all.
Thanks for passing the bill!

College Senator Lutman: Wanting to give a reason for abstaining. I think that if you have to click on someone's profile while voting, their information may not be visible enough, i think it gives an unfair advantage. Voters should be able to see all policies when voting. it may not be fair enough.

Senator Street: Yesterday WVU was named one of the most civically engaged campuses in the country!

College Senator Silva: On December 6th AOE will be hosting a volleyball tournament!

XVI. Advisors' Reports

Thanh Le: Glad you guys came to a consensus tonight. One thing I ask is that you all help. Make sure this election is what you want it to be. Preserve the election and campaigns for everyone. Also volunteer if you are able! I have a very small team and we want this to be as seamless as possible. This time of year brings the nastiness out of people, so I ask you all to not let that happen. Make sure the elections are fair and equitable. I know it is hard, but I really believe you can do this. It is also break in a few days, so please take care of yourself. Finals are coming, so prioritize your mental health.

Morgan Prunty: Toy mountain is accepting toys until next friday. If you have any toys to donate, let us know and bring them in. We also have an amazon wishlist!

XVII. Snaps

Snaps were given to Senator Lutman, everyone, Elections Chair Coulter, Auditor Mollica, College Senator Jones, President Pro-Tempore Olivero, College Senator Barbour,

Anti Snaps were given to Senator Street and College Senator Jones

XVIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by College Senator Jones

Seconded by Senator Street

The ayes have it, the meeting was adjourned.