

**West Virginia University  
Student Government Association  
Student Assembly Meeting  
Vandalia Lounge, Mountainlair, 7:30 PM  
February 8th, 2023  
2022-2023 Hernandez-Uqaily Administration**

**I. Call to Order**

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

**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- Absent

Senator Amores- Present

College Senator Azinger- Present

College Senator Blair- Present

College Senator Cahill- Present

Senator Chennuru- Present

College Senator Clark- Present

Senator Conner- Present

College Senator Donner- Absent

College Senator Dozier- Present

College Senator Dysart- Present

College Senator Escue- Present

College Senator Griffith- Present

College Senator Guschel- Present

College Senator Hudson- Present

College Senator Irfan- Excused

Senator Jones- Excused

College Senator Madden- Present

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

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

The motion to approve the agenda was entertained by Senator Price.  
The motion to approve the agenda was seconded by College Senator Dozier.  
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 College Senator Oursler.  
There were no objections, and the minutes were approved.

## VI. Open Student Forum I

*College Senator Oursler:* Shameless self promotion. The WVU Horticulture Club had a very successful presale, raising a record profit. Thank you to those who participated. They will also be selling roses, mixed flowers, tulips, primroses, houseplants, and cards at the WVU Mountainlair on Valentine's Day, from 8am to 6pm. If you want to stop by, see College Senator Oursler, and support the Horticulture Club, it will be a pretty cool and fun day and you can get something for somebody.

## VII. The President's Report

*President Hernandez:* Getting into some updates: the Eberly Dean's are hiring a director for the STEM foundational improvements, and SGA will be involved in helping the set up of that advisory board. She did say that it would probably be the end of April; will keep you all updated. Additionally, President Hernandez and Vice President Uqaily will be talking with the academic and tech committees of the Faculty Senate regarding open syllabi. The meeting has not been scheduled yet but it will probably be soon. Additionally, the LiveSafe syllabi statement is up for vote in the Faculty Senate on February 13th.

Board of Governor's is meeting next week, so if there's anything you want to come chit chat about with President Hernandez, please let her know. Big 12 on the Hill is coming up at the end of the month. President Hernandez, Vice President Uqaily, Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey, and Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler will be going. Their top priority issues will most likely be mental health and college affordability. However, they are meeting on Friday to talk a bit more, so if there's something other than these two topics that you think have importance for students at WVU, just email or come talk to one of them.

Lots of SGA people are doing Dancing with the Mountaineer Stars. President Hernandez is a little biased but her and Chief of Staff Flower are going to have a really great dance. College Senator Hudson's choreographer doesn't even choreograph. Regardless, you can donate some nonperishable food items that are going to the Rack, and come support on February 25th at 7pm. President Hernandez has never danced in front of people before, but feels like she can do it, so come support.

The quote from today is actually from College Senator Hudson. "Don't forget to glance up from your keyboard and see how blue the sky is now and then. Don't forget to put away your cell phone and spend some time alone with a

paintbrush or a pen. Don't forget to seek the sound of silence and let the daily traffic rush on by. And remember that the secret to success is how happily you climb and not how high.

### VIII. Assembly Reports

*College Senator Oursler:* The Sustainable Landscaping Committee, which was formed because of College Senator Oursler's legislation, will be meeting on February 20th, the week after next. They'll start working on some projects with the current goal of being certified as a Bee Campus USA affiliate by 2025, so by the time College Senator Oursler graduates, which is one of the things that was part of that legislation. Secondly, currently waiting on the seeds, but hopefully in the next couple of weeks they'll have a cool event, where hopefully some SGA members will want to come, and sow the seeds of change at the Westover Greenhouse. They will plant the native plants that will then be planted on campus. If anybody is particularly interested, just let him know and as updates are forming, he will keep you updated.

*College Senator Hudson:* A little bit of update on the active study spaces at Health Sciences. Dr. Marsh's office has proceeded with purchasing yoga balls, and those should be going into some of the study rooms on the ground floor or the basement at Health Sciences near the bookstore. Also working with the HSC librarian on incorporating some of the yoga balls that his office has purchased in the study rooms there. Actually had the Exercise Physiology Club reach out about collaborating to financially sponsor study rooms that include more expensive items like standing desks with treadmills. Trying to work in conjunction with Campus Rec, the Office of the Chancellor, and now potentially the Exercise Physiology Club to figure out how to best get these products managed and purchased.

*Senator Santmyer:* Senator Santmyer, College Senator Wooten, and College Senator Risk are working on creating an Eberly Advisory Board. They are meeting with Dean Dunaway on Friday at 1pm to talk to him about all of that. They are likely going to split it into two advisory boards: one based with BA and one based with BS degree programs. Will keep you updated on that, but should have the legislation go before the Student Experience Committee next week to hopefully get it on the floor.

## IX. Committee Reports

*Senator Santmyer:* The Inclusion Committee has a meeting at 3pm in the Bluestone Room and on Zoom. Try to come in person as it's easier to work through stuff, but Zoom is always an option. Going to have Jill Hess, who works with the ADA office within the DEI Office come and speak, as the committee has a few different initiatives that are relevant to her. Dr. Danielle Long may also be coming. At the University of Pittsburgh, they had taller handicap buttons that increased accessibility. Say you are in a wheelchair or different things like that, it makes it more accessible for people with different physical abilities to be able to use them. Also looking into discussing temporary handicap passes, specifically in the case of out-of-state students who have a temporary disability. Going to be working on looking into getting benches and coverings, like a bus stop would have, at the ADA pick-up and drop-off spaces to make those more comfortable and accessible for students who are using them.

Leadership from the Inclusion Committee and Student Experience Committee met yesterday to start planning the spring Accessibility and Safety Walk. Can improve that, so if you guys participated and have any thoughts, please contact Senator Santmyer or Senator Price. For the Braille Walk, 2/20 had the most votes with 2/17 having the second most votes for dates, so they will likely be having two. Will talk to the Inclusion Committee on Friday to finalize and get that planned out. Will likely be split into two and have one day be Downtown and one day be Evansdale, just because it's a lot of information and that would be a lot to do in one day. The more people who can come, the better. It's a really large project. For HSC, Senator Santmyer talked with President Hernandez and College Senator Hudson about making a high traffic list. They said they are already working on this and are getting a brailler to be able to temporarily work on the problem. Please come to the meeting if you can.

*Senator Price:* Just a reminder, the Student Experience Committee is meeting every Tuesday at 5pm in the Mountain Room and on Zoom. Please feel free to show up whether you're in the Student Experience Committee or not. If you have legislation you'd like to take through student experience please just try and make sure that you let Senator Price know a day or so in advance so he can put it on the agenda. Contact him before that if you want any help with your legislation.

To talk about some of the stuff the committee is working on, they have a few upcoming meetings. Senator Price will be meeting with several transportation officials next week to talk about some issues with the PRT. Senator Price, Senator

Santmyer, and others will be meeting with officials from nursing and dental hygiene to talk about an academic fairness issue in the upcoming weeks. Working on preparing the Accessibility and Safety walk for the spring semester.

The Student Academic Advisory Board application is open. It'll be open until Friday the 17th, next Friday. If you get the opportunity, it's on the SGA accounts. Think about it, reshare it, and tell people about it. If you're in student organizations, please feel free to share it with them so that people will join. If anyone has anything else student experience related please feel free to let Senator Price know.

*Senator Conner:* The Government Relations Committee's meeting time has changed from 3:00pm to 4:30pm. The room has changed also, so it'll be Wednesdays at 4:30pm in the Cacapon Room. This just better accommodates some people, as right in the middle of the day can be really busy. So 4:30pm, a couple of hours before the SGA meeting.

Just to update on a couple of things going on. Right now the committee is brainstorming how to best keep students updated on what's going on in the West Virginia legislative session. They've brainstormed putting together a kind of newsletter to send out to students, maybe put it in UNews, to keep everybody updated and also provide them with information on how to contact the relevant legislators for issues that they feel passionate about.

## **X. Executive Reports**

*Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator Elswick:* First, just wanted to say Happy Black History Month. It's really exciting. Learned something new today. This month is also Low Vision Awareness Month, which is awareness for people with visual impairments and visual disabilities. Know the legislative liaisons will talk about this, but Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator Elswick had a wonderful day at the legislature with all those that were there and involved. Just meeting with different legislators, watching processes, and hanging out with President Gee was really fun.

The LGBTQIA+ Center is going to have a graduate student ice skating event on February 10th at the local ice skating rink from 6 to 9pm. On February 14th, they are going to be having an asexual and aromantic social at the LGBTQ+ Center from 4 to 5:30pm. That's located at the Maple House up the road. On February 16th they are having a queer, trans, black indigenous people of color soul food potluck in partnership with the Center of Black Culture and Research.

This will be from 5 to 7pm at the Maple House. On February 24th, they are having a queer trans black indigenous people of color community night from 6 to 8pm at the Maple House.

The Center of Black Culture and Research has a lot of events for Black History Month. On February 12th, 18th, 19th, and 26th they are having a black experience meeting group of black male student initiatives at the Center for Black Culture and Research which is at Arnold Hall. On February 14th and 20th from 9am to 11:30am, they're having a Black History Month tribute kiosk event in the Lair lobby. On February 9th from 5pm to 7pm in Arnold Hall they're having a Collegiate Recovery Valentine's event. On February 20th at 6:30pm they're having an African Studies program called the Black Radical Tradition Education. That will be in the Greenbrier Room upstairs in the lair. On February 24th at 7:30pm at the Suncrest United Methodist Church, they're having an American spiritual ensemble concert.

*Attorney General Long:* In lieu of the presence of the illustrious Elections Chair Moore, Attorney General Long will give all of your elections updates. They've had a great first week here so far. It was wonderful to see all the smiling faces of the candidates at the candidates' meeting. Keep sharing that absentee ballot graphic. It's wonderful. They've got nearly 40 applicants already. It was posted on Monday and it opened on Monday, so that's great. Also had a wonderful event today, the Cookies and Coffee with the Candidates- maybe you saw them. They were all just having the time of their lives, so Attorney General Long really appreciates that. Keep sharing all the graphics and such. Actually have a booklet on the way from the comms team educating you all on the different candidates for the upcoming election. This is usually reserved for snaps, but following this report, Attorney General Long would like this round of applause to be for Chief of Staff Flower, for Elections Chair Moore- who's killing it by the way, but especially for the comms coordinators Gerson and Perry. They're killing it and couldn't do this without them, so hats off to them.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Echo everything that was said.

*Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey:* Before beginning the report, here are 500 fentanyl test strips. If you need any they will be on the table. To begin the report, last night President Biden gave his annual State of the Union address. It was a great couple of hours watching that. Can be entertaining if you'd like it to be. In the state government, tomorrow marks the halfway point of the legislative session. It will be day 30 of 60 of the 86th West Virginia Legislature's first regular session.

Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey, Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator Elswick, College Senator Tabidze, and President Pro Tempore Khan went to WVU day at the legislature last week. They had a fun time accompanying President Gee to meetings with legislators on both sides of the aisle in both chambers. Following their day at the legislature, they attended a reception held by WVU and Marshall, titled Universities United, in which they had the opportunity to talk with the leadership of Marshall's Student Government. They discussed specifically initiatives at the state level to reduce campus hunger across the state. Will yield to Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler.

*Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler:* Tomorrow marks the halfway point. It'll be interesting, a lot of bills will probably start moving really fast. Five of them, there's a sixth one also that should have been put on here but it was just introduced. One of them is a Hunger Free Campus Act. One was introduced last week by Delegate Kayla Young, but now there's been one by Amy Grady who is the Chair of the Education Committee, so that will be helpful with passing that. There is House Bill 2007, which bans gender affirming care and health care. That passed the House and has been introduced in the Senate and sent to the Senate Health and Human Resources Committee. Then it will be sent to the Judiciary Committee and then will be introduced on the floor. That will probably start happening fast. Senate Bill 10, which is the campus Self Defense Act that SGA passed the proclamation about, passed through the Senate and has been introduced in the House and sent to the House Judiciary Committee. That's the only committee it's been sent to, so it will go to the floor after that. Senate Bill 251 is displaying the official motto of the United States in public schools and institutions of higher education. This passed through the Senate, has been introduced to the House and the House Education Committee, then it will go to the House Judiciary Committee, and then the house can vote on that. House Bill 2412 by Delegate Hornbuckle declares November 14th every year a special memorial day in remembrance of the Marshall University airplane crash that happened. This did pass through the House already and now it goes to the Senate Government Organization Committee and to the general floor from there. The last one that was introduced today that Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler wanted to talk about is Senate Bill 584. This one deals with the abortion banning bill that was passed in the summer, and removes the rape and incest exceptions that were included there. That's definitely something to probably keep a close eye on. There's a lot of survivors of and advocates to their friends who are survivors of sexual assault



here. Definitely want to make sure that you're using your voices. That was introduced today in the Senate and will go to the Senate Health and Human Resources Committee and then to the Senate Judiciary. It does have 14 sponsors already out of 34 total members in the Senate.

Moving forward, there was a major major earthquake in Turkey and Syria. The death count numbers are up to 12,000 now and there's at least 60,000 other people injured. If you're able to, they are mostly accepting monetary donations, not really anything physical yet. Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler and Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey watched the State of the Union address last night, so if anybody has any specific questions about that, or would want a brief overview, they can definitely talk to you about that.

## **XI. Old Business**

### **A. AR-2023-01-02**

- College Senator Patel moved to have AR-2023-01-02 explained in lieu of having it read via unanimous consent.
- The motion to have AR-2023-01-02 explained in lieu of having it read was seconded by College Senator Dysart.
- There were no objections, and AR-2023-01-02 was approved to be explained.

*College Senator Madden:* Trying to accomplish making financial literacy education more available to students at West Virginia University. As it stands right now, the only financial literacy education for non-Chambers students is in first year seminars. There's already something there that's basically just a survey. What ends up happening is that people just go through a checklist and mark it off on their box and keep on moving, so it's not really very substantial as it stands. Want to try and get a GEF course with this and a financial literacy advisory board type of thing going to keep the course updated and make sure it stays relevant throughout the years after this hopefully is passed.

*Senator Miller:* Have you talked to the administration at all about having this class be pushed more especially for first year kids or first year transfers, just because obviously GEFs right now can be put off until senior year. The only thing Senator Miller worries about and has kind alluded to in the past is that it is not very useful if people put it off until their junior and senior year.

*College Senator Madden:* Don't know this for sure, but think that the only way that that would be able to happen would be to put it inside of the first year seminar courses. There's already something like that kind of in place. Many people that

they have asked do not even remember taking the financial literacy education in the first year seminars. As it stands, feel like the GEF course is the best option. Will be discussing that more in depth with them later, after the passing hopefully, but as of right now, the GEF course is the way they are leaning toward.

**a. Discussion**

*College Senator Hudson:* College Senator Hudson thinks that this bill is really a great piece of legislation and he commends everyone that has been working on this. In conversations with the university administration, they are very pleased to see students taking initiative in this and are really onboard to seeing how they can work to integrate this into the university's plan for curriculum and for a potential redesign. It's the unique opportunity for SGA to be able to get the university and students excited about something that could make a real, real impact on students, not just on their time here at WVU. but as they merge later on into life and into their careers more versed in financial literacy.

- College Senator Hudson moved to end discussion via rising vote.
- The motion to end discussion was seconded by College Senator Dozier.
- Those in favor have it. Discussion was ended.

**b. Voting**

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to vote on AR-2023-01-02.
- Senator Price moved to vote on AR-2023-01-02 by voice vote.
- The motion to vote on AR-2023-01-02 was seconded by Senator Volk.
- The ayes unanimously have it. AR-2023-01-02 was passed.

**XII. New Business**

**A. Executive Appointment Confirmation**

**1. Erin Skaff, Student Organization Liaison**

- Senator Uqaily moved to add Senator Whalen to the roll via unanimous consent.
- The motion to add Senator Whalen to the roll was seconded by College Senator Dysart.
- There were no objections, and Senator Whalen was added to the roll.
- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to add Senator Amores to the roll via unanimous consent.
- Senator Price moved to add Senator Amores to the roll via unanimous consent.
- The motion to add Senator Amores to the roll was seconded by College Senator Dozier.
- There were no objections, and Senator Amores was added to the roll.

*Erin Skaff:* Hello. Name is Erin Skaff. Erin is a freshman majoring in political science

and minoring in violin performance. She is seeking the position of student organization liaison. She has experience in student government from high school where she served as the vice president for three years and the president her senior year. She has a lot of experience coordinating between organizations and has served on the Day Mark Board of Directors, which was the same format as these meetings with the same type of voting system.

*Senator Price:* If you were confirmed in this position, what would be your goals or what would you like to do as student organization liaison?

*Erin Skaff:* In the position, it would be more trying to coordinate between different groups and trying to plan bigger events where clubs and organizations can plan these events together. Currently, Erin is a part of the Asian Association and they hosted a Lunar New Year celebration. It was the Chinese Club and the Filipino Association collaborating, as well as the Diversity and Inclusion Office. More events like that where you can see the student body coming together.

#### **a. Discussion**

*College Senator Risk:* College Senator Risk has known Erin since the beginning of high school and she's very passionate about student organizations. She's involved in quite a few across campus and she really wants to be involved with SGA and helping the community grow and connect with one another. Definitely think that she's qualified for this position and could create some really good, new ideas to finish out the semester strong.

*College Senator Hudson:* Whenever they were interviewing candidates for this, Erin really stood out as someone who had a track record for what she was doing, but also someone that just so clearly had realized what it was like to try and get involved here on campus and the difference that can make for students. It's easy for a lot of people in these positions where they're already comfortable and have already made these connections to forget about how important it is and how much of the differences that can make in student's lives, especially when they're first starting out here. That's a unique experience and something that she can bring to the table and really take her lived experiences and use that in this position to help craft some of the ways in which she's reaching out to students and student organizations. She obviously has experience doing that and would be a tremendous addition to SGA.

*Senator Price:* Think this candidate is great.

- Senator Price moved to end discussion via rising vote.
- The motion to end discussion was seconded by College Senator Zoglio.

- Those in favor have it. Discussion was ended.

**b. Voting**

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to vote on the candidate via secret ballot.
- College Senator Oursler moved to vote on the candidate via secret ballot.
- The motion to vote on the candidate was seconded by Senator Santmyer.
- Erin Skaff, *Student Organization Liaison*, is confirmed with 24 yays, 1 nay, and 4 abstentions.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Congratulations Erin! So excited to have you as a part of the team.

Chief of Staff Coiner should be reaching out to you to make sure you have everything you need.

**B. Student Organization Registrations**

**1. Women in Cybersecurity**

*Kerrigan:* The Women in Cybersecurity Club has a mission to recruit, retain, and advance WVU students who study cybersecurity, mostly focused on women. Women in Cybersecurity is a global professional society for women allies and advocates who want to bring more women to the cybersecurity field and help them advance their careers. Currently, West Virginia University has a student chapter registered with the global organization, but there is no club to organize it. The university also does not have anything specifically for women in technology.

How this is different from what's available now is that there's currently a Society of Women Engineers, and there's also Alpha Omega Epsilon- the STEM sorority. SWE is for engineering majors, and one problem a lot of comp sci and cybersecurity majors feel is that they don't have much time to devote to women in tech because everything they do is engineering, and there are already so many different engineering majors, so they get kind of pushed out to the side. The sorority is exclusionary and way too broad and cannot cater to their specific needs. This club, Women in Cybersecurity, will be specifically focused on women in tech fields. There was already a cybersecurity club, Cyber WVU. The main difference from Cyber WVU is that this club and this chapter will always be led by women. It will be a safe and positive community for the women in tech at WVU. They can provide peer support and mentoring to make sure they all feel included on campus, as a lot of their courses can be really difficult and it can be difficult to find people who are willing to help to form that community amongst them to have that. Also want to emphasize how much the female computer science and cybersecurity majors can get done and accomplish, because they're not really highlighted that often. It is open to all genders and all majors.

Some goals that they have are to form teams for different competitions, bring in companies- of which they already have two who are interested, and assist SWE with their events because they don't really have a whole lot of computer science or security people and this can help with that. Want to partner with the MIS Club down at Chambers, because they have a lot of security and certification studying that they want to deal with. Want to curate a library of cybersecurity resources and training because WVU lacks a cybersecurity learning center.

*Senator Price:* Thank you for presenting this, it sounds like a really cool and impactful organization. How much student interest have you had or a number of prospective members?

*Kerrigan:* Currently have about fourteen members and three faculty involved.

#### **a. Discussion**

- Senator Price moved to bundle all of the student organization registrations and consider them as one via unanimous consent.
- The motion to bundle all of the student organization registrations and consider them as one was seconded by College Senator Oursler.
- There were no objections, and the student organization registrations were bundled.

#### **2. STEM for the Arts**

*Cayden:* WVU STEM for the Arts would be a space for STEM majors who are interested in the arts and feel like they don't have enough time to practice and engage with the arts to meet like minded others and make time for that. There's a lot of STEM majors out there that don't get to devote enough time to the arts, or as much as they would like to. It's especially important for STEM majors to practice things like creativity and thinking outside of the box in different ways because that's really what STEM is. They will probably meet bi weekly just to engage with some sort of art, to actually sit down and devote an hour or an hour and a half once every two weeks to the arts. Maybe they would share and talk about a painting or they would all paint or talk about a book or film, maybe do pottery or glass blowing or crafts.

*Senator Price:* Approximately how much interest have you seen in this club or how many students have expressed interest in joining?

*Cayden:* As a STEM major himself, Cayden has been talking to a lot of friends about this. There are eight or nine people who are interested in regularly attending club meetings, and they have a faculty member as well.

*College Senator Azinger:* Do you have access or are you planning to obtain access to musical instruments, like piano?

*Cayden:* Were considering that.

*College Senator Azinger:* When College Senator Azinger was a freshman, he had a friend who was really interested in piano and was in engineering. If College Senator Azinger had that opportunity when he was earlier in his college career, he would have probably tried to pursue it, so that is interesting.

*Senator Price:* You had mentioned that you have a faculty member involved. From an administrative standpoint, who have you talked to? Have you talked to any departments or administrators that might be able to help, either from the STEM side or from the arts side?

*Cayden:* Have only talked to people on the STEM side of that. The faculty advisor they have is, he thinks, the director of the fundamentals of engineering program, Lizzie Santiago. They've talked to the department head of Statler about making this a potential Statler organization.

### **3. FirstGen Mountaineers**

*Olivia:* They are the FirstGen Mountaineers.

*Garrett:* Garret is the president of the FirstGen Mountaineers Club. What they want for this organization is for first-generation college students to connect with a mentor and serve the community, as well as help others. One of the main things about their club, unlike a lot of other clubs, is that FirstGen Mountaineers is focusing on all first-gen students rather than just STEM majors. For example, another first generation club that Garret is in only takes STEM majors, which he thinks is a poor concept just to take a specific community or a specific sub community out of a huge community. He would prefer to see a club that is available to all students and provides support as well as other opportunities for them to engage with the community and give back.

A first generation college student is a student whose parents or legal guardians have not gone to college. For example, if a parent goes to college for an associate's degree, an associate's degree still does not count as a college degree. It has to be a four year college degree for you not to be considered a first generation college student. More often than not a first generation college student comes from low income families, and that is one of the many hardships that is experienced as well. There is no other first generation club that will focus on supporting its members and also give back to the community.

*Olivia:* Some of the things they have already done is that they have had meetings. Their

first official meeting would be on February 16th. They plan on a flier and hopefully after this, they will be sending out a mass email to all first generation students. Hopefully they will have more members joining the discord; they have about eleven right now. Plan on meetings being bi weekly on Thursdays.

An event that they are considering is Decide Days, to hopefully get potential students to come in and understand the club and know what it's about before they get to college. Some service opportunities that they are considering are a hygiene drive or food drive. Their overall main goal for the club is to give back to the community. Community service and getting people together that are like minded individuals.

*Garret:* Planning into the future, they hope to expand the club and connect with other first generation clubs and support groups. They've already been talking about getting in touch with Student Services. They've also been talking about getting in contact with Career Services, the other club he is in- the FirstGen Network, and the Trio services. Their next goal, once their numbers are allocated, is to get their club started in giving back to the community by volunteering. They plan on getting members to attend these volunteering events to teach them that there's more than one way to be a Mountaineer and to give back to the community that they live in.

#### **4. Kombucha Brewing Club**

*Hunter:* Good evening, everyone. Thank you so much. Honored to be the last club to present here. They are the Kombucha Brewing Club at West Virginia University. First, a little bit about some of the officers and some social media pages that they're setting up for the club already. Hunter Hardway is a junior chemical engineering student right now, and is serving as the president.

*Camilo:* Camilo is a senior mechanical engineer and is serving as vice president.

*Hunter:* That is secretary Josie Gilbert, a senior neuroscience major. Not with them tonight is the treasurer Tom Prince, a senior mechanical engineering student and the club advisor Dr. Andrew Rhodes, a professor in the mechanical engineering department and proprietor of Kombucha Neighbor in downtown Morgantown.

First a high level view of what they are and what they plan to do. Simply put, they are teaching WVU students how to effectively, and most importantly safely, brew kombucha. They plan to meet every other Thursday at 7pm in room G39 of the Engineering Science Building. Pending approval tonight, they invite all of you here today to join them on February 16th in that location at 7pm. They plan to charge about \$5 membership dues, which will include your own DIY kombucha brewing kit, so you can do it at home.

Finally, why are they unique? Well, there are no other Kombucha brewing clubs here at West Virginia University, and it's something that they all want to share with you all.

A little bit of background for those who aren't aware about what kombucha is. Kombucha is a fermented tea drink. It's fermented with both traditional yeast and by certain bacteria that give it the vinegary taste that it has, which is also why it's a non alcoholic beverage. It is very fizzy, it's tart, and it can be flavored with just about any combination of fruits and spices that you can think of. What you see on the right side of your screen there is what's known as a pellicle, that's the cellulose growth that will form on top of a kombucha that is very indicative of the brewing process. It looks like an alien- it's not. It's a very natural process in growing.

What they plan to do in these activities that they're planning is first teaching students how to brew with the DIY kits. What's included with it are a mason jar, cheese cloth, rubber band, starter liquid, and the sweet tea to brew it. Students will be able to come into the meeting, pay the \$5 dues, and come home with a kombucha kit that will be ready in two weeks to be consumed. They will be sharing tips on how to safely brew delicious kombucha. There are some risks with kombucha, obviously you have got to look out for mold. They'll be helping members through that process to ensure the process is safe. For some bigger activities, they hope to tour breweries, especially working with Kombucha Neighbor in Morgantown, and possibly even trips to Pittsburgh in the future to tour breweries there. Finally, the club intends to be an active presence on campus doing various service events.

*Senator Price:* You kind of mentioned this element of safety. Senator Price doesn't know about all this stuff, it's all crazy science stuff to him as he's history and english, so it's foreign to him. With this kombucha brewing stuff, what safety procedures are there? Are you specially trained to brew it, or do you have to have someone to do that? Are there some kind of safety procedures or what kind of safety procedures if you are using bacteria and chemicals and all that stuff?

*Hunter:* The key for any homebrewing activity is cleanliness. It's about keeping things clean, and that is mainly what they're going to include. Not listed here is that it will also come with an instruction list on how to care for your kombucha and what environments kombucha like. Preventing mold is a very simple thing as long as you keep your jar clean and as long as you keep the cheesecloth over top, most mold spores actually can't get into the kombucha itself. As well as the fact that it's



a very acidic product, so once it starts brewing, the mold can't get any grip on it at all due to the pH level.

**a. Discussion**

*College Senator Dozier:* College Senator Dozier is so excited about the kombucha club.

She thinks this is just a sign because everyone was talking about kombucha in the real house group chat. She's really excited, so please don't mess this up for her guys. She really, really wants to join this club.

*Senator Santmyer:* Senator Santmyer has worked with the FirstGen Mountaineer org. As someone who is first gen herself, she has helped them start their club off. She hopes you vote to approve them as they're really excited to finally get started, it's been a long time coming for them.

*Senator Price:* These all sound like beautiful organizations. It's great to see that they have the Kombucha Brewing Club. It all sounds like potions to Senator Price, but he thinks it would be great. The FirstGen Mountaineers- very important issue, and need to support them. Of course, Senator Price loves STEM. STEM is the 21st century, so supporting Women in Cybersecurity and the STEM for the Arts is a beautiful thing.

- Senator Price moved to end discussion via rising vote.
- The motion to end discussion was seconded by Senator Volk.
- Those in favor have it. Discussion was ended.

**b. Voting**

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to vote to approve all four student organizations.
- College Senator Hudson moved to vote to approve all four student organizations via voice vote
- The motion to vote to approve all four student organizations was seconded by College Senator Dozier.
- The ayes unanimously have it. All four new student organizations were approved.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Congratulations! All of your organizations have been unanimously approved. So excited to see what all your organizations do. If there's anything SGA can do for you at any point, would be more than happy to help you out.

**C. FB-2023-04**

*Treasurer Daniel:* You all should have just gotten an email from Treasurer Daniel about an updated financial bill. They have 15 grants: 3 travel and 12 non travel. College

Senator Blair will make a couple of amendments in a minute. Just to talk about them, in Title III, Get Down appealed their grant and it will be \$777.13 because t-shirt prices have risen since they applied in November. That amount needs to be reflected in appendices A and B. Additionally under Title XV, the awarded amount to the organization is \$1,610.44, and that also needs to be amended.

**a. Discussion**

- College Senator Blair moved to amend Title III, the Get Down Club, to have the suggested amount of \$777.13, to have that amount be reflected in both appendices, to have both amounts be \$1,610.44 in Title XV, and to have both appendices having the total amount be updated to \$11,269.59 via unanimous consent.
- The motion to amend Title III, the Get Down Club, to have the suggested amount of \$777.13, to have that amount be reflected in both appendices, to have both amounts be \$1,610.44 in Title XV, and to have both appendices having the total amount be updated to \$11,269.59 was seconded by Senator Price.
- There were no objections, and the amendments were approved.

*Senator Price:* Senator Price thinks it's amazing. Given away a lot of money this year, so he doesn't see a reason to stop now.

- Senator Price moved to end discussion via rising vote.
- The motion to end discussion was seconded by Senator Santmyer.
- Those in favor have it. Discussion was ended.

**b. Voting**

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to approve FB-2023-04.
- Senator Chennuru moved to approve FB-2023-04 via unanimous consent.
- The motion to approve FB-2023-04 was seconded by College Senator Guschel.
- There were no objections, and FB-2023-04 was passed.

**XIII. Open Student Forum II**

*Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey:* Just wanted to flag an event next week. February 16th at 6pm upstairs in the Shenandoah room, Active Minds and Women in Politics and Government are co-hosting an event around mental health policy in the state government. They will first be giving an overview of what advocacy looks like in state government and government in general, on the policies in the state government that are relating to mental health, both directly and indirectly, and finally, encouraging attendees to take action by writing letters at the event to policymakers in support or in opposition to legislation. Encourage you to attend and will send more information in the GroupMe following the meeting.

Secondly, again would like to plug the fentanyl test strips in the back. You do not have to have an intention of using drugs yourself, but it's always important to have them in your back pocket just in case you're at a party or you're at a bar and someone might be doing a couple lines of cocaine in the bathroom, that you make sure that they do so safely. Encourage you to take some test strips. Got all 500 of them for free. You can get them through the West Virginia Drug Intervention Institute, that is the WVUDII. You can look it up and order up to 500 for free individually. Would encourage you to do so.

*College Senator Guschel:* Tomorrow, College Senator Guschel's student organization is hosting an event at Almost Heaven, the bar downtown. All the money will go to the American Cancer Society. It's a Taylor Swift karaoke night, but if you don't want to sing Taylor Swift, you don't have to. All the money will go to the American Cancer Society, so it's a really cool event.

*Senator Santmyer:* Double plugging the Active Minds/WPG event on the 16th. It will be really good. Also, there is a Women in Politics meeting tomorrow on Zoom at 6pm. They are having Councilwoman Rosemary Ketchum come and speak, who is a councilwoman in Wheeling and a national speaker and photographer who specializes in issues related to LGBTQ rights, racial justice, property, and mental health. If anyone wants the Zoom link, let Senator Santmyer know.

*College Senator Dozier:* Happy Black History Month! Thursday, there is a multicultural game night here in the lair. They are really fun. College Senator Dozier will be there and she highly recommends coming. She's pretty good, so watch out.

*College Senator Oursler:* Was told to tell you that College Senator Hudson is singing at that Taylor Swift event. If you want to see that happen, you should go.

Also, Horticulture Club is partnering with the Carruth Center to show how owning a plant impacts your mental health. You'll get a free succulent, a free root cutting, and a free pot of herbs that you choose. If you want to come to that, it is March 28th at 7pm at the Evansdale Greenhouse. Secondly, WVU Horticulture Club is partnering with the WVU Asian Association on February 20th, at 6pm he believes. They will be doing a potting party in the Evansdale Greenhouse and again, you'll get a cool pot with a whole bunch of little succulents in it. That will be around \$5 or \$10 to attend. It'll be a joint fundraiser and all proceeds will help the WVU Asian Association start fundraising. If anybody's interested in any of that, let College Senator Oursler know and he can remind you.

*Chief of Staff Flower:* Shameless plug. Was sent in the informal GroupMe earlier, but

Chief of Staff Flower's grandpa is up for the Ultimate Mountaineer Fan Hall of Fame. He won last year thanks to the support of SGA and Chief of Staff Flower shamelessly plugging it every meeting. She will be doing that again. You can vote everyday, so vote for Jamie Moore, that's his name. He would really appreciate it. Thank you guys.

#### **XIV. Advisors' Reports**

*Advisor Le:* SEL has proclaimed next week to be Advisor Appreciation Week. If you want to shout out your advisor for your student organizations, please feel free to send that to SEL and they will do their best to give them a shout out on social media. Also going to be of course showing mad love to all of the student organization leaders, so be on the lookout for some sweet treats. If you want to determine what those sweet treats are, they are having a bracket challenge on the SEL social media. Please vote for your favorite candy, especially the Reese's cups. Reese's cups have to win or they're going to buy them anyway and give them out anyway.

Finishing up week five of the academic semester. Already a third of the way through this semester, so Advisor Le's general message for everybody is to please continue to take care of yourself, especially as you enter the first phase of exams and midterms. Especially those that are running for office, please prioritize your mental health and your well being throughout this time period.

#### **XV. Snaps**

Snaps were given to new Student Organization Liaison Skaff, President Hernandez, *Bravo*, Teresa Guidice, Senator Uqaily, everyone, Treasurer Daniel, Attorney General Long, Communications Coordinator Gerson, Senator Schwartzmiller, and College Senator Zoglio.

#### **XVI. Adjournment**

The motion to adjourn was entertained by Senator Chennuru.

The motion to adjourn was seconded by College Senator Hudson.

The ayes have it. The meeting was adjourned.

West Virginia University  
The Student Assembly - Student Government  
Association Assembly Resolution: AR-2023-01-02  
**An Assembly Resolution Encouraging the Provost's Office to  
Add Financial Literacy to GEF Curriculum**

<b>Short Title:</b>	<b>Financial Literacy</b>
<b>Author(s):</b>	<b>Azeem Khan, President Pro Tempore Daniel Madden, College Senator (Chambers)</b>
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	<b>Devin Price, Senator Quinn Wooten, College Senator (Eberly) Matthew Hudson, College Senator (Health Sciences) Garrett Oursler, College Senator (Davis) Avery Conner, Senator</b>
<b>Contributor(s):</b>	
<b>Committee Endorsement:</b>	<b>Student Experience Committee</b>
<b>First Reading Date:</b>	<b>01/25/2023</b>
<b>Second Reading Date: Date of</b>	<b>02/08/2023 02/08/2023</b>
<b>Approval:</b>	
<b>Presidential Signature:</b>	

**Whereas**, the West Virginia University vision states “to bring needed and valued solutions to real-life problems within the pillars of education, healthcare and prosperity.” ; and,

**Whereas**, SGA’s mission states “desire to preserve within our University and the

Student Government Association, an atmosphere that helps to foster an open exchange of ideas with civil discussion, inquiry, and self-expression to help ensure that the personal freedoms and general welfare of the students within our University are protected”; and

**Whereas**, the U.S. Financial Literacy Education Commission (FLEC) describes financial literacy as “the skills, knowledge and tools that equip people to make individual financial decisions and actions to attain their goals.” <sup>1</sup> and,

**Whereas**, “The FLEC recommends that institutions of higher education require mandatory financial literacy courses, deploy well-trained peer educators, integrate financial literacy into core curricula, and communicate with students about financial topics more often than during required entrance and exit counseling” <sup>2</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, the Money and Mental Health Policy Institute found that “86 percent of people with mental health issues and debt say that their debt makes their mental health issues worse” <sup>3</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, financial literacy education can help improve student mental health on-campus; and,

**Whereas**, West Virginia University offers a course to student athletes who have received athletic scholarships so that they may better navigate their financial futures; and,

**Whereas**, this initiative would live up to our university mantra, "Mountaineers Go First," by allowing our University to create and implement an innovative curriculum which will be of aid to Mountaineers for the rest of their lives; and,

***Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Assembly of West Virginia University:***

**Section 1:** seeks to partner with University Administration to identify ways to improve the quality and reach of financial education on campus to help promote prosperity and improved economic outcomes for all Mountaineers

<sup>1</sup><https://www.google.com/url?q=https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/US-National-Strategy-Financial-Literacy-2020.pdf&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1674418023427401&usg=AOvVaw2nqV9CTLIzsa0gpVvTBv8a>

<sup>2</sup><https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Best-Practices-for-Financial-Literacy-and-Education-at-Institutions-of-Higher-Education2019.pdf>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.enrich.org/blog/data-shows-strong-link-between-financial-wellness-and-mental-health>

**Section 2:** encourages West Virginia University to create a course relating to financial literacy which is available to all students at the University

**Section 3:** encourages West Virginia University to include the financial literacy course in the General Education Foundation (GEF) curriculum which is required to be completed by all students

**Section 4:** encourages the Provost's Office to create a committee in conjunction with the Student Government Association to identify areas in which students feel they struggle the most with financial literacy

**Section 5:** Upon passage and approval, the legislation should be forwarded to the mandates below

**Mandates:**

E. Gordon Gee, President

Maryanne Reed, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Evan Widders, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

Rob Alsop, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives

Ann Marie Hibbert, Finance Department Chair

G. Corey Farris, Dean of Students

Dr. Thanh Le, Director, Student Engagement and Leadership, SGA

Advisor Sean Manning, News and Information Manager

Chloe Hernandez, Student Body President

Morgan Donate, SGA Executive Secretary

Daily Athenaeum

West Virginia University  
The Student Assembly - Student Government  
Association Financial Bill: FB-2023-04  
February 8th, 2023

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 Spring 2023 Semester per the official WVU Academic Calendar.

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1

### **TITLE I: *Jane Austen Book Club***

Catering for Meetings on February 21st, March 7th, March 28th, April 11th and April 25th.



<b>Jane Austen Book Club</b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Meeting Catering	5 meeting	\$372.50 <b>\$372.50</b>

**TITLE II: *Students for Reproductive Justice***

For expenses to purchase 90 T-Shirts.

<b>Students for Reproductive Justice</b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
T-shirts	90	\$1000.00 <b>\$1000.00</b>

2

**TITLE III: *Get Down***

For expenses to purchase 12 T-Shirts & 18 Hoodies.

<b>Get Down</b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
T-shirts & Hoodies		\$777.13 <b>\$777.13</b>

**TITLE IV: *National Student Speech Language Hearing Association***

<b><i>National Student Speech Language Hearing Association</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Wristbands	120	\$240.00
Pins	40	\$220.00
Stickers	100	\$350.00
		<b>\$810.00</b>

**TITLE V: *Student Bar Association***

For expenses to raffle an iPad.

<b><i>Student Bar Association</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
IPad 1	\$580.00	<b>\$580.00</b>

**TITLE VI: *Student Bar Association***

Purchasing 25 stoles for 3rd year law students.

<b><i>Student Bar Association</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost

Stoles 25 \$300.00 <b>\$300.00</b>
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**TITLE VII: *Arnold Air Society***

For expenses to cover registration for NATCON in Las Vegas, NV from April 8th to 10th, 2023.

<b><i>Arnold Air Society</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
4 ticket/registration	4	\$1344.00 <b>\$1344.00</b>

**TITLE VIII: *Student Sierra Coalition***

For expenses to cover Earth Day events in the Mountainlair on April 21st, 2023.

<b><i>Student Sierra Coalition</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Event Expenses	\$2162.95	<b>\$2162.95</b>

4

**TITLE IX: *Delight Ministries***

For expenses to cover catering from Chick-fil-A for their formal on April 15th, 2023.

<b><i>Delight Ministries</i></b>		
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Item	Quantity	Cost
Catering	\$500.00	<b>\$500.00</b>

**TITLE X: *WVU Women's Club Basketball***

For expenses for supplies such as a Medkit, Ballbag, whistle & sticky pads.

<b><i>WVU Women's Club Basketball</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Supplies	\$125.00	<b>\$125.00</b>

**TITLE XI: *Design Build Fly Club***

Supplies to build UAV: wood, tape, etc.

<b><i>Design Build Fly Club</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Supplies	\$92.00	
		<b>\$92.00</b>

**TITLE XII: *Beta Psi Omega***

For expenses to cover 25 T-Shirts.

<i>Beta Psi Omega</i>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Shirts	25	\$555.50 <b>\$555.50</b>

**TITLE XIII:** *WVU Film Club*

For expenses to cover 20 T-Shirts.

<i>WVU Film Club</i>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
T-Shirts	20	\$640.05 <b>\$640.05</b>

**TITLE XIV:** *Art History Club*

For expenses to cover a trip to Falling Water in Mill Run, PA on April 15th, 2023.

<i>Art History Club</i>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Tickets	11 people	\$400.00 <b>\$400.00</b>

**TITLE XV:** *Student Music Therapy Association*

For expenses to cover lodging to attend the Mid Atlantic Region Music Therapy in Niagara Falls, NY from March 9th to 12th, 2023.

<i><b>Student Music Therapy Association</b></i>	
Item	Quantity Cost
Travel Expenses	\$1610.44 <b>\$1610.44</b>

## APPENDIX A

### *Financial Bill Total Allocation Amount*

<i><b>Financial Bill 2023-04 Totals</b></i>	
Organization Total Cost Jane Austen Book Club	\$372.50
Students for Reproductive Justice	\$1000.00
Get Down	\$777.13
Student Speech Language Hearing Association	\$810.00
Student Bar Association	\$580.00
Student Bar Association	\$300.00
Arnold Air Society	\$1,344.00
Student Sierra Coalition	\$2162.95
Delight Ministries	\$500.00
WVU Women's Club Basketball	\$125.00
Design, Build, Fly Club	

Beta Psi Omega	\$92.00
WVU Film Club	\$555.50
Art History Club	\$640.05
Student Music Therapy Association	\$400.00
	\$1610.44
<b>Total \$11,269.59</b>	

**APPENDIX B**

*Requested Amounts Per Organization*

<b><i>Financial Bill 2023-04 Totals</i></b>		
Organization Total Grant	Requested	Total Suggested
Jane Austen Book Club	\$1000.00	\$372.50
Students for Reproductive Justice	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
Get Down	\$641.12	\$777.13
Student Speech Language Hearing Assoc.	\$810.00	\$810.00
Student Bar Association	\$580.00	\$580.00

Student Bar Association		\$300.00
	\$300.00	
Arnold Air Society		\$1344.00
	\$1344.00	
Student Sierra Coalition		\$2162.95
	\$2162.95	
Delight Ministries		\$500.00
	\$500.00	
WVU Women's Club Basketball		\$125.00
	\$125.00	
Design, Build, Fly Club		\$92.00
	\$92.00	
Beta Psi Omega		\$555.50
	\$633.60	
WVU Film Club		\$640.05
	\$640.05	
Art History Club		\$400.00
	\$350.00	
Student Music Therapy Association		\$1610.44
	\$2002.08	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,480.80</b>	<b>\$11,269.59</b>