



**West Virginia University SGA Meeting  
9/23/2020, 2020-2021 Administration**

**I. Call to Order at 7:30PM**

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

“We, the students of West Virginia University, desire to preserve within our University and the Student Government Association, an atmosphere that helps to foster and 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 to promote the principles of diversity and responsible self-governance.”

**III. Roll Call**

President Pro Tempore Jones - present

College Senator Backus - present

Senator Brooks - present

Senator Colbert - present

Senator Daniel - present

Senator Donnelly - present

Senator Eby - present

College Senator Eyler - present

College Senator Hanson - present

Senator Harman - present

Senator Ihlenfeld - present

Senator Jernigan - present

Senator Knotts - present

Senator Kumar - present

College Senator McKnight - present

Senator Miller - present

College Senator Moore - present

Senator Nadeau - present

Senator Nichols - present

College Senator Rawson - present

Senator Rosello - present

College Senator Seidel

#### **IV. Reading and Approval of Minutes**

VP Bragg: Our executive secretary will now take roll from the participants list. Just to clear up confusion if you join the zoom call late you will still be added just at the time you joined.

No need for a motion to add them to the meeting.

VP Bragg: I will not entertain a motion to approve the minutes via show of hands.

VP Bragg: Senator Donnelly

Senator Donnelly: So moved.

VP Bragg: is there a second? Senator Daniel.

Senator Daniel: Second

VP Bragg: all those in favor of approving the minutes.

All those opposed.

This motion passes.

#### **V. Reading and Approval of Agenda**

VP Bragg: The minutes are approved. The agenda is before you and I will now entertain a motion to approve the agenda. Senator Brooks.

Senator Brooks: Moved.

VP Bragg: Thank you. Is there a second? Senator Kumar.

Senator Kumar: Second.

VP Bragg: all those in favor of approving the agenda.

All those opposed.

This motion passes.

We will now move on to Open Student Forum I.

#### **VI. Open Student Forum I**

VP Bragg: Does anyone have anything for open student forum I?

Alrighty, seeing none we will now move onto the President's report.

#### **VII. President's Report**

VP Bragg: President Chase

President Riggs: Alrighty. So good evening everyone. I hope everyone is having a healthy and safe and a happy wednesday and also happy fall, fall is definitely my favorite season. I absolutely love when the leaves change and begin to turn red, yellow, and orange. That's my favorite. So happy fall, I just wanted to provide you all with a quick update with what I've been doing this past week. So uh monday, SGA we did host a joint hazing prevention event with our round table friends SEL and we had a great turnout, we had a great conversation on how to combat hazing on our campus and just the importance of intervening just in case a hazing incident was to ever arise, thanks to the SGA members who were able to show to the event and I hope you got something out of it. If any SGA member metted the event or would like for me to send you all the presentation let me know. It is still hazing prevention month so I encourage you all to check our Student Leadership Engagement website for more information regarding any other events that are taking place later this week. I am sure you all have seen that WVU will be starting back in-person classes on monday the 26th, just anted to remind you all that there is a campus conversation that is scheduled for tomorrow at 10am so be sure to log on and listen for any information that might answer any questions you are wanting answered. I mentioned in our last meeting that President Pro Tempore Jones and I have sent a message to the faulty addressing the concerns of college committees and the use of third party platforms in classrooms. So last week we had heard that a hot dot committee had been created, yesterday we received an email to be student representatives on that committee so we all will be sure to keep you updated on that. The quote I am going to leave you all with today is by the inspiring, the strong, the brilliant, Ruth Bader Ginsburg "Fight for the things you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." Also before I mute myself I did want to come to you all and before we started this meeting on a more serious note and bring this to you all attention and I talked about this a couple weeks ago, as you all know the pandemic has been extremely distributive and has definitely had horrible results but as for some conversations I've had with the executive cabinet and the President Pro Tempore, we feel a sense of exhaustion amongst all of us and I think a lot of us are mentally and emotionally worn down and I definitely understand that with everything that is going on, Vice President Bragg, myself, the cabinet, pro tempore, we all want to make sure we are supporting you all in the best way possible so I wanted to have a discussion with you all tonight to make sure that everyone was doing okay and if you all do feel similar and you all feel this

sense of exhaustion amongst everyone I have a couple options that I wanted to bring forward and if it was something that we would consider then it would have to be voted on tonight. We could potentially consider with meeting the next week to pass financial bills and to discuss anything issues within our committees amongst each other because there is a lot going on or we could take a legislative break so introducing no piece of legislation unless you know its a major issue. Or we could enact a one week or two week recess and we can meet formally as a group in October. So tonight is our third meeting so we would still be acting in accordance with our constitution. This was just a suggestion I wanted to bring to you all tonight just to see how you all were feeling but my reason for this would be to give our members for time to recharge and to center themselves and to priorities their stuff. I understand that things right now are extremely challenging so something to keep in mind if we decide to take the recess route that doesn't mean that our SGA work stops, we have some events coming up in October that the community engagement committee has been working on so we will still be doing somethings such as programming and of course the executive cabinet will continue to work. So I did want to bring this to you all attention and again its completely up to you all.

VP Bragg: College Senator Hanson

College Senator Hanson: Yea I totally agree.

President Riggs: Thank you for that Senator Hanson.

VP Bragg: Senator Kumar

Senator Kumar: First let me start by saying it shows a lot that you're able to sit on this counsel and notice that and I think it is a great idea but we are going back to school so i think it would a great idea to have a meeting next week in case some problems come up in the next week but thats all I have to say

VP Bragg: Thank you Senator Kumar. Senator Daniel.

Senator Daniel: I am be honest I do love seeing everyone's face and this meeting is what I look forward to on wednesdays and sorry my internet connection is kind of whacky. I think it would a reat idea especially with a lot of mental health going on it would be a great idea for zoom to take a break or use this time to recenter yourself. I totally support the administration decision on this.

VP Bragg: Thank you Senator Daniel. College Senator Moore.

College Senator Moore: I am on the same page. I would definitely agree that taking a break would be helpful because I myself am dealing with a lot.

VP Bragg: Uh anyone else have anything? Uh Chase its your floor.

President Riggs: One more thing I will add, this is why I wanted to bring it to you all attention. This is completely up to you so whatever we do decide tonight it will require a vote. So someone during new business will entertain a motion to do that. Again its completely up to you all, its just some proposed ideas and they can be alternated as well. Alright I think thats all that I have.

VP Bragg: Thank you, President Riggs.

Moving on to assembly reports.

### **VIII. Assembly Reports**

VP Bragg: Do any assembly members have a report?

President Pro Tempore Jones.

Pro Tempore Jones: Hi everyone. I hope that you doing well and I am looking forward to our conversation to decide. A couple of things on my end like President Riggs said we have been invited to sit on the hot dot committee for students, this is really important to us and very exciting to us if there is anything you would like for us to bring up during this meeting, I believe this meeting will occur two weeks from now so if you any strong opinions or ideas please I am more than happy to hear those ideas uh in addition I have been in contact with West Virginia forward to continue discussions about creating care packages for under served youth in southern west virginia, I kind of speared head this last year. These packages would contain college brand items for underserved youth in West Virginia so it will inspire them to pursue higher education in an area where that is not maybe the norm for them, for eight grade students and that is something I am working and in addition for legislation make sure that you are updating me and asking for help and reaching out to administrators. I do have a event for any assembly members who would like to attend in the works it kind of like another legislative brainstorming session that will be happening just that we are all clear on what we want to be working on in the next few weeks. If you have questions at all please do not hesitate to email me or contact me my inbox is always open. Thank you.

VP Bragg: Thank you, Amelia! Senator Daniel

Senator Daniel: Hey everyone since I do not know the next time we are going to meet so I wanted to let you all know that last week President Riggs and I met with Franky Tacker we talked about having a () program here on campus, this center would be a place for students to go when they are intoxicated and can't get home so they can go there to recover safely. There's

been a good amount of progress in the past. College Senator Backus and myself are working on implementing this on campus. I will be meeting with Levy Thomas this Friday who is a senior here and works with WellWVU. If you guys have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to any of us. Have a great week everyone.

VP Bragg: Thank you Sohan. Do any other assembly members have a report?

Seeing none we will move on to Executive Reports.

## **IX. Executive Reports**

VP Bragg: Chief of Staff

Chief of Staff: Hi everyone I hope you guys are all doing well. Last week we released our safety 10 for 10, please let your peers know about that and the link just so we can get more input for a various of places across campus. In the next coming weeks we will have some plans implemented surrounding engagement and voters registration just because that is our focus for October, on a different note we are a very active group so to ensure we are all engaged it is very important that you all respond to texts, email, to groupme, to the google polls and all of that. We know that you all are very busy and virtual is sort of an odd place to be in. We still need to hold each other accountable. We understand if you can not respond immediately but if you can not try to send out an email at least acknowledging the message and asking or us to give you another 24 hours to reply. We appreciate all the work that you guys have already done and that will continue to do. Finally our student organization liaison Chris Cunningham submit his resignation and to touch on what Chase said earlier you all wellbeing is our number one priority so if you need anything at all please feel free to reach out to any of us but that's all I have for you all. Have a good rest of your night guys.

VP Bragg: Thank you. Treasurer Cap

Treasurer Cap: Hey so we have our second financial bill this evening. This evening there are a few more orgs on the financial bill. Can you all see the screen? Yes ok cool. So there are some typos but one of my interns Allison she made our financial bill and it was perfect and I went through and added some things and I completely messed it up but in our financial bill you will see the IRSA via total granted and total requested those amounts are mixed up and as you can see title III College Democrats at WVU and title IV IRSA on the table they are titled WVU club baseball that is completely wrong I have fixed these and I have sent these to Amelia so if

someone would please amend this please do that and correct that so that is all taken care of and that is all that I have. If you have any questions please let me know.

VP Bragg: Thank you Alex.

Do any other executives have a report? Alrighty seeing none we will now move on to New Business.

## **X. New Business**

VP Bragg: I will now entertain a motion to consider Financial Bill -2020-08

Senator Harman

Senator Harman: So moved.

VP Bragg: is there a second?

Senator Knotts: Second

VP Bragg: all those in favor. All those opposed. This motion passes.

Alex is there anything else you would like to say or would you like to move to discussion/amending

Trasurer Cap: Discussion/Amending would be fine.

VP Bragg: we will now move on to discussion, is there any discussion and/or motions on the financial bill. Senator Harman.

Senator Harman: Yes, I'd like to make a motion to amended this bill so I motion that title III have the description to the cost of the college democrats of wvu and for title four I move to similar to put the correct student organization name as the heading of the title. Last thing I would like to change the appendix B. At the bottom of appendix B I'd like to switch the dollar amounts of the IRSA as requested or details requested.

VP Bragg: I believe that covers everything is there a second?

College Senator Moore: Second

VP Bragg: all those opposed? This passes. We are now in the discussion of the amendment. Does anyone have any questions about the amendment at hand? Seeing none I will now entertain a motion to pass the amendment of financial bill 2020-08.

Senator Kumar: so moved.

President Pro Tempore Jones: Second.

VP Bragg: all those in favor. All those opposed. This passes. We are now voting on the amendment, all those in favor of the amendment, all those opposed, this amendment passes. Any discussion on the amended bill 2020-08. Alrighty seeing none, I will now entertain a motion to approve the amended bill.

College Senator Moore: So moved

VP Bragg: is there a second?

Senator Donnelly: Second.

VP Bragg: All those in favor. All those opposed. This motion passes and so does the bill. We will now move on to committee sessions.

## **XI. Committee Sessions**

VP Bragg: I will now make a motion to move into committees.

President Pro Tempore: I would like to make a motion in New business to discuss the recess.

VP Bragg: is there a second?

Senator Nichols: Second

VP Bragg: all those considering going back into this discussion we will vote on it. All those opposed, alrighty we are now in discussion of the idea of a recess. Assembly members feel free to weigh in.

Senator Harman: I really liked what college senator moore had to say and uh i think someone else but uh I think that its important that we take care of ourselves obviously there are a lot of changing going to happen on campus. I think that is important that we are still meeting and discussing issues so I think one week is good but two weeks is a bit of a long time.

VP Bragg: Thank you Senator Harman

Senator Kumar: I think this could work but we could do the two week but play it by ear.

Problems would probably show up the week after if not maybe we could do like a fast track meeting.

VP Bragg: Thank you Senator Kumar.

Senator Nichols: I think the best option is to meet but only discuss the pressing bills.

VP Bragg: Thank you.

College Senator Moore: I really like the idea of having fast track meetings.

\*Breakout to Committee Sessions\*

## **XII. Open Student Forum II**



VP Bragg: We will now move onto Open Student Forum II. Remember open committee heads if you have something to report now is the time to do so.

Senator Harman: Yes. so the Student Engagement Committee had a very nice discussion about our ten for ten results that we had, the biggest thing that we noticed that one of the students mentioned that campus events are being advertised very well so we talked about doing a print out of the refresh wvu and putting it in elevators, dorms, etc. and also possibly utilizing advertising space in the lair. This is what we will be working on in the next week or so.

VP Bragg: Thank you Senator Harman.

Senator Daniel: Yea the safety committee talked about the safety walk so if anyone doesn't know that the safety walk is an event and walk around campus and find certain safety hazards and report it while enforcing masks and social distancing. This would work by posting pictures of us wearing masks and hashtagging.

VP Bragg: Thank you Sohan.

College Senator Moore: See guys the community engagement committee is looking at next month starting our voter registration drive and voter transportation to the polls along with looking at our ten for ten for october. Any questions feel free to reach out to local student liaison and also November is going to be sustainable awareness month and we looking at a few programming ideas for that especially of terms of reaching out to our community. Honors is looking at starting a hotline to help run a gmail account for students who have been impacted by COVID and they can reach out with any questions. Thanks.

VP Bragg: Thank you Hunter.

Senator II: Ok I don't really know if I am the Health committee head but I was the only who was not an intern so we talked about maybe doing some sort of social media with the curruth center and do a tag a friend post. That was pretty much it.

VP Bragg: Thank you.

Senator Donnelly: Howdy, speaking on the inclusion committee this evening we talked about how we wanted to do programming for the intersexuality inclusion and we plan to do a trivia night but we moved away from that so we decided on break out rooms and getting to know other student organizations. Still thinking of plans and moved into a discussion of legislation of portional DEI education that would be an actual class across all majors and also we discussed the

idea that student orgs needed to be registered as a student org through WVU. As SGA we are not only being there for our minorities students but as acting as an allie.

VP Bragg: Thank you. Senator Donnelly it feels nice to get committee reports back. Does anyone else have anything for open student forum II?

President Pro Tempore Jones: I just wanted to make an announcement as the coordinator for the social action clinic through the center of service and learning we are having our virtual event next wednesday from 3-4pm if you do not know what social action clinic is this amazing resource on campus where you can turn your passion into a social action. With everything is going on especially with our current climate is an amazing opportunity to take your a passion and turn into a community action. I would like to see everyone at the discussion our very own executive secretary Tracey Picou will be on our panel so come show her some love as she talks about social action and literally I am a resource for all of you to succeed in your passion it can literally be anything school supply drive, etc. I will drop the zoom information in the chat. I would really love to see you guys there its only gonna be an hour but I appreciate your support.

VP Bragg: Thank you Amelia.

Anything else. Seeing none we will now move onto the advisor report. Dr. Lee is not here right now. We will go onto Snaps.

**\*SNAPS\***

#### **XIV. Adjournment**

VP Bragg: I will now entertain a motion to now adjourn this meeting and meet again on October 7th.

College Senator II: So moved.

Senator Daniel: Second.

VP Bragg: All those in favor. All those oppose. This passes. The meeting is adjourned.