

West Virginia University
SGA Meeting- 04/12/2017 2017-2018 Administration
Call to Order – at 7:30
Hatfields B. Mountainlair Student Union

Reading of the SGA Mission Statement

“We, The students of West Virginia University, desiring to preserve within our university an atmosphere of open exchange of ideas with discussion, inquiry, and self expression to insure the person freedoms and general welfare of the student within our University, to promote principles of diversity and to continue in our tradition of responsible self-governance, do hereby establish this Constitution of the West Virginia University Student Government Association.”

Roll Call

President Pro Tempore Brewster – Present
Senator Alotaibi – Present
Senator Arbogast – Present
Senator Ball – Present
Senator Cawley –
Senator Gupta – Present
Senator Henriquez – Present
Senator Hoang – Present
Senator Hunt –
Senator King – Present
Senator Leasor – Present
Senator Osborne – Present
Senator Underwood – Present
Senator Vijay – Present
Senator White – Present
College Representative Hall – Present
College Representative Stover –
College Representative Robinson – Present
College Representative Amato –
College Representative McGraw – Present
College Representative Cooper –
College Representative Morgan –
College Representative Smith – Present
College Representative Fakhouri –

College Representative Levelle – Present

Minutes from last week have been approved.

Open Student Forum I

Senator Leasor – I mentioned last week that city council voting has started. I can put something in the GroupMe if you have any more questions.

President's Weekly Address

President Humphrey - No wasting time tonight.

I would like to read a resignation letter from Ben Stover. Dear Blake and SGA student assembly, It is with a heavy heart I must inform you that I can no longer fulfill my duties as a College Representative. I am not able to keep up with the time commitment you all need and deserve. It is unfair to you all to have me as dead weight within this organization. I trust in you all that you will continue to do great things for this university. I see a lot of potential in the new administration. I would like to thank you all for the experience, friendships and great conversations I have had over the past semester. I wish you all the best. Best regards, Benjamin Stover.

Surprise. Ben resigned from the student assembly. I would say that when we look around and we see the empty seats, we need to act quickly and change the provisions to fill the empty seats. It is problematic when you do not have the next highest vote getter. I think Tyler could speak more to that with what he did last semester. We want to have something ready by the October elections. I think that in light of the letter I just read it would be a good project for the college representatives to work on.

Tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. the governor will talk about the budget. He might veto. The announcement will be made tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. We will keep all of you updated. There are some proposals to do cost saving within the university. I can tell you that we are on the front line on working for solutions.

A quick update on executive interviews. We had 94 scheduled. This is our last week. We have heard from a lot of different people. I do not know if it is in regular order for me to talk about the Bylaws. Next week there will be a change in location on Evansdale. There will be a meeting on Evansdale and we will keep you up to date on that. I will also establish more office hours once things calm down with executive interviews. I am looking forward to executive appointments tonight.

Senators' Reports

President Pro Tempore Brewster - Last semester we worked on trying to fill these vacancies. What I proposed to Blake is that we wait to fill these seats until the election in October. In the summer we should come up with an amendment. Basically, we would have a 5 person committee and they would receive applications from the student body. They would come up just like executive appointment and we would vote on it. That is what I proposed last semester, but it did not get passed. I am open to all suggestions.

Senator Underwood - I had a meeting with Alli Anderson and Roshan. We discussed Welcome Week and as most of you know this is supposed to be 150th anniversary. Rise Against Hunger is trying to work with us during Welcome Week. They want to get student organizations involved. If an organization has donated enough money for 150 meals then they could have a booth there during Welcome Week. That was just one thing we discussed and I wanted to get word out early. If you have any questions you can email me.

College Representatives' Reports

None.

Executive Reports

None.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Bylaw Amendments

President Humphrey - I am going to sit for this one too. So, this might take awhile to explain. The Bylaws have to deal with two different positions that will be added to the executive cabinet. The positions are the Operations and Administration Officer and the Constituent Affairs and Services Officer.

The Operations and Administration Officer was here prior to 2014. We have redefined the role and we are changing points that are worth noting. This role will help hold people accountable

and serve as a human resources officer within the executive staff. This person would oversee physical assets. The day-to-day operations are working on computers all the way to our physical aspects. They will also be in charge of overseeing the intern program. That is the Operations and Administration Officer.

The Constituent Affairs and Services Officer is really important because people don't come to SGA because of grants, but what I am hoping that someone is here with a concern someone can help them and that is what this position will do. They will work as a casework manager. If someone comes with a complaint about parking on Evansdale then we will document and archive, so the people have a friend. Overseeing the project management will also be for this person. They will make sure that they are staying up to date with people and making sure that they can stay in touch. We can make sure they get in contact and point you in the right direction.

These are the only changes this week. This is the basis for where we are going next. We are doing this for this week to make sure it gets approved before we appoint people. This is setting the stage for next week.

(Tyler Brewster reads Bylaws)

College Representative Levelle - Are we still having an executive for the intern program?

President Humphrey – yes this person will just work under it

Senator Leasor - Where is the Chief of Staff position for looking over keeping everyone accountable?

President Humphrey - We are not taking it away from the position, but we are just adding it to put someone to help out with holding people accountable.

College Representative Smith - Why was the Operations and Administration Officer only used for one year?

President Humphrey- In positions in SGA everything is always changing. In my opinion, it was a very efficient that year.

Discussion on Bylaws

College Representative Smith – I motion to vote on these bylaws via unanimous consent

President Pro Tempore Brewster – Second

Executive Appointments

President Humphrey - We have three appointments tonight. This first executive appointment is Chief of Staff. Adila Fathallah is the appointment tonight. We saw the operation of the election. At times they were difficult, but that was fair to us. Adila did something to us that not a lot of people were able to do. She was able to change the cost of vote. One thing she assured us was that she would work with the election chair and work to have a strong elections reform. In addition, we believe Adila understands the complexity of the organization. She is committed to making the reforms in SGA. I encouraged you to get in touch with her.

Adila Fathallah – Good evening, I am incredibly honored to be nominated for this position. I have been involved since the first fall I got here. I have been able to look at it from the inside perspective and an outside perspective.

President Pro Tempore Brewster – How have your prior leadership positions helped prepare you to lead 50 people?

Adila Fathallah - I like to think that being involved with the elections show that so many people are involved. When leadership comes to me when there are rules I follow them, so honestly that is pretty much the building block of what my leadership is built upon.

Discussion on this appointment

President Pro Tempore Brewster – Adila is great. She is very firm and is not afraid to tell you how she feels.

Senator Underwood – I move to vote via secret block ballot at the end

Second

President Humphrey - The next position is to fill out one of our new positions. That is why I am very excited to appoint Abbi Yachini. She is from Brooke county. She served as an intern for the BOF. She is not afraid to go above and beyond and she is very loyal. I have no doubt that she will do a great job an Operations and Administration Officer

Abbi Yachini – Hi everyone the majority of you all know me. I am a political science major. I worked a lot with Rachel Daw this year. I had a lot of opportunities to get involved. I know that this a new position, but through my past experiences I believe I am prepared for this position.

President Pro Tempore Brewster – So one of the new jobs is overseeing the new internship program. We have a huge intern class, but not a lot of them stayed around. How do you plan on improving the rate for the interns?

Abbi Yachini - One of the main problems is who you get paired up with. Trying to fix that would be looking at the applicant saying what that they want to do. Beyond that I think it would be cool to see a rotation to see a group of interns to get to work with several different groups and people.

Discussion on this appointment

Senator Gupta – I have known Abbi for about 5 or 6 years now. One thing I have noticed is that she is not afraid to be strong in her ideas. You can probably tell by the way she answered Tyler's questions.

Senator White – Abbi won intern of the year, which says a lot.

President Humphrey - The final appointment is the other person is loving and caring. There was no doubt that she was the most qualified for this position. It takes a really good person to handle this position. When she sees a problem she takes it on.

Sydney Luther - Hello everyone, my name is Sydney. I feel like Blake gave you a rundown of my life, I'm from Pittsburgh and a secondary education major, which is unique to SGA. I am an RA, and there is a s lot of responsibility, that I hope you trust me with.

President Pro Tempore Brewster -Through your roles in SGA and ResLife, how are you prepared for this Cabinet position?

Sydney Luther - I deal with issues every single day as an RA, so I am very confident that I can use my skills as an RA to fulfill this role for the better. Through my roles in SGA, I have built up my confidence and believe that I am prepared for a Cabinet level position.

Professor Klandorf- I was the RFL of Lyon Tower for 12 years and they're simply the best. She can do it.

Discussion on this appointment

Senator Underwood - I think Sydney is one of those people that doesn't get enough recognition within SGA, she is always working and she is really friendly if she does ever say anything and I think she'll do a great job in this role.

Open Student Forum II

Marcus Campbell - This is the last report of the semester. Yesterday I had a very unproductive / productive meeting. Right now the house budget is going to be vetoed. The governor has proposed a 6.63% cut. So we are going to look at what he is going to do tomorrow. The bad news is tuition is going to be rising this upcoming year. The farm in Morgantown is worth a lot. There are 7-8 different ways to update the farmland. They are looking to partner up with people in Morgantown. In order to put someone in the city council position we need a really good perspective. Innovation was a big thing we spoke about. I think it would be good to take this group and do something with city council. The main thing was keeping people in WV. We are the only state to lose people. We are going to lose another congressman. It's been a good year, thanks.

Roshan Daniel – Hi my name is Roshan Daniel. I was the SGA treasurer this year. I dipped out after the election to step away for a little bit. I have one month left and I want to make sure I can still help you get started. Same with the college representatives. I think Rachel and I have been talking about carrying over your budget. But, until the end of the year I am always here to help.

College Representative Smith - So since you guys will be on Evansdale already you can come to the public relations program. Its called Lets Eat. There will be a bunch of food. All of the proceeds will go to the Boys and Girls Club.

President Pro Tempore Brewster - Another org. I am involved with is the Blue and Gold Crew. Everyone who was on the executive board last has graduated. We have 4 people who have graduated. For those of you have to an interest you should apply.

Senator Underwood - I just wanted to say congrats to Senator Brewster for getting an internship in D.C. this summer.

Advisors Reports

Professor Klandorf – I do not think money should go to graduate students to go to a conference with SGA money. If I were to have every grad student come here for money for a trip you would have no money. You ran out this year, which is good because you want to run out, but I think you should look at where it is going. Im sure the new people will look at it fairly. I just want it to be fair for everyone.

Adjournment