

**West Virginia University  
Student Government Association  
Student Assembly Meeting  
Vandalia Lounge, Mountainlair, 7:30 PM  
March 29th, 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- Present

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- Absent

Senator Jones- Present

College Senator Madden- Present

College Senator Marquart- Present  
College Senator McMillen- Present  
College Senator Milam- Present  
Senator Miller- Present  
College Senator Mitchell- Present  
College Senator Moore- Absent  
College Senator Neiswonger- Absent  
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- Absent  
College Senator Tabidze- Absent  
Senator Uqaily- Present  
Senator Volk- Present  
Senator Whalen- Present  
College Senator Wooten- Present  
College Senator Zoglio- Excused

**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 Hudson.  
There were no objections, and the agenda was approved.

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

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

**VI. Open Student Forum I**

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to add College Senator Griffith to the roll.

- Senator Price moved to add College Senator Griffith to the roll via unanimous consent.
- The motion to add College Senator Griffith to the roll was seconded by Senator Volk.
- There were no objections, and College Senator Griffith was added to the roll.

*College Senator Cahill:* Omega Phi Alpha is doing Substance Awareness Week. One of College Senator Cahill's best friends from home who also goes here has been coordinating it a lot. They have both felt the effects of substance abuse and losing people to overdose. They're having a luminary tomorrow on the green at 7pm, and it would mean a lot to her and to College Senator Cahill if you would consider going.

## VII. The President's Report

*President Hernandez:* President Hernandez and Senator Price will be meeting with the library this week or early next week about open resource options. President Hernandez and College Senator Hudson have been continuing to work with Campus Rec and UR regarding active study spaces and will update you all as updates come. It looks like there will be more active study spaces.

Executives, please continue to fill out your transition documents. You have time to complete them, but slowly work on them so it is not so overwhelming. Also, everyone please fill out your last monthly report.

Shoutout to College Senator Moore for his Mock Trial today. He did so well, and it was kind of fun. President Hernandez got to play a farmer. Everyone there was fantastic, including College Senator Guschel, juror Attorney General Long, and Vice President Uqaily and College Senator Milam who were there to cheer them on.

"You have to give yourself permission to fail. I try as hard as I can not to fail because it's embarrassing, but I do give myself permission to and you should too. Go easy on yourselves and just make the right choices that feel right for you."  
- Taylor Swift

## VIII. Assembly Reports

*Senator Santmyer:* Senator Santmyer, College Senator Risk, and College Senator Wooten are working with Dean Dunaway and Andrea Bebell, the Assistant Dean for Eberly, on the Advisory Board. They are starting to get the application worked out, and once they have it, they will send it out.

*College Senator Hudson:* President Hernandez and College Senator Hudson are still having ongoing meetings with university administrators on active study spaces and are hoping to continue to partner with that and expand the opportunities that exist. Right now, there are currently new yoga balls that have been added downstairs at Health Sciences as part of a little bit of the next phase. Working on getting some standing desks there this week. Hoping to add some new pieces across Downtown, Evansdale, and on Health Sciences.

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to add Senator Amores to the roll.
- 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.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Please do your monthly reports; they are the last ones. Please don't make Vice President Uqaily send you an email for not doing them. Also, this was kind of a little mistake on Vice President Uqaily's part, but next week was scheduled to be an informal meeting. There will still be a meeting next week on Evansdale but it's not going to be informal. It's going to be formal for the sake of business as there's not much left to discuss in an informal setting. Please just be at Crossing next week at 7:30pm and expect to do business as usual.

Senator Santmyer and College Senator Dozier plan on sending transition forms for the senators, so please take some time to fill those out to help them with transition. Can't emphasize how much every piece of information goes a very, very long way, especially when you're trying to go from administration to administration. Trying to set a good foundation for them, but it would help a lot if you could also leave your pieces of advice and things that you've been working on to make sure that the upcoming administration can be efficient and effective.

## **IX. Committee Reports**

*College Senator Wooten:* This Saturday, the Community Engagement Committee will be engaging with the community with Pantry Plus More at 8:30 in the morning. If you are interested, please let College Senator Wooten know. He would love to have you; it's gonna be a great time. It was a wonderful time last time, and they had a bunch of volunteers. Hoping a bunch of you guys come again this time. Also, the Community Engagement Committee will be having a meeting tomorrow over Zoom at 6pm.

*Senator Price:* Will be working on the Accessibility and Safety Walk legislation. Have

still not received the report back from the city, but they do have all the information, so will make sure to share it with everyone in collaboration with the Inclusion Committee as soon as they get it.

The Student Academic Advisory Board had its orientation meeting on Friday and now has its own board and governing structure. From there, it'll be completely independent of SGA. They will be meeting with administrators from the Provost's Office on April 14th.

The Student Experience Committee is working with the Community Engagement Committee and College Senator Wooten on promoting iServe in the first year seminar courses. Kristi Wood-Turner is working on putting together some type of educational document on that to share with the First Year Seminar instructors, and there will likely be legislation next week promoting that and helping to get that out to all of those instructors.

The Student Experience Committee will be meeting next week on Tuesday at 5pm in the Mountain Room and on Zoom. Please feel free to stop by. Will be endorsing that legislation and trying to collect ideas for next year and work on preparing stuff for next year's committee.

*Senator Amores:* The Mental Health & Well-Being Committee will be having a meeting Thursday at 6pm on Zoom.

## X. Executive Reports

*Chief of Staff Flower:* If you are a committee chair and you decide to cancel your meetings before the week of the change of the seats, please let Chief of Staff Flower know so that she can cancel your room reservation. Some of you guys are deciding to end your meetings early, and that's completely fine, just let her know.

If you're a graduating senior and you haven't sent Chief of Staff Flower your graduation info, please do that before brunch. Would love to honor you all and don't want to miss anyone. Also, put your pictures in PhotoCircle so that they can be shown during brunch and during the SEL awards.

*Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler:* The Morgantown City Council Elections are coming up. This upcoming Tuesday, April 4th is the last day you can register to vote for this election. On April 6th, there will be a candidate forum at the Hotel Morgan at 6pm. Election Day is April 25th from 6:30am to 7:30pm. If you are registered to vote here in Morgantown and you have any issues determining where your precinct goes, just let Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler know and she can help. Candidates from four of the seven wards will be on the ballot, but as long as you

live in city limits and your registration is here and not in your home county, regardless of what ward you're in, you're able to vote for a candidate in every single one. The first ward has two people, the third ward has one: Louise "Weez" Michael, the fifth ward has two, and the seventh ward has two.

The Monongalia and Marion County Dems will be having a town hall on April 1st, this Saturday, from 12pm to 2pm at the Morgantown Church of the Brethren Fellowship Hall to debrief this legislative session. Haven't seen one come out yet from the Republicans, but once it does will be sure to update you or send that in the GroupMe.

The Women's Health Center of Maryland, which is being brought out of the Women's Health Center of West Virginia, will be opening up in Cumberland, Maryland, just five miles off of the border of West Virginia in the eastern panhandle. This is about an hour to an hour and a half from here. It'll provide annual testing, STI testing, birth control, breast and cervical cancer screenings, as well as gender affirming hormone therapy and abortion. This is a resource for WVU students and is set to open in June.

The West Virginia Sober Living, in collaboration with the Monongalia County Health Department's Quick Response Team and the Hope Hill Sobering Center, has just been approved by the West Virginia Office of Drug Control Policy and the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy as a pilot site for the implementation of a Narcan vending machine. There will be a press release that publicly goes out tomorrow about this. Additionally, the FDA has approved Narcan to be sold over the counter, and it will likely be available starting this summer. Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler believes this will definitely be able to save a lot of lives in West Virginia.

Relay for Life is coming up on April 14th. If your schedule has freed up at all and you are able to participate, let Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler know so she can get you added to the GroupMe and give you the information. You can earn up to seven hours of community service for this event.

## **XI. Old Business**

## **XII. New Business**

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

#### **1. WVU Chapter of Ducks Unlimited**

*WVU Chapter of Ducks Unlimited Representative:* Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores

and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North American waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people. The Ducks Unlimited Mountaineer Chapter is proud to dedicate its time and effort through volunteers to support the mission of local, state, and national Ducks Unlimited. The Ducks Unlimited Mountaineer Chapter is composed of WVU students who share in this goal and support local conservation here in West Virginia.

*Will:* As of 2023, Ducks Unlimited is now the world's largest, most effective nonprofit waterfowl and wetland conservation organization. It's based off of people like them who volunteer from all around the United States. The Ducks Unlimited mission is habitat conservation, which is a very large thing that they are currently pushing.

*WVU Chapter of Ducks Unlimited Representative:* What the organization does to provide to students on the WVU campus is social functions that build community, represent school pride by wearing Mountaineer shirts for everybody to see them and know who they are, sell merchandise with a shirt included in the fees, supply conservation education as most of them are Wildlife Fisheries majors with background knowledge of it to expand it to other people that aren't familiar, resume building, networking and volunteering as it's all a volunteer base and the money made goes back into Ducks Unlimited for wetland conservation and restoration, leadership development skills, and national competitions with other university chapters across the country. Most large universities like WVU have their own chapter, and they want to work hand in hand with them to have a bigger outcome than just doing it in West Virginia.

*WVU Chapter of Ducks Unlimited Representative:* With being a part of Ducks Unlimited there are a lot of events that you can do. They plan on doing a few skeet shooting trips and duck hunting trips each year. Going to also take care of the conservation aspects of it like cleaning up wetlands and things like that. Coming up shortly they will be having a cornhole tournament, which will be a good event for them to get their name out there a little bit. They will also have banquets and raffles for all of their members and fundraising for the community and the Ducks Unlimited Organization as a whole.

*Isaiah:* The executive staff is already set and is shown on the slideshow. Want to thank you on behalf of the Mountaineer chapter for taking the time out of your meeting to allow them to present. They just want to expand and help the community in any way that they can.

*Senator Price:* Sounds like a really cool organization. Know that you mentioned that you



go to national competitions and things like that. What kind of competitions are those?

*Isaiah:* It's not so much of a formal competition as it is school rivalry. It's one of those things that when people get together, they just get to know each other and get conservation out there. They do pride themselves on conservation teaching, so they do a lot of that at the events that they travel to. A lot of what they're about is conservation.

*Will:* Every year, there's an event in Memphis, Tennessee at the Bass Pro Shops for Ducks Unlimited, and they bring in all the college schools that have chapters and raise money, have a good time, and do some to the books kind of work. Mainly it's trade-offs with schools. If they get custom West Virginia shirts, they can trade-off with Virginia Tech or Maryland, or schools like that to kind of keep the brand going around.

*Senator Price:* With your efforts and stuff that you do, do you do it primarily in the Morgantown area or across the state of West Virginia? What kind of geographic area are you focused on?

*Will:* With the Mountaineer Chapter, since they are all college kids, they're going to mainly focus around this area: out towards Masontown as there's ponds out there and Fairfax. One of their big projects is to go out there and pick up trash, because trash is just an issue everywhere, same with the river. West Virginia has their own official chapters that are self-established. There's a couple of them located throughout the state, and then it goes to other states and on the national level. Around here, it's mainly focused in Morgantown and there's a big self-established one in Elkins.

*College Senator Oursler:* College Senator Oursler is one of the Davis College Senators, and he has been talking with some people, specifically Dr. Verlinden who is changing positions to manage the university farms. Recently the Davis College has an opportunity to create wetland habitat on the Stewartstown Road farm. If College Senator Oursler could connect you to the efforts there, would you be interested in helping out with the building of that wetland area?

*Will:* Yeah, ten thousand percent.

*College Senator Oursler:* If someone can send College Senator Oursler the contact, he will hook everybody together and maybe they can have a meeting.



**a. Discussion and Voting**

- College Senator Cahill moved to bundle the student organizations and consider them as one via unanimous consent.
- The motion to bundle the student organizations and consider them as one was seconded by College Senator Azinger.
- There were no objections, and the student organizations were bundled.
- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to add College Senator Guschel to the roll.
- Senator Price moved to add College Senator Guschel to the roll via unanimous consent.
- The motion to add College Senator Guschel to the roll was seconded by College Senator Hudson.
- There were no objections, and College Senator Guschel was added to the roll.

**2. WVU Helping Hands**

*Angelina:* Angelina is currently a freshman biochemistry major. With her today, she has Abby who is also a freshman biochemistry major. Today they're presenting their club: Helping Hands at WVU.

What is WVU Helping Hands? The organization is going to aim to support Ruby Memorial's new children's hospital. They're not only going to focus on fundraising. Many amazing clubs at WVU donate to Ruby Memorial Hospital; however, they're going to lean more towards creating activities, crafts for kids, and other events. They plan to meet bi weekly on Thursdays at 7pm with an option for a Zoom meeting, which is important for those on Evansdale.

Some tentative plans. One of the foundational activities of the club is going to be creating crafts for kids. They plan to do this at least once a month or so. This is going to require them collaborating together and making different activities. Angelina personally volunteers at the Children's Hospital, and has seen firsthand how bored the kids can get, and how there's no interaction, so they get bored of the same games. Creating different crafts would be really great for them to have. Other examples include specific holiday-related activities, toy drives, Valentine's Day cards, and other things related to that. They are going to set goals to fundraise. WVU Ruby Memorial has a webpage that specifically discusses the items that they are in need of. What makes this a little bit more interesting is that they are going to send out individual request forms to families so they can make it more personalized and tell them specific clothing sizes they need and whatnot. Will also have some formal events where they auction of gifts, with the donations going to the hospital. The overall biggest goal is to create a yearly 5k color run.

Plan to make it a big event where everyone gets together in hopes of fundraising for the Children's Hospital.

*Amber Clark:* Why should you join Helping Hands? There are many opportunities to volunteer, you get service hours, and you get the opportunity to help kids and families in need and help make their days brighter. It is not specific to any major, as long as you share the common goal to help the Children's Hospital you will be a great fit for the club. They will be working collaboratively with other clubs in a great environment.

*College Senator Azinger:* This is a great club and is fantastic. Are you in contact with anyone in the hospital administration specifically right now?

*Angelina:* Ruby Memorial has a direct website that you can fundraise and give the money to, but Angelina also has direct connections with a lady named Barbie, who is in charge of all of the fundraising for the hospital. She also has the personal contact information of everyone in Child Life, and they have pre-approved of the organization's plans and look forward to working with the organization to fundraise.

*College Senator Azinger:* How much student interest do you have currently? How many members or potential members right now?

*Angelina:* Without any direct efforts to put posters and everything else, they have about 30 interested people. Angelina thinks this will be an amazing club because it's not just for your pre-med or pre-law students, everyone can do this. Obviously everyone is interested in helping the kids there, especially since it's a new hospital.

*Senator Price:* Thank you all for the amazing work you are doing for these kids. Can you elaborate on the administrative plan for the club and its leadership structure?

*Angelina:* Angelina is actually the President and came up with the idea. Amber is the Vice President. They already have a secretary, treasurer, and everything laid out. Currently, they are coming up with a schedule and have an Excel sheet with about 30 or so people that were interested. Plan on putting that into a GroupMe and sending out new messages. They just created an Instagram page for starters and will work toward creating more structure. Although it is the end of the semester, they look forward to having one or two club meetings by the end of the semester, and maybe a small activity.

*College Senator Guschel:* Know that you mentioned opening it up to all majors, and

would love to see you promote this on HSC's campus. One of the things they are really trying to promote over there right now, is when they do have student volunteers that are hosting games or crafts, that they tie it to a functional component. If you work with different departments at HSC, for instance Child Life Specialists or Family Therapy and you come up with a game on how to incorporate the family, or you work with Physical Therapy on a game or a craft about balance; just trying to tie it into all the different programs over there too. Other than that it is a great idea and you guys are doing a great job.

*Angelina:* Thank you so much. There absolutely is a need, and anyone can see it.

*College Senator Hudson:* Kudos to you all for coming here as freshmen; there's not many freshmen that are out here starting student organizations and spending their Wednesday nights presenting on that, so big kudos to you all on that. Know that you mentioned that there's some other student orgs that you're planning on working with. In College Senator Hudson's freshman and sophomore years here, he was on the executive board for Mountaineer Thon. He didn't know if you had talked with any of Child Life specialists or any of that team over at Ruby, as he knows they work closely with Mountaineer Thon as well. If you don't have those connections, College Senator Hudson would be happy to help you with that, but they could be a really great organization to bounce ideas off of and maybe do some collaborations with.

*Angelina:* Yeah, absolutely. You all probably know of WVU BioChem Club; they are extremely active. Haven't done that yet, but that sounds amazing, but have talked to Hannah, who's Vice President of the WVU BioChem Club, and they plan on collaborating in the future.

*College Senator Hudson:* Can give you contact information afterwards and help with that connection if you want.

*Senator Price:* Don't know if you have considered talking to WVU Extension, but they would also have a lot of good ideas, as well as the resources to do activities.

*Angelina:* Definitely will have to look into both of those options; thank you guys!

*Senator Amores:* Just to add on to this train of different student orgs, some other university departments would probably be really cool to add, but additionally, A Moment of Magic would be a really interesting club. They're always looking for volunteers and Senator Amores thinks that they would be more than happy to have somebody come in and help with providing programming, because that's something that they typically struggle with. Also going to shamelessly plug that Country Line Dancing will probably help out with this if there was ever a need.

*Angelina:* That would be so great; can see the collaboration already.

### **3. WVU Institute of Transportation Engineers**

*Sydney French:* Sydney is a graduate student in Civil Engineering who wants to start the WVU Institute of Transportation Engineers. The organization is a national organization focused on professional development, building connections, and building community. The organization's mission is similar to the national's, but they want to provide a community for undergraduate and graduate Civil Engineering students that are interested in Transportation Engineering, so they can learn the knowledge for practices skills and connections with other students and professionals.

For the programming that they have coming up, they will compete in the Collegiate Traffic Bowl on April 17th. It's a Japanese style competition with the Transportation Planning of Engineering. Sydney is learning a lot studying for this even as a graduate student. They will also hold meetings with the local professional IT chapters. Next week they have a meeting scheduled with the Mid-Atlantic section of IT, including Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Maryland, in Morgantown. It was sent out to all the tentative members if they wanted to join. The organization will also hold internal meetings with professional speakers. Tomorrow night, they will be having their first internal meeting with a representative from a transportation company, where they will talk about their company and some cool projects that they have done. The organization also wants to do community service events for charities in Statler College. In Sydney's time in other organizations, she has set up some community service events and plans on continuing that for this club. Hoping to have one of those this month.

The uniqueness of the club is that Civil Engineering has two competition teams already that are both structure-related, so this club will be an opportunity for those that aren't really interested in structures to participate in a competition. The organization will also fill the community of Transportation Engineering students with more people that are interested in Transportation Engineering and will provide professional development, community service, and help to those who don't know if they want to go into the field yet or not.

*Senator Price:* This is really cool. As a liberal arts major, didn't realize that there were different kinds of engineering. Approximately how much interest have you had in the club? How many tentative members do you have?

*Sydney French:* Have about 15 tentative members, and for the competition they have four members that are going to compete. There are four officers as well.

#### 4. Student Sign-Language Club

*Holly:* The mission and goals are to develop a deeper understanding of American Sign Language and to promote and increase awareness of the deaf community and their culture. They also want to provide students with an opportunity to learn about a new language and interact with those who communicate using ASL.

In future plans, they want to have weekly meetings focused on a variety of different things. Students will learn basic vocab in ASL, including but not limited to the alphabet, numbers, basic words and phrases such as “more,” “thank you,” and “help.” Students will also learn about current events and issues happening in the deaf community and will gain a better understanding of deaf culture. Handouts will be provided after each weekly meeting to reference for review of content discussed and everything learned. They also want to implement virtual workshop options. Both Holly and Haleigh are Occupational Therapy students at WVU and one of the things that they were going to do was with the Oklahoma School for the Deaf, as they offer free online classes to take at your own pace, open two months at a time.

What is different about this organization? They want to offer students an opportunity to immerse themselves into the culture of the deaf community, which is not currently offered on campus. ASL is becoming a super popular language to learn about. It has increased interest, but it's not readily available at many schools even though the needs and demand for it increase. Currently 430 million people worldwide have disabling hearing loss, and there's 1.5 million who struggle with hearing loss, are hard of hearing, or are deaf. This club will allow students the opportunity to be able to better communicate with those who are deaf or hard of hearing, and it aims to expand inclusivity and diversity across campus for this community.

*Senator Whalen:* Senator Whalen took sign language in high school and always wanted to continue it. Unfortunately, she is graduating but this is super awesome to continue on. Proud of you guys for starting this.

*College Senator Cahill:* College Senator Cahill also took two years of sign language in high school. For the first year, her teacher was deaf, and for the second year, she was an interpreter. College Senator Cahill is familiar with the fact that deaf people like to have sign language taught by people that are deaf. Do you have any deaf adults or Codas that want to come teach at your club or is it just hearing people?

*Holly:* There is somebody in their cohort that was born deaf and has a Cochlear implant. He's offered to interpret while Holly talks.

*Senator Price:* Have you talked to the DEI Office or any of the other accessibility-related offices on campus to see how you could work with them or what assistance they could give?

*Holly:* Actually have not, but that is a great idea, thank you. Only looked it up to see what they offered, and they offered interpreting but not any groups or social groups that they could be a part of.

*College Senator Milam:* Wanted to encourage you to reach out to anyone in the Communications Sciences and Disorders department. College Senator Milam's major is Speech Pathology and Audiology, and they used to have a sign language course offered, but it hasn't been offered for the past two-to-three years due to Covid. A lot of students have expressed genuine interest in it, especially because it's really relevant to the field, so really encourage you to contact them or talk to College Senator Milam as she can help give you contacts of the professors to share your information.

### **5. Iota Iota Iota (Triota)**

*Isabel:* Want to thank you for finding time in your agenda this evening to let them talk about Triota. Isabel is a junior in the Women's and Gender Studies Department here at WVU, and she will be serving as the president of Triota, which is the nationally recognized Women's and Gender Studies Honor Society. It existed at WVU before, created in 2000, so they do have the ATA chapter of Triota, but because of COVID in recent years its activity kind of fell off, so they hope to be a part of its revival.

The efforts and events of Triota are typically centered around things that you would discuss in Women's and Gender Studies classes, focusing a lot on feminism, diversity, inclusivity, promoting a community that is open to all different kinds of people, and helping marginalized groups of people overcome the oppressions they face on a daily basis. Right now, to join Triota at WVU you have to be a Women's and Gender Studies major or minor, but they have discussed opening it up LGBTQ+ Studies minors since that's pretty similar in the department, and they have a relatively small department. You have to have taken at least six credits of Women's and Gender Studies classes, and you have to have a 3.0 GPA or higher. It's really important to them that they get to interact with a lot of disciplines, not just people within their department and to expose people to these conversations, so they have talked about opening up a volunteer basis. Not totally sure how they would do that yet, but they really want to get people from all around WVU engaged with these kinds of conversations and events.



*Sophie:* Sophie is a freshman in History and Women's and Gender Studies. Some of their ideas for Triota specifically related to fundraising is that they want to collect membership fees but have talked about it being a pay-as-you-go or pay-what-you-can situation with sponsorship options for students who might not be able to contribute. That kind of goes back to the goal of wanting this to be an inclusive environment. They also were talking about doing collection drives for local Domestic Violence Centers. They would like to do a haunted house at Hodges, as the fifth floor of Hodges is where the Women's and Gender Studies Department is. Thought that would be a fun way to expose people to the department, as it's kind of small so they want to bring people in. Would also like to do a movie discussion night situation. There's a Women's and Gender Studies course called Women in Movies, which you should definitely take, so they were talking about having that be an extra credit opportunity as well. In terms of community work, one of the main projects they are thinking about is making period baskets for places around campus and possibly implementing that in local schools as well. Would also like to do read-alouds at elementary schools with books with Women's and Gender Studies themes. Would also like to collaborate with some other student organizations to work on voter registration, and would like to, especially during the legislative session, get involved with contacting representatives to advocate for Women's and Gender Studies issues.

*Kylie Stone:* Kylie is a senior Criminology major with a double minor in Political Science and Women's and Gender Studies. As mentioned, Women's and Gender Studies is one of the smaller departments here at WVU, so they really want to try to have a community for people within the major and minor and give back to the community in new ways, hopefully through collaborations with other student organizations, and establishing a safe space for students of all disciplines to explore their passions within Women's and Gender Studies.

*Senator Price:* Approximately how much interest have you had in this club? How many tentative members do you have?

*Isabel:* There are thirteen members who have already filled out the application, but they haven't been able to really get their name out there because they've been rushing to just make it here. Have heard a lot of people in SGA have Women's and Gender Studies minors, so if you've never heard of them before, please consider following their Instagram page where their application is linked, and you can fill it out and join them.

*College Senator Mitchell:* At a national level, does Triota require both the application and



a major or minor in Women's and Gender Studies.

*Isabel:* Although it's a national organization, there are no headquarters or website, it just exists in chapters across the United States at different campuses. It depends on the campus, but the WVU chapter has decided to stick with what has previously been used to enter Triota. However, they have been talking about expanding it to include more people in the group.

### **6. Mental Health/Addiction Studies Club**

*Marissa:* Marissa is a junior here at West Virginia majoring in Mental Health and Addiction Studies with a minor in Psychology. Next May, Marissa is going to graduate, so she has asked two freshmen and one sophomore to be on exec so that when she does graduate, she has already shown them her vision for this club and they have shown her their vision, and they've worked together to get this club up and running so they can take it from her when she graduates. Beth Lefevre is the advisor for this major, so thought it was really important for her to be the advisor for this club so that she can give them the best help and resources as possible.

The purpose of this organization shall be to act as a resource on campus for students in this particular major or minor. You do have to be a Mental Health and Addiction Studies Major or an Addiction Studies Minor to be able to join. This club was created to provide aid if a student needs help in class, questions about the major, minor, or college, or just a place to turn to to talk to students in the same field of study. It's important to understand that one of the main reasons this club was established was because Marissa wanted to provide a space for like-minded individuals to come together so they felt comfortable talking about the same topics. If they want to talk to anybody about a class that they want to take, she wants to give students a resource to turn to. The goal is to make students in this field of study more comfortable with the course material of their classes, their teachers, and other students in their field. Beth Lefevre is the advisor for this major and is also the advisor of this club because Marissa believes that she has the most knowledge on how to guide students in the right direction. If Marissa or any of her exec members cannot answer a question, she's very fast on email, and would be the best person to ask.

They are an important contribution to the College of Applied Human Sciences because they will draw more students to major, will provide assistance to students already in the field, and will open opportunities for students to get more involved. As of right now, it is the four exec members plus six other members. As of this morning, Marissa has had eleven people reach out and ask if they can join.

She told them that today was the meeting so she'll let them know after this, but will text them if this gets approved that they can be members. Marissa is also the Social Media Chair for Collegiate Recovery and for Mountaineers to Recovery, so she was asked to be the Social Media Chair for this club. Canva is her best friend, so she will be making flyers to post around to get them known and making an Instagram. Because Marissa works at Collegiate Recovery who has events every Thursday open to anybody, the exec and her think it would be a really good idea to have activities at the Collegiate Recovery on Thursday night events.

*Senator Price:* Know that you mentioned that the club centers around supporting people within the major and minor, and you also mentioned these activities at Collegiate Recovery. Are you also planning on doing more external events, like working with WVU Carruth or organizations like that to support the broader community? If you are, could you elaborate on that?

*Marissa:* Want to get everybody in the club the opportunity to become Narcan trained. Want to get Fentanyl test strips for the club to hand out. Will be tabling in the Lair, Rec Center, and at Health Sciences and handing out Fentanyl test strips.

*Senator Whalen:* It looks like you have all your bases covered and a lot of great ideas, so Senator Whalen strongly supports this organization. This is really great.

*Senator Amores:* If you've ever helped the Mental Health and Wellbeing Committee with tabling or things like that, you've probably met one of the two officers that are involved in the club, because they're also very involved with Collegiate Recovery and the Carruth Center, both of whom they have tabled with.

#### **a. Discussion**

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

*Senator Price:* Senator Price thinks all of these organizations are really doing tremendous things. Looking forward to the conservation efforts of Ducks Unlimited. Looking forward to the tremendous work that Helping Hands is going to do for children of the future; they're really putting that front and center with their initiatives. Senator Price does not know much about engineering and stuff like that, but fully supports the Institute of Transportation Engineers and thinks they will do tremendous things. With the Student Sign Language Club, it is a very great thing that DEI organizations on campus continue to expand to make sure that a space is provided for all students. Iota Iota Iota, Senator Price doesn't know if he can say any more

about that. The Mental Health and Addiction Studies Club is also something that he thinks really fits well with what a lot of people have been working for over the past couple of years in SGA. Senator Price firmly endorses all of these organizations.

- Senator Price 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 approve all of the student organizations.
- Senator Price moved to approve all the student organizations via rising vote.
- The motion to approve all the student organizations was seconded by College Senator Ourlser.
- Those in favor unanimously have it. All the student organizations are approved.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Congratulations to all of you. Your student organization was approved unanimously, and everyone is so excited to see all that your student organization will achieve. If you need anything at any point, SGA will always be here to support all of you.

#### **B. AR-2023-01-06**

*College Senator Cahill:* An assembly resolution to continue including Title IX information regarding sexual assault reporting and resources in student organization trainings.

\*The resolution was read. See appendix\*

*Senator Price:* Was wondering if you could clarify regarding “therefore” Section I where it says that SGA acknowledges and supports the continuation of the module. What do you mean by continuation? Do you mean as it currently stands or do you mean expanding it beyond just freshmen completing it? Earlier in the “whereas” statements you mention that it is not required to continue beyond NSO, so Senator Price wasn't sure if the intention was to say that it should be continued being kept to NSO people or if it should have to be done beyond NSO in other grades.

*College Senator Cahill:* Section I is saying that there is a module. This year it's new; last year they added Title IX sections to the re-registration workshop slides, but this year the requirements are different so it's a separate module that student organizations will have to have at least one officer complete. The reason that it's separate is because every student is required to do an alcohol, EDU, and another training module that touches on Title IX stuff, but there's nothing in and of itself, to College Senator Cahill's knowledge since last completing it in 2019. This is to

say that SGA supports there being a module in training workshops for student organizations so that it's continued after the first year for at least one person on the executive board of every student organization. It's continued to be touched on when there are updates to it, and it's continued to be spread after students' first year.

*College Senator Oursler:* Is this only going to be for student organization leaders? Would that only pertain to them? If so, is there any want to have them be required to share a slide or talk about this topic to club members during the first or second meeting of the semester so that it's not just the club leader but all of those who participate in the club.

*College Senator Cahill:* There's only one person that is required to complete these modules. If somebody wanted to do them on their own accord, they could and they would have access to those by requesting them through Advisor Prunty. Will only require it to be one person because that is the standard for registration and re-registration on an annual basis. They are encouraged to go back and share any and all information that they received at meetings but that can't really be enforced. Can just say that this is information that you got, please go back and share this with your organization.

#### **a. Discussion and Voting**

*College Senator Mitchell:* College Senator Mitchell really likes this. It's interesting that it is not required to make every individual do it, as she knows that working at the Rec Center and as RAs they are required to do certain training with Title IX. It makes sense that student organization leaders that are engaging with others should be required to have education in Title IX to protect themselves and those in your group.

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to table AR-2023-01-06 until the next meeting.
- Senator Price moved to table AR-2023-01-06 until the next meeting via unanimous consent.
- The motion to table AR-2023-01-06 until the next meeting was seconded by College Senator Oursler.
- There were no objections, and AR-2023-01-06 was tabled until the next meeting.

### **XIII. Open Student Forum II**

*College Senator Blair:* The Sierra Club is holding their annual Earth Day on the Lair Green from 4-8pm on April 20th. There will be three bands performing, artists

coming, and Qdoba catering vegan and vegetarian options. Would love for more student organizations to be there. Even if your organization isn't inherently environmentally associated, you'd be amazed how everything can be tied back to environmentalism. If you need help figuring out how your organization fits in, College Senator Blair will help you. If anybody would want to have their organization table, message the Instagram account or talk to College Senator Blair. It would be a recruiting opportunity and also a way for you to get out in a multi-organization event. On that note, if anybody knows somebody or is somebody who is a small artist, there will be an art fair during the fair. That was held last year too, and it was the debut of College Senator Blair's pottery, which could be coming back for the one-year anniversary. They are looking for more art students as well.

*Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator Elswick:* Greek Life is hosting a Pride event on the green on April 21st from 2-4pm. Will be putting together a Google Form for not only Greek Life to sign-up for it but also any student organization. It's going to be a Pride on the green with people talking, music, and food such as a barbecue. It's open to everyone in the University, for all LGBT people and all allies. There will also be tabling there for organizations to promote themselves, sell things, or fundraise. If you are interested, let Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator Elswick know.

*Senator Uqaily:* The Biomedical Engineering Society, the American Chemical Society, the Biochemistry Club, and the MCAT Study Club are hosting a med school panel tomorrow and are catering Qdoba for over 100 people, so please show up. SGA is paying for it. It's in Ming Hsieh at 7pm.

*College Senator Dozier:* Tomorrow, ESU is having an easter egg hunt in the Lair. Once again asking you to please come to Mirage events. The launch party is this Friday, and a lot of you came last time and would really appreciate it if other people could come. They have a lot of food, arts and crafts, and of course the actual magazine. Everyone's welcome. The theme this year is divinity so you can come as divine as you'd like. Really encourage all of you to dress up and have fun with it. It'll be in the Media Innovation Center at 6pm on Friday.

*College Senator Milam:* RDVIC, which is the Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center here in Morgantown, is hosting their annual "Walking with Survivors" event this weekend on Saturday, April 1st. It starts at 3:30pm, but registration begins at 2:30pm. It's \$20 for everyone to participate which includes a shirt, the event, and food. All the proceeds go to them to help them keep doing their efforts

with survivors of domestic violence and help them fund their shelter. WVU Believe Them is helping to host a team, so if you're interested, please use the group registration option and put in WVU Believe Them to help support them as well in getting their name out there. If you have any questions, please let College Senator Milam know.

*Chief of Staff Flower:* The WVU Mental Health and Wellness Student Advisory Board is currently accepting applications for membership for next year. It is something that SGA created back in 2021, and so next year will be the third year. If you are interested in advocating specifically for mental health and wellness on campus, you can reach out to Chief of Staff Flower or Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey with questions. The application was sent in the SGA GroupMe and would appreciate it if you could share it even if you're not interested so that they can get a wide variety of students and their voices on the board.

*College Senator Oursler:* There are two new pollinator gardens going on on the Evansdale Campus using the plants that are being started at the Westover Greenhouse. There are over 2,000 plants being started down there for this effort and the actual big sized pots are coming in hopefully next week. They will be up-potted and by fall they will have 2,000 full size plants that will go into these new gardens. Just wanted you to know that things are moving forward with that.

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

*Advisor Le:* A reminder that the Excellence Awards applications are due this Friday. Getting a good chunk of applications and nominations now, which is great, but if you want to be honored and you know that your student organization is doing great work, please do that so they can honor you. Just a heads up that Advisor Prunty will be sending out RSVPs for student organizations to attend the Excellence Awards pretty soon. You're allowed to have two organizational member representatives, not including anybody that's been nominated for those awards. Please come out to that banquet on Tuesday, April 18th at 6pm. Advisor Prunty and Treasurer Daniel have been planning really hard, so good job to them.

April is rough, just as bad as November and December because it's the end of the year everything. End of the year banquets, end of the year socials, formals, and finals. Please pace yourself. Don't burn out at the end of the year. This is your time to really celebrate your accomplishments, but then also focus on your academics and end strong, and you'll have a nice break over the summer. For the new elected folks, take a break. As your advisor, Advisor Le gives you permission

to take a break. There are some things they'll be working on but really this is an opportunity for you to decompress and really be recharged. You'll hear him say this at every meeting between now and April 26th, please take a break. Senator Santmyer and College Senator Dozier are coming in strong and Advisor Le is like "take a break." He loves them and has already been meeting with them a lot, but if you need anything, or if those newly elected senators want to start having conversations, the legislative advisors are Advisor Prunty and Advisor McCoy, so please reach out to them if you want to start setting up meetings or things of that nature. Otherwise, Advisor Le is going to continue to say a lot of the same things over the next few weeks so just bear with him.

For those that are observing Ramadan, continue to send positive vibes their way, and also be mindful of what they're dealing with.

*Advisor Prunty:* Please do the award applications so the same four groups aren't awarded all the awards. Also, please submit your photos to the form on WVU Engage so that you can be featured on the screen during dinner. Want to showcase all the cool things you guys are doing, and it will only take two seconds to fill out the form. If you can come on the 18th, please do. There will be food, and they don't want to waste things.

*Chief of Staff Flower:* On that note, please do not submit pictures from SGA as Chief of Staff Flower has got it covered as long as they are in the PhotoCircle or Drive.

## **XV. Snaps**

Snaps were given to Senator Uqaily, College Senator Blair, all who participated in Mock Trial today, *Bravo*, Intern Matthew Olivero, and College Senator Blair.

## **XVI. Adjournment**

The motion to adjourn was entertained by Senator Volk.

The motion to adjourn was seconded by College Senator Azinger.

The ayes have it. The meeting was adjourned.



West Virginia University  
The Student Assembly - Student Government Association  
Assembly Resolution: AR-2023-01-06

**AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE INCLUDING TITLE IX INFORMATION REGARDING SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORTING AND RESOURCES IN STUDENT ORGANIZATION TRAININGS**

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Short Title:</b>            | <b>Continuing to Include Title IX Information in Student Organization Trainings</b>   |
| <b>Author(s):</b>              | <b>Bailey Cahill, College Senator (Chambers)</b>  |
| <b>Sponsor(s):</b>             | <b>Madison Santmyer, Senator<br/>Raafay Uqaily, Senator<br/>Kerrigan McMillen, College Senator (Chambers) Brooke Jones, Senator<br/>Brogan J Dozier, College Senator (Reed)</b> |
| <b>Contributor(s):</b>         | <b>Brooklyn Milam, College Senator (Health Sciences)</b>  |
| <b>Committee Endorsement:</b>  | <b>Sexual Assault Prevention Committee</b>  |
| <b>First Reading Date:</b>     | <b>03/29/2023</b>   |
| <b>Second Reading Date:</b>    |   |
| <b>Date of Approval:</b>       |   |
| <b>Presidential Signature:</b> |   |

**Whereas**, the West Virginia University (WVU) mission statement reads, "...the faculty, staff and students at West Virginia University commit to creating a diverse and inclusive culture that advances...prosperity for all by providing access and opportunity"; and,

<sup>1</sup> <https://policies.wvu.edu/finalized-bog-rules/bog-governance-rule-1-6-rule>

<sup>2</sup> National College Health Assessment, WVU Fall 2021

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.rainn.org/statistics/campus-sexual-violence>

<sup>4</sup> [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d21/tables/dt21\\_329.10.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d21/tables/dt21_329.10.asp?current=yes)

**Whereas**, the WVU Student Government Association’s vision reads, “To be a Student Government Association that serves the students, West Virginia University, and the State of West Virginia by; promoting inclusion, creating a campus that can accommodate everyone”; and,

**Whereas**, the West Virginia University Board of Governors Governance Rule 1.6 prohibits, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, domestic misconduct, and stalking<sup>1</sup>; and

**Whereas**, the West Virginia University Board of Governors Governance Rule 1.6 defines sexual assault as, “‘Sexual Intercourse’ or ‘Sexual Contact’ that occurs without ‘Consent.’ ‘Sexual Assault’ also includes ‘Sexual Intercourse’ between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law”<sup>1</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, WELLWVU conducted an anonymous self reported survey in the fall of 2021. 10.4% of respondents experienced sexual touching without their consent, 3.8% of respondents experienced attempted sexual penetration without their consent, and 2.9% of respondents experienced sexual penetration without their consent<sup>2</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, 13% of all college students students experience rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence, or incapacitation”<sup>3</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, the National Center for Education Statistics show a 531% increase in reported forceable sex offenses from 2001 to 2019<sup>4</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, West Virginia University students are not required to continue any Title IX or alcohol consumption training after their new student modules; and,

**Whereas**, there are over 450 student organizations at West Virginia University; and,

**Whereas**, each student organization is required to have at least one officer complete required trainings on an annual basis; and,

**Whereas**, training participants are encouraged to share information and resources

<sup>1</sup> <https://policies.wvu.edu/finalized-bog-rules/bog-governance-rule-1-6-rule>

<sup>2</sup> National College Health Assessment, WVU Fall 2021

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.rainn.org/statistics/campus-sexual-violence>

<sup>4</sup> [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d21/tables/dt21\\_329.10.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d21/tables/dt21_329.10.asp?current=yes)

reviewed in the session with their organization.

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

**Section 1:** The Student Government Association acknowledges and supports the continuation of the module outlining Title IX prohibited conduct, the reporting process, and resources pertaining to Title IX and reporting in new student organization and student organization re-registration requirements.

**Section 2:** The Student Government Association recommends collaboration between the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Student Engagement and Leadership to ensure materials are up to date with Title IX procedures.

**Section 3:** Upon passage and approval, this legislation shall be forwarded to:

**Mandates:**

G. Corey Farris, Dean of Students

Dr. Thanh Le, Director, Student Engagement and Leadership

(Advisor) Morgan Prunty, Student Engagement and Leadership

James Goins Jr., Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Cortney Simmons, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Margaret Von Doltren, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Courtney Weaver, WELLWVU

Chloe Hernandez, Student Body President

Morgan Donate, SGA Secretary

Daily Athenaeum

<sup>1</sup> <https://policies.wvu.edu/finalized-bog-rules/bog-governance-rule-1-6-rule>

<sup>2</sup> National College Health Assessment, WVU Fall 2021

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.rainn.org/statistics/campus-sexual-violence>

<sup>4</sup> [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d21/tables/dt21\\_329.10.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d21/tables/dt21_329.10.asp?current=yes)