



## **West Virginia University SGA Meeting 12/4/2019, 2019-2020 Administration**

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### **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 an open exchange of ideas with civil discussion, inquiry, and self-expression to help ensure that the personal freedoms and general welfare of the students within our University are protected, and to promote the principles of diversity and responsible self-governance.”*

### **III. Roll Call**

1. President Pro Tempore Rawson
2. College Senator Buggs
3. College Senator Clutter
4. Senator Cappadona
5. Senator Collie
6. Senator Cunningham
7. Senator Dashaun
8. College Senator Dillie joined meeting at 8:04
9. Senator Donnelly
10. College Senator Doran
11. Senator Edwards
12. College Senator Evans
13. College senator givens
14. Athletic Senator Graham
15. Senator Harman
16. Senator Helm
17. College Senator Hopen
18. College senator Hunter
19. Senator Ihlenfeld
20. College Senator Jalso
21. Senator Jones
22. Senator Kumar
23. College Senator Lombardi

24. College Senator Lyons
25. College Senator Matus
26. College senator Mcknight
27. Athletic Senator Nadeu
28. College Senator Nash
29. Senator Ovide
30. Senator Pressley
31. College Senator Santiago
32. College Senator Shoemaker
33. College senator Simon
34. Senator Teufel
35. Senator Zanabli

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

Vice President Matheny :The minutes from last week's meeting have been posted. Are there any changes or edits that need to be made to those minutes?

#### **V. Open Student Forum I**

Vice President Matheny- Does anyone have anything to present for Open Student Forum 1?

Senator Cunningham-

Executive Secretary Bragg-

Vice President Matheny- Seeing nothing else, as you can see on the agenda id like to discuss the general education foundation structure. That is the faculty senate meeting I attended earlier this week and they are considering revisions to our current system so I wanted to hold a discussion during open student forum 1 to allow any feedback you have to be expressed to the committee and since we are in open student forum anyone in the gallery will be able to contribute as well so essentially the committee is wanting to revise the GEF areas so the different categories that they're are and their learning outcomes so if anyone has general ideas or feedback of the GEFs that you've taken, the system itself, areas that you think should be highlighted, so feel free to share those. Anyone have anything they just like to add off the bat?

Senator Ihlenfeld- I haven't got a lot I'd say to the committee, but one of my professors, Dr. Foster, is on the committee and I heard they were thinking about a West Virginia history type category I think that is a cool idea.

Vice President Matheny- Yeah so I'll just go ahead and list off the list of proposed categories they have and just to be clear these are in the early stages so don't take any of these as being set in stone; cultural understanding, data analysis and comprehension, scientific process, effective communication in English, ethical citizenship, aesthetic literacy, and the Appalachian experience. The area that was being referred to was the Appalachian experience and the idea is that it would require students to take a course teaching about Appalachia and its history and general culture

President pro tempore Rawson- So I didn't count how many categories there are would it mix things up seeing that we have 7 now?

Vice President Matheny- Its still 7 they are trying to reduce the overall courses that are offered as GEF's.

College senator shoemaker-Is there any reasoning behind that?

Vice President Matheny- This was only the first meeting that was public they've been closed in the past so I don't have a full understanding. The information I got is these were recommendations given to change it up while reducing the size. I don't know the specific reasoning but I know that it was something recommended by the provost office.

College Senator Lombardi- In the business college I know we have attempted to get an entrepreneurship class started and I think that's something that should be available seeing its beneficial across all majors and fields of study. That mindset would be good to teach.

Vice President Matheny- A couple of the categories that I wanted to highlight were the cultural understanding category and the effective communication in English category. Again, I don't have clear details on what that would entail these are supposed to be courses relevant to all courses at WVU so the international students would be effected by this and if we are teaching culture its be beneficial to be more set in what cultures we are aiming to understand and what lens that's being put through and the purpose of the effective communication in English as we have a lot of students who's first language isn't English. I just thought those were interesting and would love to hear your thoughts.

Senator Edwards- I think a lot of what you were saying sounds good and that cultural understanding section is great. It seems like some of these we already have and they are prioritizing the ones that they deem important.

President pro tempore Rawson- I took a history class my freshman year for GEF and I think its important we learn certain bits of our history not taught in High School because if we don't we are as the quote says doomed to repeat past mistakes.

Vice President Matheny- We had Human inquiry into the past as a category but I cant remember what the other ones were but one of the concerns that the committee was discussing is that this list combines all the humanities into either effective communication in English or cultural understanding and it doesn't make a direct category into human inquiry in the past or something of that nature so we may be losing a lot of those types of humanity courses, and for me being a humanities student I find that to be an issue just because those are thing all students should be exposed to. Just like me not being a STEM student its is important scientific process and practice as well as data collection are directly listed.

Senator Ilhenfeld- I think one of my professors said that ethical citizenship would encompass a lot of the humanities and I think that could be worded better or maybe even a separate history section altogether.

Senator Jones-Im looking at the current list and there new list doesn't in crude anything pertaining to the arts. My concern is that the arts are being brushed over and to be fully educated and myself knowing the worth of education in the arts would hate to sewed the subject be pushed to the sider and those classes are beneficial and at times integral to mental health.

College Senator Shoemaker- One thing I thought of when you brought this up was with restructuring they may limit students taking courses outside the university, transfer courses, I feel this is really against that because it limits students ability to have different opportunities outside of WVU which is critical for some students who have transfer courses.

Vice President Matheny- The last thing that Id like to highlight is the Appalachian experience category. Being from this state obviously I have a passion for this state and Id want any student at WVU to understand the history and culture of the region. 1. It would have serious implications for needing to hire more faculty to create a much more robust department for the category and 2. Id like to know If we feel its integral to education at this university.

College senator Hunter- I took Appalachia fiction with other English classes and I am from West Virginia. I do feel like we do need to learn about it seeing that Appalachia isn't just WV. I just feel if you're going to university here you should learn about where you're going to school. Also the stigma about Appalachia makes it that much more important to learn about.

Adia Kolb- I Just wanted to talk as an Appalachian studies minor, I think theres only a couple of us, but I have loved every single Appalachian studies class Ive had and that may just be because Im like passionate about activism and advocacy in Appalachia. It is super important that spec tally students out of state and the region have some sort of perspective or background and as a land grant institution thats kind of our job to provide that for people. Also, I think that it would be advantageous for the university to jump on this especially as robust as is being presented in the new GEF. I have been looking into grad and post grad things in this realm and theres just a good market for WVU to be a pioneer in the Appalachian studies field.

Athletic Senator Nadeu- I think the GEF courses are more of an entry level course anyway and I know a lot of the faculty in WV who even though they may not specialize in the region they do have quite a bit of understanding of the area. As a teacher of this university they do know a lot so I don't think it would require a-lot of spending or new hires.

Senator Edwards- Where I cam from and when I first got here everyone was so proud of the area and I didn't even know we were in the Appalachian region so it was a big surprise. So I believe this class would be beneficial and that a GEF in this realm is something we should pursue.

Vice President Matheny- Thank you all for the comments if anyone else mauls over that and wants to send me anything ill be sitting in on the committee so ill gather your suggestions and take them to the committee hopefully when this gets more formal we can poll the student body but thank you for all that input.

## **VI. President's Report –**

President Dye- Update on my part Ive been working with Dr. Le and we have prices for the sweatshirts and polos and T-shirts are free so I have an excel sheet for people to fill in whatever they want to buy and after we get signups I will let you know how we plan on moving forward and paying for that. Ive been doing Judicial court interviews this week and we have 3 vacancies that need filled 1 undergrad 2 law school. Ive had 5 interviews, Ill finish up this Friday and let them know this weekend so they will be in front of you next meeting. Still looking for an elections chair and legislative affairs officer thats currently a top priority, there will at least be an elections chair on the agenda for next week, I think thats all for those types of updates. On a se-

rious note the committee over assembly attendance has met with any senators with 2 unexcused absence or more as per the constitution. Senator Kumar was one of these senators, and the committee decided to ask him to resign to avoid impeachment. We were waiting to receive a reply before announcing this, however, I was contacted by the DA so this will most likely be going public so I wanted to put that on your radars before you read it in the paper. So, once we get a formal response from Senator Kumar I will provide you all with more information. I do have a nice quote “You must never be fearful of what you are doing when you know it to be right”.- Rosa Parks

## **VII. Assembly Reports/Executive Reports –**

### **Assembly**

Senator Pressley- So the Friday before break President pro Temper Rawson and I met with the Director of Well WVU Courtney. We went there to talk about how some people don't think the University supplies latex free condoms and dental dams. That actually is not the case Well WVU does provide those things and we just want to work with them and promote that. We talked about how we could help them by doing that.

President pro tempore Rawson- So there is a sexual health fair the Thursday before Valentines Day. They had it last year and I went there. Senator Pressley and I are going to author a bill with little notecards in there and it'll have like Well WVU numbers and stuff to call, but thistle be something Senator Pressley and I will be working on.

College Senator Lombardi- I just wanted to make a motion to add College Senator Dillie to the minutes.

Senator Harman- Second

Senator Jones- Just a little update as well as my plans for next semester. I will be sitting on a committee with Residence Life to identify key areas of academic struggling to see how we can better support them and work on our freshman retention rate. AD Eric Murphy and I will be working on a program to help people set up volunteer events that would better equip leaders of other orgs to setup volunteer events. I thought it would be a good idea for this program to be presented after or before one of our meetings so we can get that to everyone in Morgantown as well. Thats what Im working on as of now and if you're interested in the mentor program let me know. Thank you.

Athletic Senator Nadeu- On the Friday before break senator Graham and I attended a meeting with some of the faculty to do with the Athletic Dept.. The main focus of the meeting was budget

based the department is current running at break even with spending and take in of both 90 million dollars They are looking at upgrades to the football facility so they are looking for donors for that. Another big issue is removing WVU sports from its current space on broadband and moving it to ESPN+. Which means roughly 1/5th of WV residents would lose service of WVU games. The reason for that move is it'll bring in more income for the Athletic Department. Thank you.

## **Executives**

Treasurer White- We didn't have a BoF meeting due to break and there wasn't any pressing grants so the last meeting of the semester will be this coming Sunday, and there will be one more financial bill next week for the Semester. All the orgs that have applied so far are invited to that meeting on Sunday. We are where we want to be moving into the next semester a little over half the external budget has been used but everything looking good. The internal budget is looking good and if theres any events any of you would like to start we did have the money and its yours to use just let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Intern coordinator Williamson- Our interns have planned their first outreach event. It'll be across from the Lair from 11AM-3PM. They will be handing out chocolate and cookies and water and tea along with little finals goodie bags with #2 pencils and candy. Make sure you stop by we are all really excited about it.

CoS Riggs- I just wanted to remind you guys that swipe out hunger is next week December 10th at Hatfields and Cafe Evandale from 7Am-8Pm, or until we hit our 500 meal swipe cap. There is currently a doodle-poll that I sent in the main group chat so if you could table anywhere from 12-3 at those locations please sign up and also if you all could share the graphic we made please do that as well. On another note Ill be attending the pedestrian safety meeting Friday. The safety committee is currently compiling all the notes we got from the safety walk into a safety report and so if you are doing that please be sure to have those done by the end of tonight because id like to take those notes to the committee.

President Dye- I was just going to add on swipe out hunger just a couple of details so you are all aware and you can educate your friends and anyone that asks you. This year how it's going to work is students will be able to donate multiple swipes but the donations are capped at 500. If you're not familiar what happens with the donated swipes is they go to food voucher cards to be handed out at the University's food pantry the rack. It's the cards given out during orientation that can be used for all dining halls and the restaurants. Also if you have the limitless plan you wont be able to swipe twice on your way in but while leaving you may donate a swipe because of the 15 minute buffer.

Vice President Matheny- I sent the link of that survey again in the group its basically just probing your thoughts on your time in SGA thus far. This will help us go into the next semester the best we can and go in strong providing everything at mid year retreat thats needed.

### **VIII.Old/New Business–**

Vice President Matheny- We will now move onto new/old business. I will now entertain a motion to approve assembly resolution 2019-05.

Senator Harman- So moved

College Senator Buggs- Seconded

Vice President Matheny- Motion passes, senator Ihlenfeld you have the floor

Senator Ihlenfeld- \*second reading of AR 2019-05

Vice President Matheny- Questions? Okay Senator Ihlenfeld you may take a seat. Does anyone have any discussion on the resolution.

Senator Zanabli- I just wanted to say that the resolution is well written. It looks very well especially because the mention of the other universities and their statistics. Just overall well written and concise.

Vice President Matheny- Seeing no more discussion we will now move into a vote..... Motion passes. I will now entertain a motion to approve assembly resolution 2019-07.

Senator Pressley- So moved

Senator Jones- second

Vice President Matheny- Motion passes, senator Shoemaker and Senator Ovide you have the floor

Senator Shoemaker- \*second reading of AR 2019-07

Vice President Matheny- Questions?

College Senator Hunter- When would they receive the like responses.

Senator Shoemaker- Ideally it would be a week or two before the midterm so that changes could be made the second half of the semester.

President pro tempore Rawson- Could you expand on section 3 to account for the variations in the different courses offered

Senator Ovide- We were leaving that open ended so that people could change the way the SEIs are structured now depending on the different classes being taken. Say your in a science class the questions would be more specialized by department so they could get the most info out of the students taking the survey.

College senator Hunter- So since now with one SEI professors barely get responses how do you think a mid semester report would do.

Senator Shoemaker- Students would be more motivated seeing that this survey could directly impact the rest of the semester.

Senator Zanabli- Have you talked to the faculty about this just to see the logistics of getting this out mid semester.

Senator Shoemaker- Ive spoken to the interim dean and the former dean of Statler and the way it was left with the former Dean is he was going to speak to each department chair about this. The reason we put the deAns on here is to hopefully meet in the middle and those that believe this would be beneficial to their college may implement this.

Vice President Matheny- Questions? Okay Senators Shoemaker and Ovide you may take a seat. Does anyone have any discussion on the resolution.

Senator Cunningham- I support this I think its a great idea. Nothing in here will play out exactly as it is in the resolution, but this just shows we are backing increased accountability for how much we pay for college. This isn't too much to ask its defginely viable and most a peers would agree increased accountability and good instructors will like this and the process can be worked out. Just the idea of increased accountability is something we should all be behind.

Senator Lombardi- I like this as the current surveys are just afterthoughts and not many people want to do them and this may help the professor. This would be a wonderful oppurtunity for professors to make changes and we can see longterm affects with better classes and instructors.

President pro tempore Rawson- So the issue with the drop date and the time in which this survey would need to be given was brought up during both readings. So maybe the legislation should specify that, that being said I move to amend section one with a sentence added to the end that reads “This survey shall be administered before the drop date of each semester.”

College Senator Shoemaker- seconded

Vice President Matheny- Discussion on the amendment?

Senator Harman- Should we specify a certain amount of time before the drop date?

President pro tempore Rawson- I get your point but we could point one week or two week but I think we should leave it as is. They’ll look at it and understand.

Senator Ihlenfeld- The survey is supposed to be the first half of the semester and the drop date was just a week or two ago I think maybe it should be targeted more towards midterms. The data processing if it takes a week puts us at this point in the semester so maybe a couple weeks before the drop date or just before mid terms.

Senator Pressley- I agree with Senator Harman I believe it should be given a week or two before midterms because how are professors to make changes this late in the semester.

President pro tempore Rawson- So I looked up the academic Calendar and the drop date is 8 weeks after the beginning we could just amend this amendment.

College Senator Dilley- How would this apply to Summer and 8-week courses with them being so short.

College Senator Shoemaker- Does anyone know if there is like a mid-term for the Summer sessions at all?

College Senator Matus- When I took Summer courses there was no mid-term that resembles the Fall.

Senator Ihlenfeld- Can we just say before the halfway point of the course then?

College Senator Capadona- Im looking at the schedule the mid check grades are outlined for the Summer.

Senator Pressley- so maybe we should just say the Fall and Spring semester. We could have midterm SEIs for those.

Senator Harman- The most inclusive language would be this surbvey shall occur during the first half of the class.

President pro tempore Rawson- In the interest of time Id like to vote down this amendment and move on to another, so I move to previous question.

Senator Pressley- Second

Vice President Matheny- Amendment does not pass. Anymore discussion?

President pro tempore Rawson- Should we specify Fall and Spring semesters because it could get really complicated with all the different schedules.

Senator Harman- I move that we amend section one by adding the sentence “ This survey shall be conducted during the first half of each course.”

College Senator Shoemaker- Second

Vice President Matheny- Discussion?

Senator Cunningham- My only concern would be there wouldn't be a lot of turnaround time if done right before the halfway mark.

Senator Ovide- I definitely think we were more focused on the idea.

College Senator Matus- Totally agree and feel like the full semester courses will be better served by a mid semester SEI than Summer courses or Winter courses would be.

College Senator Lombardi- As someone who has taken six summer courses I believe it very important to have this available for Summer courses. I like the language of the amendment and I am in favor of it.

Vice President Matheny- Discussion? Seeing non we will now vote on the amendment.... bThis amendment passes and we are back into discussion of the full resolution. Seeing none we will move to a vote to approve this resolution... This motion passes. I will now entertain a motion to approve assembly resolution 2019-08.

Senator Harman- So moved

Senator Pressley- Seconded

Vice President Matheny- Motion passes, College Senator Buggs you have the floor

College Senator Buggs- \*second reading of AR 2019-08

Vice President Matheny- Questions? Thank you seeing none we will now move into Discussion.

Senator Cunningham- I like the objective the study room scenario are unfortunate. I wont support this for one reason and that because it'll cause more of a problem. The study rooms were open to more students through decreasing the hours. I think our libraries are just underfunded and I wont support a bill to allow less people to access the library.

Senator Harman- I agree the library maybe should be open for more hours but allowing less people to access it is just wrong.

College Senator aHunter- Maybe if there were other spaces to meet than the library the problem would be fixed. As a person who's in the library everyday it is so full and adding hours to book would just make things worse.

College Senator Buggs- Like it was brought up in the first reading something about swiping cards to see if the rooms are being used and thats the next step is to see that the rooms booked are actually being used by those who booked them.

President pro tempore Rawson- I just want to say this is a well written piece of legislation and I wanna say the past policy was like 6 hours but I don't know if adding one extra hour would hurt too much Im trying to predict the future but o1 more hour may not be that bad. We know 3 hours a week isn't that much at all especially divided up.

Senator Donnelley- The evansdale library has vey different policies because I know for a fact Ive rented a room on back to back days for 3 hours both.

College Senator Buggs- I cant recall the evansalde library policies off the top off my head but their hours of operation are different and that accounts for the difference in policies.

Vice President Matheny- Seeing no further discussion we will now move into a vote on this resolution... This resolution does not pass.

## **IX. Open Student Forum 2**

Vice President Matheny- Does anyone have anything to present for Open Student Forum 2?

Senator Collie- Next week is cookie week so be ready.

Senator Matus- Senator Shoemaker is better than me in fantasy football I must admit.

President pro tempo ire Rawson- I think tomorrow at the Rec they are holding a stress relief event for finals involving various things to help de stress yoga and trust falls I believe I went there last year the event and enjoyed it.

Meeting adjourned 9:07

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