



## West Virginia University SGA Meeting 04/11/2018, 2018-2019 Administration

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### I. Call to Order at 7:30PM in Hatfields B, Mountainlair Student Union

### II. 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."

### III. Roll Call

President Pro Tempore Sizemore - Present  
College Representative Amato - Present  
Senator Craig - Present  
College Representative Cuomo - Absent  
College Representative Dent - Absent  
Senator Chad Dye - Present  
Senator Kate Dye - Present  
Senator Fortney - Present  
College Representative Frazier - Present  
Senator Gray - Present  
Senator Greathouse - Present  
Senator Hall - Present  
Senator Hamrick - Present  
College Representative Hartwell - Present  
College Representative Howard - Absent  
College Representative Kaminski - Present  
Senator Keener - Present  
Senator Matheny - Present  
Senator McDonald - Present  
Senator Murphy - Present  
Senator Rana - Absent  
College Representative Scott - Present  
Senator Shammaa - Present  
College Representative Shoemaker - Present  
Senator Spearko - Present  
College Representative Ulman - Present  
Senator Villaseñor - Present  
College Representative Williams - Absent  
College Representative Wolfe - Absent

## IV. Reading and Approval of the Minutes

*VP Yachini* – The minutes from last weeks meeting have been posted. Are there any changes or edits that need to be made to those minutes? Seeing none.

## V. Open Student Forum I

### a. Voter Registration/Turnout:

*PPT Sizemore* – So like I kind of have talked about last week, we want to have voter registration drives and work with the Get out to Vote campaign.

*Senator Villaseñor* – We have the support from city council on this. We want students who are going to be here for the next 4-5 years to be able to really make this home and vote. We need to get the registration booth started soon and we will need your help with that.

*Senator Craig* – Would it be possible to have a polling location in the Lair?

*PPT Sizemore* – It wouldn't be possible for this election but we would definitely want to explore that option and talk about that for the future.

*Senator Villaseñor* – Yes I definitely think that's possible and would want that to happen eventually!

*Senator Fortney* – We need to make sure we are not leaving Evansdale out of the equation.

### b. Faculty Senate +/- Grading System:

*PPT Sizemore* – I think we should look into writing a resolution for next week. This is a big issue for our campus and Professor Brewster brought up some good points last week. It just doesn't make sense to me because what is the point in getting an A+ if it is worth the same as an A. I think we should maybe move an A+ up to 4.25 and just explore other options that might make more sense to and for students. Whatever the solution is it needs to be more uniform.

*Senator Shammaa* – I see two main issues with it. 1. Students are not getting awarded for getting an A+ but will get punished for getting a B-. There is a higher standard now because of this. 2. It needs to be uniform and make sure that it can't change for a student in the middle of their academic career. It will be unfair to scholarship requirements.

*Senator Craig* – Bouncing off of Senator Shammaa and PPT Sizemore, my biggest issue is that there is no incentive for a student to receive an A+. I think something to maybe look into is having all A's the same weight but the rest operate on a weighted system.

*Senator Fortney* – I know I said this before but Grad Schools already count +'s and -'s so maybe this system is better for us to move toward.

*Tyler Brewster* – I think that this is a perfect opportunity for you all to do an informal poll of the student body and then maybe draft a resolution or bill to back up what your data shows you that

student's want. You take this system into account here so that it is accurately reflected for Grad Schools later.

*Abundance Hunt* – I'm getting ready to apply for Med School and we had to sit down and do a GPA calculator for the +/-'s so it is already affecting us largely as we graduate.

*Sydney Dangott* – My thing is that there is a huge difference between a 90 and a 98 and when it comes down to Med School they are going to want to see those +/-'s especially when it comes down to you and one other person with the same base grades. You want them to see that you did better. Overall though, they either need to do it or don't do it so that it is across the board.

*Rep. Ulman* – I think we need to make sure we take into account everything that this could affect and come up with a resolution that also helps come up with a solution for the problem.

*Garrett Burgess* – I'm sure you are all familiar with the Promise Scholarship? If you got B- across the board with this system, you would lose your Promise Scholarship. You also need to remember that not everyone is going to grad school, in fact at WVU most people are just getting their undergraduate degree and going into the workforce. This is already an approved thing, but there is still time to make a difference and make your voices heard.

*Rep. Amato* – We need to definitely make sure this is uniform. They are not going to know there is opposition unless we say something. I am looking forward to working on this issue.

*Abundance Hunt* – Hey guys! I just wanted to introduce myself for anyone who doesn't know me, but I was just appointed the Executive Director of the Mountaineer Maniacs and wanted to say hi. Also, applications will be coming out very soon for the Maniacs Executive Board so be on the lookout for that!

## **VI. President's Report –**

*President Obioma* - Alright, so not too much to report tonight again. We are looking for people to sit on some Faculty Senate Committees. We need 15 people on the Student Rights Committee, 1 person on the General Education Committee, 2 people on the Curricula Committee, and 1 person on the Teaching and Assessment Committee. These are open to anybody so just let me know if you're interested. We would like to have people to recommend next week. The NAACP Image Awards are tomorrow night; please try to make it out if you can. Our very own Adam Craig will be getting an award there!

So, I'm doing a quote thing now.

“Nevertheless I bow to the will of my people” – T'Challa

Rep. Kaminski – Can you explain a little more what the committees are exactly?

The committees we need filled are:

General Education Foundations Committee (GEFCO) (1 student) – Committee charge is to review applications for the new GEF courses and existing courses, produce resources and educational opportunities to support the GEF, collaborate with other committees and any relevant administrative bodies on outcomes assessment of

the GEF, address other issues pertinent to the success of the GEF, collect course-level assessment of the GEF, and evaluate periodically, national trends in general education and best practices as needed. Meets monthly.

Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee (15 students) – Committee charge is to serve as a panel for the review of cases where there may be an alleged violation of the student conduct code and considers and evaluates suggestions for change in the University Code of Rights and Responsibilities. Committee may meet as a committee at the beginning of the semester but then members are assigned to cases as they come in.

Curriculum Committee (2 students) – Committee charge is to review and approve specific proposals and curricula changes from the course to program level. Committee meets at least once monthly, but may meet every other week depending on number courses to be reviewed/approved.

Teaching and Assessment Committee (1 students) – Committee charge is to maintain and revise the evaluation instrument that students will complete to evaluate instruction for a wide variety of courses, make recommendations for analysis and use of these recommendations, initiative and make recommendations for documenting teaching effectiveness, make recommendations for the Teaching Learning Commons as faculty needs related to instructional and assessment processes, collaborate with other committees to recommend practices for course and curricula assessment methods, and address in a timely fashion issues pertinent to teaching and assessment. This committee meets on a monthly basis.

If you're interested in any of these committees, hit me up!

## **VII. Senator's Reports –**

*Senator Gray* – So as you know from the campaign, one of our big thing was increasing involvement with SGA and student orgs on campus. I know we will be working on more long term goals but I think something small we can do right away is to have an SGA featured “Org of the Week.” It will be a way to spotlight orgs, maybe get them some new members, and SGA gets a little promotion.

*Senator Greathouse* – So many of you remember Syihan Muhammad, he was here last week. We had a Pedestrian Safety meeting on Friday that Tyler Brewster, Abbi, Brent Scott, and myself attended. It was mostly a brainstorming session between students, faculty, administrators, local government, DoH, state gov, etc. One of the ideas we liked was a tunnel in front of the Lair. One thing that concerned us was getting rid of free parking at the Coliseum and increasing parking prices. We need to make sure we stay on top of this so its in all students best interests.

*Senator Matheny* – Senator Craig and I have started working on sustainability on campus. We met with this girl from the Juice Bar who was concerned there was not enough recycling going on there. Some suggestions that came from the meeting were a composting program, improving recycling as is, a vertical garden, etc. We have a meeting with the Office of Sustainability this week. Let us know if you're interested in helping with this!

*PPT Sizemore* – Last time you'll hear it but the Hands of Hope campaign is still going until this Friday. You can donate goods and get out of a parking ticket. It's for a great cause!

*Senator Craig* – I am still working on the resolution on promoting Governor Schools, Energy Express, and making sure all the programs from HB 2006 are being sustained still. I would love some more eyes on it, so let me know if you're interested!

*Senator Fortney* – I met with Active Minds the other day and they wanted to know if SGA could help with fundraising in the Fall, which I told them we might be able to but we would get there when it was time. They told me about their Suicide Prevention Walk and Stress Less Week that are coming up.

### **VIII. Representative Reports –**

*Rep. Amato* – Thank you to everyone who came to MountaineerTHON! It was a blast and we beat our goal by raising \$67,690.95 for the kids. I am helping to plan a “Dinner and Discourse” session, which will be raising awareness for the Indian Boarding School Movement, which was basically a forced assimilation of the indigenous peoples. Many of their stories are not told in this country, so it is important to go. Rep. Scott and I got rescheduled again with our Dean, so we might be able to see them one day!

*Rep. Scott* – In reference to the Pedestrian Safety meetings, I just wanted to say that a lot of these projects are going to take months or years to get done. We have to make sure the conversation we started is finished with actual implemented change. We have to start immediately by looking out for everyone and looking out for your fellow Mountaineers.

### **IX. Executive Reports –**

*Seeing none.*

### **X. Unfinished Business –**

*Seeing none.*

### **XI. New Business –**

#### **a. Executive Appointments: Yield floor to President Obioma**

*Abundance Hunt (Big 12)* – I really want to work on uniting the Big XII and our SGA’s and working on big initiatives between us all throughout the year.

*Senator Dye* – What are your specific ideas for this position?

*Abundance Hunt* – I really want to get a rep at every school that’s not the Student Body President (SBP) to have as a contact because obviously the SBP is very busy. I also want to do more videos like we did two years ago when the Big XII Conference was here.

*Senator Fortney* – You indicated you have 1-2 hours a week to give to this position, how do you think you would balance this position?

*Abundance Hunt* – It is really all about how you manage your time. Also, a lot of the work I would do in this position wouldn’t really be shown because it will be a lot of phone calls and email exchanges. It will be a lot of behind the scenes stuff.

*Tyler Brewster* – Where is the Big XII Conference this year?

*VP Yachini* – Manhattan, Kansas

*Rep. Kaminski* – I move to suspend special rules via unanimous consent.

*Rachel Daw (Exec. Sec.)* – Hey guys, most of you already know me. I want to do this job so I think that says something. I'm very organized and think I would be able to keep the minutes in check.

*Senator Fortney* – You're going to grad school next year, how do you think you can handle that alongside this position?

*Rachel Daw* – I have handled multiple positions this year while working and campaigning and finishing my capstone, I think I'll be fine with balancing it.

*Senator Matheny* – Is there anything that would inhibit you from attending the meetings every Wednesday?

*Rachel Daw* – No, I will only have in person classes on Thursday's next year.

*Kayla Asbury (Comm. Director)* – Hey guys, I am a Junior Public Relations student from Fayetteville, WV. I did this position last year and I ran the Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. I have also worked at the student newspaper for two years.

*Senator K. Dye* – Do you have any new initiatives you want to implement?

*Kayla Asbury* – I want to work on more spotlights for Senators, Reps, Execs, Student Orgs, like Senator Gray said. I also want to have more tabling events in the Lair and around campus

*Senator Matheny* – What are some challenges you faced last year?

*Kayla Asbury* – There was some resistance to change and I had to really change the voice of the Twitter and work to make us more "new" and exciting.

*Steven Treadway (COO)* – I think Chief Operations Officer is the perfect vehicle to work on specific things I want to do while at the same time not being restrictive. I want to continue working on accountability, as you might know I was in charge of trying to keep track of that mess last year. We have to find a way to keep their enthusiasm from their interview there all year. We have to work on establishing a culture where everyone wants to be here, like I know I do every week. We have to make sure we are coming across as ONE SGA.

*Senator Fortney* – Do you have any specific ideas for accountability?

*Steven Treadway* – I don't have anything concrete right now. One thing is I'm strongly against points; you cannot measure people with that system. I would be excited to work with Bryan on what they already have started.

*Senator Matheny* – In the bylaws this positions is suppose to organize one team building activity a semester, any ideas for that?

*Steven Treadway* – Oh I don't have anything specific, but I love SGA and this is the biggest friend group I have. I would love to have one a month!

*Senator Villaseñor* – You mentioned somewhat of a divide earlier, can you explain more of what you meant or what you want to fix?

*Steven Treadway* – Yeah, for instance, I didn't even know all the executives and I was one, so that's a problem. Just making sure everyone is on the same page and we all know each other.

*Tyler Brewster (Leg. Affairs)* – So in regards to this position, I interned for Senator Manchin last summer and I learned a lot and made a lot of good contacts on the hill through this position. I have gone to Charleston before with SALA and have created connections in Charleston through it as well. I will admit I have lots of learning I need to do, I do enjoy politics and will keep an eye on the legislature throughout the year and help out wherever I can.

*Senator Greathouse* – What do you want to achieve with this position?

*Tyler Brewster* – If something comes up throughout the year we could look at doing a bill again like the previous administration.

*Senator McDonald* - Are you graduating in December and if so, what is going to be happening with your position?

*Tyler Brewster* – I am not sure exactly what I'm doing next year, but I will know soon and if I leave in December, someone will definitely be trained for the position

*Kassie Colon (Diversity Affairs)* – Hi guys, little bit about myself, I am a WGST, Geography, and Latin American Studies major from Miami, FL. I have been an activist since I was probably 14. I actually wanted to run for mayor. I just am a huge believer in thinking that organizing is important. I want to know what is everyone's story? What is my story? How do we create this huge beautiful puzzle of Mountaineer love? I was the student that wrote that letter to President Gee two years ago from a concerned LatinX student, I wrote him the letter because I couldn't get a meeting in his office. After the letter, I was in his office the next day and we opened a dialogue.

*Senator K. Dye* – Accessibility technically falls under your realm, how were you planning to incorporate this into your plans?

*Kassie Colon* – I have already been in contact with Dr. Ann Richards in Accessibility Services. I want to really address the fact that physical handicaps are important to pay attention to but addressing mental health accessibility and racism in LGBTQ+ community and that accessibility access is important too.

*Senator Fortney* – First off, your resume is amazing. I do see that you have a heavy workload, how do you plan to balance this position and everything else you do?

*Kassie Colon* – I really dedicate certain hours to things in my life. I will have certain hours each week dedicated to maintaining this position but I also plan to hold people accountable. We are doing this together because this job is too labor intensive for just me. We all are going to have to work together if we want change on this campus!

*Senator Greathouse* – How do you plan to work on intersectionality?

*Kassie Colon* – I would really like to have certain coalitions for student organizations on campus that they can use to network.

*Georgia Beatty (Local Governance Liaison)* – I am a double major in History and International Studies. Local Governance Liaison is right up my wheelhouse and is something I'm passionate about. I was very involved in youth and government in High School. I have gone to the senate for bill drafting, debating, and have operated like state senate does. I registered over 95% of my high school class, despite political party and have engaged with local politicians.

*Senator K. Dye* – Can you make all the City Council meetings?

*Georgia Beatty* – Yes, I'm passionate about it and I will work it into my schedule every month!

*Rep. Hartwell* – I know I worked with you when you were still journalism major, how do you think this will help you?

*Georgia Beatty* – Journalism was definitely not a waste of my time and I am keeping up with those connections and the skills it gave me.

#### Discussion on Appointees:

*PPT Sizemore* - I think Abundance is a really good fit for Big XII Liaison. She was really involved with the Big XII work, especially through athletics, so I think she is a really good fit.

*Rep Scott* - She has the contacts for the position.

*Rep. Amato* - I think that Rachel showed her organizational skills last semester as treasurer, so if she really wants this position then I think she should have it.

*Senator Dye* – I thought Kayla did a great job last semester and she would continue to do a great job this year!

*Senator Fortney* - I think she has learned how to make the job more effective.

*Senator McDonald* - I really haven't known Steven that long, but I think he is amazing. He is your go to person to bring everyone together.

*Senator Fortney* – Like he was saying, when we were executives, we didn't know each other, so I am happy that he wants to bring everyone together and make it more unified.

*Senator Greathouse* - Last Friday Tyler came to a 4 hour meeting on pedestrian safety that he definitely did not have to go to and I think that it shows that he really wants to be here.

*Senator Hamrick* - Kassie is my best friend; I don't think anyone is more qualified for this position. She is involved all over campus and would be amazing.

*Senator Villaseñor* – I need to work with her!

*Senator Dye* - We felt first hand what it was like not to have a Diversity Officer last year and I know she is going to get the job done.



*Senator Amato* - I got to know her through RHA. She is an individual who is very involved and knows the description of the job.

~ Vote via Secret Ballot ~

*VP Yachini* – Congratulations, all of these appointees have passed.

b. Evoking Article 10.2:

*PPT Sizemore* – So this is the article that calls for impeachment. We are going to vote on evoking this article tonight to impeach College Representative John Dent. His last meeting was January 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 and he has missed 12 meetings. The previous administration reached out and so have I, and we have gotten no word from him. This is just us showing how we need to be holding our administration accountable.

*Senator C. Dye* – I just think that after 12 meetings and no contact then it's fine to impeach him.

*Senator Fortney* – I agree and think we should not set bad precedent. We can't have inactive people in SGA and be successful.

*Senator Shammaa* – I guess I was just wondering Professor Brewster's opinions on this were?

*Professor Brewster* – I have just never seen an impeachment take place like this in a public setting before.

*Senator Henriquez* – I think we have the right to move forward with this and I don't see an issue with discussing it openly. I think we should continue discussion and then vote on the impeachment.

*PPT Sizemore* – I move to vote on the impeachment of College Representative Dent via secret ballot.

*Attorney General Henriquez* - Article 10.2 has been evoked and will now move forward to the Judicial Court.

c. Resolution for Special Rules:

*Attorney General Henriquez* – Here are the proposed special rules for the upcoming year...

5.3.3 Student Assembly Parliamentarian.

The Parliamentarian shall serve the Student Assembly as follows:

- a. Prepare special rules of procedure for Assembly meetings. The Student Assembly must approve these rules within thirty (30) days of beginning the Spring term. Any area not covered by these special rules shall be covered by Robert's Rules of Order; Newly Revised.

Section I. Definitions

1. For this document, "offensive" shall mean any conduct prohibited by section 6 of the West Virginia University Student Code of Conduct
2. "distracting" means any behavior that results in unwanted noise, conversation, or acts that will be deemed out of order by the Chair.

Section II. Proposed Special Rules

1. All assembly proceedings shall follow the guidelines of the Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised Edition.

2. All cellphone use will be prohibited during meetings, subject to the discretion of the Chair.
3. Computers will be allowed as long as they are not a distraction and are used for Assembly business, subject to the discretion of the Chair.
4. A motion may be made by any assembly member to suspend the special rules during times when the rules are inhibitive of Assembly duties, such as grant review.
5. Any behavior deemed distracting or offensive to other Assembly members by the Chair will result in possible removal from the meeting of occurrence and subject to disciplinary action by majority vote of the Attorney General, President Pro-Tempore, and President of the Senate.

*Athletic Senator Dye* - I think it would be good to just keep personal tabs on each other. Hold each other accountable.

*Senator Fortney* - So we are not allowed to have our phones, but we can have laptops?

*Attorney General Henriquez* – I think that if it becomes an issue we can address it moving forward and could amend these if we need to.

*Rep. Hartwell* – I move to vote on the special rules via unanimous consent. [Second.]

*VP Yachini* – Any opposed? *Seeing none*, these special rules pass.

## **XII. Open Student Forum 2 –**

*Rep. Amato* – As of right now we have 7 college rep vacancies. We need to be talking about solutions to the College Rep elections for the long term. I want to talk about this during the next open student forum.

*Sydney Dangott* - Ryan's Rally is Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup>. It will cost \$10. SGA should really try and get a team together and go!

*Senator K. Dye* – Relay for Life is this Friday and we still need a table there if anyone wanted to do that. Also, just wanted to say that MountaineerTHON was so much fun and we raised \$487 as an organization.

*Legislative Affairs Brewster* – We need to make sure more water refill stations get put up in the Lair!

*Sydney Luther* – The residence halls just got new machines and they are awesome. We can figure out where they came from and how to get them installed around campus more.

*Senator Greathouse* – If you guys have any ideas for reducing student cars on campus, please let us know. We want to come up with viable solutions so they don't have to go straight to drastic decisions.

*Comm. Dir. Asbury* – FRN canned food drive, need volunteers May 4<sup>th</sup>, dorms to collect boxes, to create awareness

*Attorney General Henriquez* – Rep. Dent's impeachment will go to the J Court and we should have a decision back on that next week.

*Exec. Sec. Daw* – Open House is occurring this Saturday! Make sure you welcome all students and guests on campus but also parking will be very limited.

*Thanh Le* – If you're interested in being on the involvement panel, please let me know!

*Diversity Officer Colón* – We are organizing an inaugural gender-sexuality and race-sexuality symposium. It will seek to showcase what socialism is and particularly what it is in Appalachia.

*Exec. Sec. Daw* – If you guys have any graphics for events you talk about or anything, please send them to me so I can include them at the end of the minutes.

*Chief Phillips* – Thank you guys for asking relevant questions tonight to the appointees. We want you all to ask questions all year long about initiatives and things coming forward to you all.

### **XIII. Advisor's Reports –**

*Professor Brewster* – If you're not getting responses from people, CC me on the email. My name holds a little weight and I could try and get you in the door.

*Thanh Le* – Next Tuesday, the rack is partnering with the Mobile Food Pantry on High Street by Boreman. We want to do this every month to help build food security in the Morgantown community for our faculty, staff, and students.

### **XIV. Adjournment:**

*Rep. Hartwell* – I move to adjourn this meeting via unanimous consent. [Second.]

*VP Yachini* – Any opposed? *Seeing none...* Meeting adjourned.

**Meeting adjourned – 9:10pm**

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