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SGA Minutes - November 8, 2007

FHSU Student Government Association

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Student Government Association

Gillogly/Engel Minutes

Thursday, November 8, 2007
7:00 p.m. – Black & Gold Room

Majority

Simple: __ 12 __

2/3: __ 15 __

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Aaron Ladd and Ashley Shellnut

III. Executive Reports

a. President

Attended Tigers Family Weekend. While there, met with prospective students interesting in joining SGA. Also attended the football game. On Monday, she helped with Tiger Call and thanked those who attended. Attended the faculty senate meeting where they approved 2 new courses for social work and sociology. She asked that everyone would try to attend the Western Kansas institute on Friday. Also arranged the Student Fee review appointments and getting ready for KBOR next week.

b. Vice President

Accepted the resignation of Senator Michelle Snyder. Met with Brandon Nims, President of the Aikido Club, on miscommunications of the use of allocation money. Attended the President's Cabinet, which discussed the athletics survey that was administered to all students. Only 338 students responded to the survey and 45 of those students wanted soccer and five-wanted intramural soccer. Also discussed the total amount of sold credit hours to on campus students, which totaled 4,755 hours. Virtual college hours that were sold this semester are up from last year. This raises concerns and discussed charging the on campus students the virtual college fee versus regular on campus fee they pay currently for virtual classes. The NSSE results were also discussed. FHSU is fifty percent of tuition of other peer universities and we are in the top of test scores in the state. Thus reiterating our "Affordable Success" slogan. Also met with the shooting club over questions concerning their request.

c. Executive Assistant

Attended the football game on Saturday and Tiger Call on Monday. Decorated SGA bulletin board.

d. Treasurer

Attended the SOC meeting. Worked on ATSO funding. Received one request this week. Also worked on KBOR funding for LAD Hughes and President Gillogly. Attended Tiger Call as well.

e. Administrative Assistant

Put together new senator Andrew Gian's folder for this week. And took care of the office and miscellaneous tasks for other executive staff members.

f. Legislative Affairs Director

Has assiduously serving his office hours this week. Continually working on the Get to Know Your Legislature and hopeful to have this done by the end of the week.

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The City Commission forum will be Tuesday. All 5 commissioners to be there. Senators are not required to attend but expected to be there. Please speak with fellow students and pass out flyers in class. Be involved!

g. Webmaster/Historian

Put together new senator profile for Andrew Gian and completed the standing committee page. Also updated legislation.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Appropriations

Heard two trip requests this week and Bill 07/F/115 is up for 2nd reading.

b. Senate Affairs

Setting up table in Cunningham Hall on Monday and Tuesday to recruit some health senators. If you would like to help please sign up for a time.

c. Student Affairs

Survey on Athletic Clubs will be getting distributed through out classes next week and are asked that senators sign up to help. Also worked on TailGreat. Meeting at 6:00 next week. Senator Winter then yielded time to Senator C. Stramel, who discussed his followed up with Mark Pahls on the TailGreat issue. In their committee meeting they discussed to solutions to the problem 1) students could put a deposit down for the spot and getting it back after the event or 2) only charge students a \$5 fee versus \$10.

Senator C. Stramel asked what senate's opinions were on the options for TailGreat.

Senator Davis stated that he believed there should be a zero dollar charge for students.

Senator Newman stated that a 5-dollar fee wouldn't be bad and would be supporting the community.

Senator Einsel agreed with Senator Newman.

Senator Winter stated that the committee's rationale is that the 5 dollars would be a good gesture to the chamber.

Senator Davis then asked if the Student Affairs committee has addressed the student photography issue he contacted them about.

Senator Winter tried to get in contact and has failed to get a hold of him and will go into the office sometime this week.

Senator C. Stramel asked if there were any concerns with student relations between the athletics department.

There were none stated.

Senator C. Stramel stated that they will get a drafted legislation recommending a 5 fee to students for TailGreat.

d. Legislative & Political Action

Working on the City Commissioners forum questions and stated that all senators are expected to be there. Their committee discussed the soccer proposal and asked that senators please forward questions on that to LPAC.

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- V. Open Forum By executive order moved to the 3rd agenda item
- a. Dr. Dan Kulmala, Faculty Senate President
- Came to address the midterm grade change. Rationale: This has been a 3-year process to change it this way. About 3 years ago, SGA had a resolution that forcefully requested professors to use blackboard. A later resolution toned that down to encourage faculty to use it. Estimated 85 % of faculty currently do use blackboard. Faculty also has a concern based on a series of surveys that shows that student and faculty interaction is less than peer universities. So the P, D, or U was to help increase student interaction with faculty. Also that hopefully it would keep attendance regular after midterms. All faculty has grades readily available. And if faculty members are not than those people need to be brought to the attention of the chair of the department. Two years ago faculty senate voted to abolish midterms completely but this was more of a compromise.
- Senator Davis asked Dr. Kulmala to give a quick overview of faculty senate. Dr. Kumala explained that every department has at least one representative. The department chooses their representative(s). They meet once a month and alternate between the 1st Monday and 1st Tuesday of the first full week of the month. Students are welcome to come. Please let him know in advance of any issues that you would like to have discussed at their meetings. Faculty senate is also comprised of several committees. And is largely an advisory body. What they do is make suggestions to the university and they decide to use it or not use it.
- Senator Winter asked if there is a plan or way to prove that the new midterm grade system is helping relations between students and faculty. Dr. Kumala answered that they could do this through several surveys like NSSE for example. But it might take 3 years to see an improvement in the current trend. And if the information shows that grades need to be reinstated than they will do so.
- Senator Davis asked about standing projects in faculty senate right now. Dr. Kumala stated that standardizing evaluations of faculty is a big one they are working on currently. At this time departments don't ask a standard questions on teacher evaluations and this semester will be piloting 5 departments with their new proposed evaluations. This database will collect teacher evaluations information. Students can go online to do it and everything typed in will be put in the system automatically. Faculty will get evaluations the day after grades are in. Currently it takes 2 to 3 months to receive the information. He hopes to have this in place by the end of spring. And they are also working with the dare to dream initiatives and the Western KS institute. Also stated that the name change from what he has heard it most likely will not happened. Student Affairs voted all no on that.
- Senator Stebens asked what time the next meeting on Dec.3 will be. Dr. Kumala stated that it will be at 3:30 in McCartney Hall.
- Senator Davis asked about the mobile computing issue and the faculty's' view on that. Dr. Kumala stated that new ideas are coming forward on that, especially nationally. Next semester will be working with Andy Stanton to work on visual text presentations.

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Senator Davis asked if he thought more faculty was getting more accepting of the mobile computing.

Dr. Kumala answered that yes and those who do not like it is moving on.

Senator Einsel asked if in the future faculty will use blackboard 100% and are you taking steps to make sure all use it.

Dr. Kumala answered that it won't ever be mandated and President Hammond said he won't mandate it.

President Gillogly asked that he discussed the thoughts of the foreign language requirement.

Dr. Kumala answered that faculty is for it but then the general education requirements were brought into play and adding more hours just doesn't work. And it takes more than two semesters to learn the language. So an one-hour option on learning the language and culture has been discussed. One of KBOR's 5 strategic goals is to prepare students for college and possibly educating more high school and middle school students in foreign languages. It was also discussed to possibly broaden the study abroad program so that more students can go.

Senator Goodley asked if there has been any discussion on reforming the absence policy.

Dr. Kumala answered that last year that issue came up and talked about needing to create a standard policy across faculty. He also stated that he will bring it up to executive committee and possibly address it next semester.

Senator Davis stated that Dr. Kumala coming to senate has been productive. Asked him to come back once a semester.

Dr. Kumala answered that yes he has mentioned this to Vice President Engel and President Gillogly and would be happy to if he is helpful and will come as much as possible. If you have questions please contact him and he will be happy to address them.

VI. New Business

No new business.

VII. Old Business

a. Second Reading of Bill 07/F/115: AMSA Pre-Medical Club Appropriations Request

Senator Edwards motioned to consider the bill.

The motion was 2nd by Senator C. Stramel.

Senator Edwards asked that a representative tell senate about their trip.

The Vice President of the group came and told senate about the trip.

Senator C. Stramel asked what fundraisers they do.

The Vice President of the club stated that they are in discussion for more currently but sold t-shirts at Oktoberfest.

Senator Goodley motioned to move to a direct vote.

21-0-1

Bill Passed

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VIII. Announcements

- a. Madrigal Feaste SOLD OUT
- b. Western Kansas Institute Open Forum, Fri. 11/9 @ 3:30 – 4:30 pm, Robbins Center
- c. T4L Schmooze or Lose Night, open to all T4L members, Tues. 11/13 @ 7-9:30 pm, Robbins Center Eagle Communications Hall
- d. SGA sponsored City Commissioner Forum, Tues. 11/13 7:00 pm, AH 169
- e. Walt Pavlo, Jr., Tues. 11/13 @ 3pm & 7pm, MU B&G & Ballroom (Former MCI WorldCom executive and author of Stolen Without a Gun - a confession from inside history's biggest accounting fraud - the collapse of MCI WorldCom)
Executive Assistant Diana Ohl stated that the 6 students that study abroad in China this summer are presenting this week.
Senator Newman stated that the 3:00 session of the WorldCom executive is student based.
Senator Stebens stated that this will be her last meeting due to the fact she has to move for clinicals and encouraged other health majors to serve on SGA.
Senator B. Stramel announced that today, tomorrow, and Saturday was the student play festival in Malloy Hall.

IX. Adjourn

Senator Newman motioned to adjourn.

Senator Purdy 2nd the motion.

Unanimously agreed to adjourn.