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SGA Minutes - February 28, 2008

FHSU Student Government Association

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Minutes Thursday, February 28, 2008 7:00 p.m. – Fort Hays Ballroom

Majority

Simple: 14

2/3: 18

- I. Call to Order VP Engel calls to order at 7:03 pm
- II. Roll Call Absent: 0
- III. Executive Reports
 - a. President

EOF. Collected and arranged EOF proposal for the committee. Prepared documents for the meeting. Met with EOF committee yesterday to determine recommendation EOF recommendations will be available to departments and organizations tomorrow (will email recommended amounts to contact tomorrow) First reading will be next week March 6th with second reading March 13th. Student Senators, please remember during tonight's discussion why you are here. The student body of FHSU elected you to represent and serve their interest to best of your ability. While your decision tonight will have an indirect effect on other stake-holders present in the audience, your decision will have a direct effect on the current student body of FHSU. Please make your decision based off your constituent's desires rather than your own or outside stake-holders.

b. Vice President

I believe there is some confusion regarding the apparent authority of student government over student fees, as well as the "have a say before you pay" const. amendment. Clear up confusion with "Have a say before you pay" constitutional amendment: Article V, Division A, Section 5, Subsection b), Subsection (4) (page 20) Originated & passed by Thomas/Osburn Administration. Provide checks & balances on senate, not on higher administration, its intent was to provide a second approval to be sure that student senate representatives did not impose a fee on the student body that in-fact they did not want (Therefore, it was titled have a say before you pay, not, have a say before you don't pay). Furthermore, it was not intended to pass your duties and responsibilities as a student senate representative on to the student body. Kansas Board of Regents Policy is that the president of the university must consult with the student body regarding tuition and fees increase proposals, however the student body does not have any authoritative power in this area, therefore the senate recommendation is written in the form of a resolution and is simply a recommendation to the university president. Have a say before you pay requires the senate to approve with a 2/3 vote any student fee increase of \$1 or above and requires the student body to approve in a special election with a simple majority. However, this does NOT mean only \$1 and above student fee increases must go to a student vote, the senate has the power and authority to amend the therefore clause of the resolution to require any student fee increase, whether \$1 or \$.01, to go to a student vote. Again, as I said before, this resolution is the recommendation of the student senate to the university president; the SGA does not have authoritative power over student fees, only advisory recommendations. However, as our president has told us in the past, during his 20 year tenure at FHSU, he has not ever acted against the wishes of the student body I hope this clarifies the process. Finally, I would also like to advise the senate the

President Hammond, Curtis Hammeke (AD) and Mike Barnett (VP for A&F) are present this evening to answer questions and address concerns regarding the soccer proposal. Open forum discussions have already taken place, and as you debate this resolution this evening I encourage you to direct your questions to these three university administrators as they are the authorities on the subject.

c. Executive Assistant

Helped with EOF this week. Three people with polo money due.

d. Treasurer

Attended last allocations hearing at Dr. Songer's house. Prepared appropriations and typed legislation. Funding on hold due to upgrading of IFAS system.

e. Administrative Assistant

This week, I loyally served my executive staff by taking phone calls and answering questions as I could, usually by asking Executive Assistant Diana Ohl & Treasurer Trista Lalicker for ALL the answers, so Thank you! Friday I was out of the office competing in Lincoln Nebraska, and will be in Joplin MO competing at our Conference Indoor Meet tomorrow and the following day. So please keep us in your thoughts this Friday and Saturday as we handle our business in MO! I also helped prepared for tonight's highly anticipated meeting!

f. Legislative Affairs Director

Reluctantly avoided serving due to a cold. Spoke with Senators individually this week on the soccer proposal. Gathered budget information for the student fee review committee, but limited due to upgrading of IFAS.

g. Webmaster/Historian

Updated legislation and website.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Appropriations

Sen. Masberg: Equipment requests from Phi Epsilon Kappa, trip request from Fort Hays Association of Nursing Students, speaker request from the English Club, equipment fund for Block and Bridal up for First Reading, and a trip request of the National Science Teachers Association of for Second Reading.

b. Senate Affairs

Sen. Manly: Constitution changes. Next week start accepting applications for senate seat vacancies.

c. Student Affairs

Sen. Winter: Bringing more recycling onto campus.

d. Legislative & Political Action

Sen. Davis: Proposal of student health increase of 75 cents per credit hour. Soccer up for 2nd Reading. LPAC will assist as needed.

e. Allocations

Sen. Newman: Final recommendations at Dr. Songer's house. Attended Allocations Meetings this Sunday. Thank you to Dr. Songer.

V. Open Forum

Pres. Gillogly: Response from Students

Stephanie Bunch: "Yes for soccer. Increase number of students and more athletic interest to the university."

Jackie Putant: Agree to add soccer and fee increase.

Ashley Frenzle: Vote no for list of reasons. FHSU already does not support its athletic teams. Very few students will go to watch. Money not used efficiently for recruitment by

adding soccer. Seems a flashy way to get FHSU out in public eye. Believe it will die down. Should improve the programs we have now. Students should vote. Sustain FHSU at this level of affordable success.

Sen. Engel: Students here to please speak for soccer.

Michael Cairns (Senior): People don't trust senate to represent the student body, as they should. Rep the students, not the community of Hays. We should trust your vote, being well informed on the matter. Re-elect senate that will rep. our vote, if students don't agree with their decision.

Steven Haun (sophomore): R.A. and around freshman. Should go to the student vote, due to the scale and impact of this issue and the debate.

Randy Leer: Conducted a survey that will weigh in on decision. Packets passed on why students chose FHSU to show soccer is not wanted. Waste of time to take to student vote. Encourage to vote no for the student body.

S. Haun: Waste of checks and balance, I disagree, I believe the students should vote. M. Cairns: The students aren't informed enough. If we go to students will be a vote of opinion not fact. This is not a time to bring soccer to Hays, it's time to ask what is good for us.

S. Haun: The knowledgeable students will be the one's who will vote.

Sen. Engel: Do you think it's possible for a misrepresentation to the entire student body, if students are allowed to vote? Do you have faith in our student senate?

S. Haun: Believe those who don't want it will show to vote. (in response to Engel's question if they will show). Students need to show and vote. Allow them to vote and get an opinion on most of them.

Sen. Engel: Do you believe that our senate is an accurate representation our student body.

Randy Leer: Note of clarification on packet handed out.

S. Haun: Point of information, letter Pres. Gillogly read earlier, rep. a student who is against soccer, but still feels it needs to go to a student vote.

M. Cairns: Students don't have enough time to analyze the situation and senate needs to represent.

Sen. Brownfield: question for Manly

Sen. Manly: to discuss after allocations

Sen. Engel: Sen. Purdy spoke to committee?

Sen. Purdy: Yes. gave introduction to recycling

Sen. Kruse: Remind every one to take extra precaution on crosswalks.

VP Engel: Open Forum concluded at 7:27 pm.

VI. New Business

- a. First Reading of Bill 08/S/111: Block & Bridle Equipment Fund Request
- b. First Reading of Bill 08/S/112: Allocations Committee Funding Levels and Rationale
- c. First Reading of Bill 08/S/113: Allocations Committee Provisions, Recommendations, Stipulations and General Instructions

VII. Old Business

a. Second Reading of Bill 08/S/110: National Science Teachers Association Appropriations Request

Sen. Edwards moves to consider bill. 2nd by Sen. Engel

Sen. Edwards: National Science please to mic and speak about trip

Rep: will be going to get official appointment, very excited to rep FHSU and Hays High.

Sen. Newman to direct vote. All in favor. Bill passed

b. Second Reading of Resolution 08/S/100: Soccer Recommendation

Sen. Engel moves to consider bill. 2nd by Sen. Winter

Sen. Engel: move to amend - strike out Therefore clause and have pre-prepared amendment in hand for VP to read

VP Engel: "Be it resolved by a two-thirds vote of the Student Senate and the signature of the Student Body President, and ratification by a plurality of votes in a general student Special Election, that the Student Government Association recommends a \$1.20 per credit hour increase in the student athletic fee."

2nd by Sen. Brownfield. On discussion of amendment...

Sen. Engel: Is increase justifiable or not? This amendment allows us to discuss topic at hand.

On direct vote, 1 opposed. Amendment passes.

Sen. Davis: Move to suspend rules to allow LD Hughes to speak during debate of resolution 08/S/100. 2nd by Sen. Newman. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Sen. Brownfield: think Engel's amendment is a good idea.

Sen. Engel: Amendment passed, different discussion now

Sen. Edwards: Pres. Hammond please come to the mic and address the senate.

Pres. Hammond: Pass around sheets on tuition & fees. Done as much as I can to take fees as low as possible. Only took things to KBOR in the best of students' interest. Here to inform you why you should support the request. If it passes at 1.20 will make it work. The first page is on general tuition and funds of the state. A look at the funds from 1991 to 2006. Note the appropriation funds raised in the 70's, and reduced the amount of money received from the state as a university in the 90's as seen on sheet. We have equalized for 2001 to 2006. Legislature pressure to students to pay more if you view the data. In 99 and 2000, instead of raising fees we had choices, we can grow and charge more money or we can sell more products/people. We decided to become more efficient. After 2002 we lower our prices for three consecutive years. We go up about 5-6% a year. 03-05 cost per credit hour went down. We are the only university in the nation to ever do so (lower for three consecutive years). By efficiency in energy of generators (that alone save a 1/4 million dollars). During this period the cost were decreased by 8% b/w 2001 and 2006. All the other institutions went up. BASE Tuition and base fees, plus supplemental fees tagged on top of that "voluntary fees". Our tuition and fees went up 44% while other tuitions went up 100%. We work hard to keep tuition affordable for our students. Your paying half of their BASE tuition not even their supplemental tuition. They are paying ten dollars more for their athletics. K-State \$444,000 less at FHSU for student athletic fees. Cut tuition in half. Let's tie it to soccer. Primary our international students are really interested in playing soccer rep at 15% of the campus now. Believe it to be a good investment. We have never asked to give a program without providing solutions. If students are willing. Our athletics can compete with the resources that they have. Basketball for an example. The amount learned we are better than 90% of the regional universities. 2002 our tuition = 61.7% of our peer average last year was = 58.9%. It has gotten better.

Sen. Engel: Pitt State mentioned: On-campus enrollment?

Hammond: 1,000 more than ours (at-least). Makes up for 20% of the difference.

Sen. Zerfas: More opportunity for students. Why don't give the sports we have now more opportunities, why give more funds to two sports?

Hammond: In order to increase our competition we have raised our funds. Difference is what students pay. Dollars don't produce winning. Emporia for example is spending millions, but not winning. It has to do with the people. After scholarships, which we fully fund. There isn't a sport at FHSU that can't compete. You have one that can't?

Sen. Zerfas: No.

Sen. Engel: Where does the extra money come from?

Hammond: We have to find ways, privately? We find a way. Looking at ticket sales =

\$70,000 on men's basketball and \$43,000 in football.

Sen. Engel: If we don't raise that money will we still have soccer?

Hammond: Possibly. Hope our track record would permit vote to go to the students.

Engel: Personal concerns - I was not here last year but the budget is extremely vague.

After sitting through the past four weeks of Allocations hearings and Appropriations

process, the budget is not comparable to what the students would have to submit. I don't see why our administration would not have to hold the same responsibility as our own students with allocations.

Sen Purdy: Questions specifics on athletic budget.

Hammond: for every 7 dollars, one dollar would be fees.

Gnizak: Any numbers with interest of our international students?

Hammond: no info, just students that have come to talk to me. Bashful int. students.

Manly: you don't have plans yet to make up difference.

Hammond: No.

Manly: And if we don't pass?

Hammond: Confident I can make the case for a full \$2.00 fee. I am confident you're going to pass it. I have not made a decision yet if you voted no. Expanding the fees would be better for you.

Matsko: In the bill doesn't say what will happen with all that money. Making extra \$144K a year after teams are paid for. Where's that money going?

Hammond: Ongoing expenses of soccer, what it would cost to get these programs here.

Einsel: Why do you want the vote to go to the students? I believe it is our responsibility for our student body to make a decision.

Hammond: They decided not to take it to the student body due to time frame and late submitted with a lack of info.

Newman: Feasible to put off the actual start up?

Hammond: No, because we need to hire coaches for this summer, having team in place by 2009.

LD Hughes: In a, IFAS report I found a carry-over of \$230,000 from last year, currently is 2.1 million dollars untapped, why not from those in-house surplus to supply this need for soccer.

Hammond: Can't speak on that report. Gave \$75,000 to athletics and SGA due to complaints of some of the SGA last year. Took from virtual student fees to get some equity and you wanted more money in that case.

Hughes: Why is soccer absolutely necessary, especially for this prime time to control amount we are paying for years to come.

Hammond: This campus doesn't absolutely need soccer; the University would be enhanced if we had soccer.

Zerfas: Improve academic program to bring more kids.

Hammond: Responsibility of the state and tuition, and if we opened that door it would lead to legislature to not assist as they do. Purpose of the funding source, I don't believe it's appropriate.

Winter: As a student representative, general consensus is soccer is a good idea but not as a collegiate sport.

Engel: On the numbers from Hammeke unable to produce: Breakdown from student athletic fee of \$600,000 (586 actually)

Hammond: Reports on audited figures that he receives at the end of the year.

Engel: Barnett on his spreadsheet. Point of clarification

Hammond: Distributed by percentage scores based on estimates.

Engel: Is there any way to know how much each sport receives from student fee money? Does football receive more than tennis?

Hammond: We don't budget our dollars that way. On expenditures: Baseball for example. Non-program support, all done in an adm. budget, which you can't do because baseball is smaller than football. Not dollar to dollar due to the way it's budgeted out and sport size. Sen. Purdy: Main reason to bring soccer?

Hammond: Not one reason, at least 4 or 5 reasons. I think students should be asked to pay more to support athletics. Another being the interest from the international students. Not at a club level but a collegiate level for students to receive added benefit that they really want, amongst recruiting. Intercollegiate athletics supports the integrity and image of our institution and quality of our institution.

Purdy: What about intramurals - raising fees for quality of intramural fields?

Hammond: We are working on that right now. Which can be done without asking for more money in this effort.

Sen. Hertel: Don't believe community members will come in to watch soccer. High school is different from college. SGA is speaking on behalf of the student body, and they (most) say no. We represent the students.

Hammond: We want the students to vote. Tapping into the community (ticket sales) will bring revenue.

Sen. Gnizak: Looking at rosters from other institutions, few are international students, showing a lack of interest in these nearby schools.

LD Hughes: Figures on student fees 1981-2007: 1.35 last year increase. Coupled with the currently proposal 2.10 over two years. Equals more from 1996 to 2005, not included is bonds in increase.

Hammond: Yes, figures are correct and demonstrate that fees do not increase happen regularly.

Sen. Zerfas: More interest by fixing existing facilities. Gross facility to be revamped. Believe we can support more student interest by upgrading current facilities, students would be more willing to pay for this.

Sen. Engel: Move for a 10 min recess, 2nd by Sen. Newman

Sen. Davis: Why?

Sen. Engel: Allow break. Been here for 1 hr and 40 min

VP Engel: Takes vote, motion passed,

End of Recess, meeting returned to order: 8:49 pm

Brownfield: If students don't have an interest before why would there be an interest now or in the future?

Hammond: Nearby high schools want soccer, 400 kids signed, survey shows the interest. Brownfield: most students said no they wouldn't vote if they weren't interested, because they didn't care.

Hammond: I believe you... how many students voted last year in SGA elections?

VP Engel: 561

Brownfield: in our survey 80% said no.

Sen. Davis: Yield time for students from southwest Kansas to speak.

Dodge City Rep: Student hopefuls would not put Fort Hays into consideration due to the lack of soccer. Dodge City is only an hour or so away. It will bring diversity.

Dodge City Rep: We want a chance to compete, like the other sports. We want a chance. Sen. Newton: Weight room is too crowded, multiple sports in the weight room, not enough space. Lack of funding from present programs. We should be investing in the current

existing sports.

Hammond: We are investing in the current existing sports. We've made major improvements supported from the capital campaign rather than asking our students to pay more in fees.

Sen. Engel motions for roll call vote. 2nd by Sen. Zerfas. All in favor.

VP Engel: Now on direct vote by roll call... 4=YES/23=NO

Resolution fails. (8:59 pm)

VIII. Announcements

- a. VIP Student Ambassador Applications, DUE Friday 2/29
- b. Tiger Basketball, (Student Section Experiment) Saturday 3/1, Women's game @ 5:30 pm & Men's game @ 7:30 pm
- c. Dynamic Recruitment, (for all student organization leaders) Sunday 3/2 @ 10:30 am 12 noon, Fort Hays Ballroom
- d. Center for Student Involvement (CSI) Open House, Tuesday 3/11 @ 5-6 pm

IX. Adjourn

Sen. Newman moves to adjourn. 2^{nd} by Sen. Edwards VP Engel adjourns meeting at 9:02 pm