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SGA Minutes - September 4, 2008

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Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

MINUTES

Thursday, September 4, 2008

7:00 p.m. – Black & Gold Room

Majority

Simple: 11

2/3: 14

I. Call to Order

VP Engel called meeting to order at 7:10pm

II. Roll Call

Administrative Assistant Shellnut

III. Guest Speakers

Senate Orientation, VP Engel

IV. Executive Reports

a. President (Tyler Hughes)

Welcome back to our senators from last year, the fresh faces sitting around the table, and the senate applicants in the audience. Highlights from the summer regent's meetings: In May I received information from the Regents System that the total funding from the Appropriations would be \$30 million for entire regents system. Report from Kansas core, the student advisory council, decided to fully fund that project, a network for volunteer opportunities across the state. Policy changes were made to the weapons policy on campus that affectively banned all weapons in state buildings; more info online or in the SGA office. We went over tuition proposals; the original proposal for FHSU was 4.5% increase and was actually increased by 5.5%. In June we discussed Hays is the 2nd lowest regent with tuition increase, Wichita State is first at a 5% increase. We learned about the preliminary block grant from the legislature and will be getting an increase nationwide of approximately \$20 million.

The governor has suggested to the Board of Regents that state institutions cut their budget by 2% this year and another 5% by 2010. University Presidents agreed that the 2% is feasible but the 5% is asking too much and would affect students too much. In response to this the FHSU SGA will be holding a "State Higher Education Lemonade Stand" on September 25 in the quad. It will be \$.25 a glass. This is not a serious attempt at fundraising, but the idea behind it is very serious. It will be held in the spirit of the Deferred Maintenance Bake Sale held 2 years ago. All proceeds will be sent to the Board of Regents. We are trying to send a less than subtle message to not let the Board of Regents and the state compromise our education.

I would like to issue a challenge to the SGA, to silence critics from the past couple of years that say the SGA does not represent the student body as a whole; speak with constituency and the student body on a regular basis, it will be a team effort from everyone in this body. Expectations to no longer have critics questioning the legitimacy of the SGA, everyone in the SGA will be helping to better serve the students at FHSU.

b. Vice President (Cole Engel)

First and foremost welcome to all of our newly elected senators, welcome back to all of our returning senators, and welcome to those of you in the audience who have applied for our vacant seats and are awaiting your interviews next week. To those of you in the audience, who have applied for a senate seat, be sure to visit with Sen. Winter after the meeting this evening to

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schedule an interview time for next week. I am excited about the amount of applications that we received over the last few weeks and look forward to the growth of the student senate.

It was a very busy summer for me with Tyler out of the state. As your acting Student Body President during that time I served on several of Tyler's committees. First was the search committee for a new Student Health Center Director. That search has so far not been successful and we are still working through that process. The second was the search committee for a new Coordinator of Diversity Affairs. I am pleased to announce that this search was successful and Mr. George Jackson has accepted the diversity affairs coordinator position. He will be invited to senate at a future meeting to for an introduction and short presentation. I also attended a few Presidents' Cabinet meetings and a student health insurance meeting in Tyler's absence.

I do want to let everyone know of a change taking place with Tailgreat. For those of you who are returning to the student senate this year you will remember a debate that continued for several meetings and finally resulted in a resolution calling for a reduction in the "student charge" from \$10 to \$5. In light of this debate, the Chamber of Commerce has agreed to allow registered student organizations to reserve their space at Tailgreat for free. The Chamber will be verifying organizations with the approved student organization list, so you must register as a student organization and not as an individual. Individual students not involved in an organization will be charged the full \$10 fee. There are limited spots remaining and it is on a first-come first-served basis. Spots are held until 5PM and if no one from the organization shows up the spots will be released to the general public.

c. Executive Assistant (Luke Hachmeister)

Attended two Student Publication Board meetings and served his office hours.

d. Treasurer (Robyn Sellard)

The annual budget for this year has been proposed. The salary expenditures have been admitted for the increased wages. The position for the Webmaster/Historian has been added; taxes have been figured for the positions as well. The administration expenses were altered to accommodate the expected uses during the year. We now have \$20,000 in the Appropriations and \$15,367.14 in the Equipment Fund.

e. Administrative Assistant (Ashley Shellnut)

The simple majority is 11 and the two-thirds 14. I hope you all had a great summer. Spent past week preparing the student government folders as well as the paperwork for tonight's meeting and constructing the new and revised constitutions. Had the opportunity to get acquainted with the new executive staff during my office hours this week. Attended the two Student Publication Board meetings regarding issues with the University Leader.

f. Legislative Affairs Director (Corey Anglemyer)

Served office hours and started working with President Hughes on a few small projects.

g. Webmaster/Historian (Doug Mercer)

Served office hours and began updating the new website.

V. Committee Reports

a. Appropriations (Senator Bradley Stramel - Chair)

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Senators Jason Stegmaier, Jennifer Skaggs, and Treasurer Robyn Sellard (ex-officio) are appointed to appropriations.

b. Senate Affairs (Senator Melissa Winter - Chair)

Senators Devin Konkel, Pilar Quinones, Dan Munson

c. Student Affairs (Senator Andy Smriga - Chair)

Senators Kennedy Hansen, Steve Leyerzapf, Alyssa Hertel, Aaron Ladd, Bradley Dechant, Abigail Ye, Amanda Attig

d. Legislative & Political Action (Senator Dustin Engel - Chair)

Senators Brandon Purdy, Randy Leer, Kyle Sexson, Whitney Miller, Jeff Zerfas, Legislative Affairs Director Corey Anglemyer (ex-officio)

VI. Administer Oath of Office (elected Student Senators)

Senate Affairs director Melissa Winter will administer the oath, in your constitution on page 22 subsection 15, to be sworn in to the new senator positions.

VII. Open Forum

Homecoming King & Queen Nominations

Senator nominations are as follows: Jeff Zerfas, Brandon Purdy, Aaron Ladd, Melissa Winter, Whitney Miller, and Kennedy Hansen.

The final nominations are Senator Melissa Winter and Senator Jeff Zerfas.

VIII. New Business

First Reading of Bill 08/F/100: SGA Executive Staff Ratification

First Reading of Bill 08/F/101: SGA Annual Budget Ratification

IX. Old Business

X. Announcements

a. Senator office hours start next week - be sure to sign up for your time!

b. Aikido Seminar, Friday 9/12 to Sunday 9/14, Cunningham Gym 121
(Hosted by the FHSU Aikido Club, FREE due to support by the SGA)

c. LEADOFF, Friday 9/19 & Saturday 9/20

(Contact Tigers in Service, service@fhsu.edu, 785-628-5537)

d. SGA Profile Pictures, Wednesday 9/24 & Thursday 9/25 @ 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
(Forsyth Library – Lower Level)

e. SGA Budgetary Seminar, Tuesday 9/30 @ 7:30 p.m. – Stouffer Lounge

f. Sen. Miller: First home volleyball game September 17 @ 7pm. FHSU v. Missouri Western.

g. Sen. Hansen: Leadership Studies Association is having an ice cream social in the quad Monday Sept. 8 from 11-1pm, free ice cream.

XI. Adjourn

a. Motion to adjourn by Sen. Ladd, 2nd by Sen. Zerfas

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50PM