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SGA Minutes - October 23, 2008

FHSU Student Government Association

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Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

MINUTES

Thursday, October 23, 2008

7:00 p.m. – Black & Gold Room

Majority

Simple: 15

2/3: 19

- I. Call to Order
VP Engel calls to order @ 7:02 p.m.
- II. Roll Call
Admin. Asst. Shellnut
- III. Guest Speakers
- IV. Executive Reports
 - a. President (Tyler Hughes)
Attended the Memorial Union Policy Board meeting. Athletic Association meeting, Curtis Hammeke talked about a few things there and came to LPAC before the meeting tonight. The Spooktacular is Friday 10/31 in the Quad. If you want to volunteer it is only 2 hours. We will ask you to be dressed up for Halloween. Election Night Watch will be in the library from 8p.m. – 12a.m. Pres. Hughes will be out of the office on Monday and Friday.
 - b. Vice President (Cole Engel)
Will be serving as the acting president Friday and Monday. He attended a lunch with the faculty senate to talk about campus issues and the Memorial Union Policy Board. There will be focus groups coming out of the Memorial Union Policy Board in the future to help increase the services offered in the Union. He encourages students who are active on-campus to get involved in those focus groups. The satellite advanced voting on Tuesday was successful.
 - c. Executive Assistant (Luke Hachmeister)
Proofread last week's minutes, worked on senator profiles for the SGA billboard, and served his office hours.
 - d. Treasurer (Robyn Sellard)
E-mailed organizations on hearing times, updated the treasurer's report, and made preparations for next week's budgetary seminar.
 - e. Administrative Assistant (Ashley Shellnut)
Updated the minutes from last week's short meeting, worked the SGA recruitment table in the Union, and served her office hours.
 - f. Legislative Affairs Director (Corey Anglemyer)
Served all of his office hours, worked on the political buzz board for bingo on election night, and assisted Pres. Hughes in other things that needed to be done for the office.

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- g. Webmaster/Historian (Doug Mercer)
Served his office hours and posted the pictures on the SGA website.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Appropriations (Sen. Stramel)
Appropriations had two hearings, one from the Accounting Club and Student Feminist Organization.
- b. Senate Affairs (Sen. Winter)
Senate Affairs thanks everyone who worked the booth in the Union. They did receive one application. Please dress up next week for Halloween. The date for the senate social is November 14.
- c. Student Affairs (Sen. Smriga)
Student Affairs looked at the rest of the semester and the topics to come up. Next week Carol Solko will come talk to us about the international students on-campus. We would like to get a better idea of what issues to tackle with the international students. Some other issues with the Union Policy Board were discussed and the faculty senate. We discussed student organizational space and letting students know about some new policies that have taken place like Chartwells offering a discount to student organizations.
- d. Legislative & Political Action (Sen. Engel)
LPAC had a long and pleasant discussion with Curtis Hammeke about the athletic fee increase. The money in his interpretation would be for travel, equipment updates, and scholarships. Please ask questions during open forum.

VI. Open Forum

- a. FHSU Baseball Team

Eric Gilliland: I am a member of the FHSU baseball team, however, I am here to represent all FHSU athletic programs. I would like to thank you all for letting my teammates and I to come speak to you tonight. Hopefully our personal insight will help you understand our current athletic situation. One of the most visible aspects of a university is its athletic programs. As a public face for our university our athletic programs provide a direct and public link to outsiders regarding the overall success of the institution. Successful athletic teams bring visibility that attracts more students, active alumni, and supporters for additional giving. It leads to greater recognition of our faculty and graduates. As an FHSU athlete I would like to explain our situation using examples from our baseball program. These examples are a quest for you to partner with us in fronting our programs at a competitive level. Much of the money we operate on is from fundraising efforts. We raise in our equipment budget completely through donations that come from friends and family of Fort Hays athletes. Concession stands are run largely by athletes. We maintain our own facilities including picking up trash, mowing the grass, and cleaning the bathrooms. We understand that this is typical of division 2 universities. These examples are to show you that we are working hard and utilizing our resources. We make every effort to be a positive

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face for this university. We ask you to approving the increase to help sports. We simply have come here today to reassure you that your commitment will not go unnoticed and our efforts will not lag.

Matt Augustine: I am also a member of the baseball team and I think a big issue facing the athletic program is transportation. The athletic department has begun to address this issue. We recently bought a charter bus. One concern regarding the current traveling of athletes is our safety. Usually on trips we take 3 fifteen passenger vans, one of them pulling a trailer for luggage and equipment. These vehicles are high mileage and the teams have experienced break-downs before. Many of the games extended in length of time and the players have a lengthy drive home afterwards. If we had 2 more charter busses then all of the sports would have sufficient transportation. We, like many of you, came here for a good education but we also came here to play sports. We are also here to represent the school with honor and pride. We are not looking for handouts but the tuition increase would help solve a lot of issues regarding athletics.

Brett Becker: I am a member of the baseball team as well and I would like to address the situation of our operational budget. One of the many challenges that I and many other athletes at Fort Hays face is the simple fact that we have to supply ourselves with the basic equipment for each of our individual sports. In our attempt to compete, our teams are behind when it comes to providing the things necessary to play at the highest level. I feel with added financial support our athletic programs will continue to improve in the gym, on the track, or on the field. It will also aid our coaches at FHSU in recruiting efforts to bring the best athletes possible to our school. As we open the 2008-2009 school year our teams have moved to a different region. I will give you the numbers to let you know where our competition stacks up against us at FHSU. The budget of Angelo State is \$46,000 for their baseball program. At Abilene Christian College their budget is \$60,000, Northwest Missouri State has \$53,000, Missouri Southern at \$45,000, Washburn University has \$40,000, and FHSU has a budget of \$27,250. I would like to thank you for letting us come here and present this topic to you and will appreciate all of your help.

Sen. Purdy: We've been hearing conflicts with what you guys have to pay. What basic equipment do you have to pay for?

Becker: We pay for bats, batting gloves, spikes, and things to use during daily practices.

Sen. Smriga: With other budgets, do they have anything to do with field maintenance or supplies that we wouldn't have?

Coach Rick Sabath: Most of the budgets we talked about are comparing the apples to apples budget. That is for equipment, recruiting, travel, and payment of officials. All of those schools then have a separate budget for their maintenance or their fields.

Sen. Kohman: Other than supporting a good view of FHSU, how do you think this increase in student fees will help the average student who is a non-athlete?

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Gilliland: Any time you have a successful athletic program you have a higher student moral; more people go to the games. It creates a more fun environment to go to school in and it's the face of your university. Athletics has become that.

Sabath: We are not trying to separate ourselves from the student body. I think that after we have won our national championships in basketball we had some of the highest enrollment as an institution in the history of our school. It will not only help us but every program here at the university.

Sen. Winter: Thank you for coming and telling us your views.

Sen. Purdy: Any time any sport goes out and participate, whether they drive to Nebraska or Colorado, they represent us. It's the only time that other people in other cities get to hear about us and they see Fort Hays State win a game that's when it brings a lot of attention to FHSU. These guys do us a big favor by going out and playing games.

Sen. Miller: We go back and play games in Colorado, in Kansas City, and everywhere else. When we went back to Colorado a couple of club teams came and watched us play. With that exposure that gives us we now have three girls that had never heard of FHSU before. It gives you exposure that you wouldn't receive otherwise with academic recruiting.

Sen. Thompson: In addition to their comments about the transportation of breaking down, I was doing an interview with the volleyball coach for the university paper. He said that on the way to a Nebraska trip their van broke down and the only thing they could do was to call family and friends to help them get to the game. That's embarrassing for our institution and the players.

Sen. Konkel: I want to commemorate the political season and Halloween season coming up by giving a decoration to the office. I personally believe that we should bring about the athletic fee and support our current athletic facilities. This pumpkin will be on display for everyone to see.

VII. New Business

VIII. Old Business

a. Second Reading of Bill 08/F/107: Tiger CLAWS Appropriations

Rachel Smith: I am the vice president of Tiger CLAWS. We want to go to Columbus, Ohio to the national peer education program. It helped us out a bunch when we went to the regional last year. We need to be recruiting more members and we think by attending the conference it will give us some brand new ideas.

Fawn Kidder: I am the secretary of Tiger CLAWS. The trip will be more of a recruiting tool for our organization since we are starting up again.

Sarah Lynn: Treasurer of Tiger CLAWS and once again this will be for recruiting. We are also hoping to get ideas for programs to present to the student body.

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Sen. Ladd: Can you give a brief rundown of what your purpose is and what you guys do?

Smith: Last year we were GAMMA, Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol, but we are opening this up to campus wide. We have come up with a new name, CLAWS, Campus Leaders Advocating Wellness for Students. We want to teach students about drinking safe, AIDS, sex, and other things that they will experience on campus.

Sen. Winter: Explain to me why they requested \$1000 and they were funded \$500.

Sen. Stramel: By the formula it is \$300 for lodging.

Sen. Melchert: Have you done any fundraising to help you go on your own?

Smith: We have not done any fundraising yet but we have some ideas. We will sell t-shirts that we have created, which are partnering up with Safe Ride and promoting them a lot.

Sen. Winter motions to amend the bill to match the formula for Lodging at \$300 with a 2nd by Sen. Stegmaier.

Sen. Smriga: Where is the \$300 coming from and why was the amount deducted again? Why was it appropriated at \$500 and it is now \$300?

Sen. Stramel: Our committee met tonight and we went over the formula again. The total for Lodging is \$300. They will be going for 5 nights and during the hearing they said 4 nights will be at a hotel, the fifth night will be somewhere else.

Sen. Stegmaier: The reason it was \$500 is because they are a brand new organization and we were trying to help them out since they don't have the membership to do a big fundraiser right now. Their trip does cost quite a bit of money.

Sen. Ladd: With your formula that I have, I did some quick math and came up with \$330. Is that correct? I agree with Tiger CLAWS being a new organization, with trying to promote safe activities and better wellness for the campus, we should be all for it.

Sen. Purdy: I was talking to Treasurer Sellard earlier and I think she has the numbers figured up.

Sen. Stegmaier: The breakdown we figured in committee is registration we give the organization \$10 per night, with the 3 members going for 4 nights comes to \$120. We give them \$15 per night for lodging for each person which comes to \$180. The \$180 plus \$120 is \$300.

Sen. Winter: I guess my thought is if we are going to stick to the formula for every organization that comes to appropriations, then we need to stick to that for everybody. I understand that they are a new organization and we should support that. But if we give every organization just \$200 then it's not going to go very far. We need to stick to the formula for \$300.

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Sen. Stegmaier: The formula that we use in the Appropriations is a base formula. As a committee we have the leeway to add money or take money away depending on the situation which we deem necessary.

Sen. Purdy: Is there any other reason for the \$500? Why not \$600 or \$700?

Sen. Stegmaier: There is not a mathematical equation we used. We were trying to help out the organization and give them half of their request. I know from personal experience of going on trips that if not enough funding is given then some people will drop out of the trip because the cost is too high.

Sen. Ladd: What is the percentage of the Appropriations budget left, Treasurer Sellard?

Treasurer Sellard: I don't have the exact percentage right now but I can get that to you for what percentage we have left.

VP Engel: At the beginning of the month according to your treasurer's report it was still at 100%. Just subtract everything we have appropriated since the beginning of the month.

Sen. Purdy: If we were to fund the \$500, then what is the out of pocket expenses that they will have to pay?

Kidder: It was about \$1458 and that would leave us with \$958 to pay.

Sen. Smriga: Are you getting money from other sources?

Kidder: We are getting other help from the Kelly Center and we do have an account.

Sen. Purdy: Can you give us a little more information Duffy?

Bob Duffy: We took funding from what used to be Tiger's Tail, GAMMA, and put it into once account. We do have enough money to cover this trip but to have money you have to spend money. We are asking for money so we can buy t-shirts, sell t-shirts, host events such as Root Beer keg parties, and do other prevention events on campus. The account is currently at \$2500. We are saving money on transportation because we will be taking my vehicle. The Kelley Center and the DAWN office are paying for that. We will be staying at a family member's house on the way to save a night's hotel fare.

Sen. Miller: I want to know; on the form it asks for registration and mileage costs, why did you decide not to fund those? It's a good campus organization and they're going to a good conference. They're making exceptions and budgeting themselves.

Sen. Stramel: We don't have anything put down on the form for mileage cost.

Sen. Miller: They didn't say anything for mileage?

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Duffy: No, I will be traveling anyways and that is being covered by DAWN. They registration for each of the students is \$290.

Sen. Miller: It says it on the form but we're not going to fund it?

Treasurer Sellard: The \$500 was to go for their lodging and that's what we put on the bill.

Sen. Milton: How is this benefiting the whole group if there are only 3 people going, which is not even half of the group?

Smith: Some of the other members were able to go but there were some schedule changes for them. We are planning on bringing back the information to share with the whole group.

Duffy: I have been to quite a few of these assemblies and there is not information holding back there if you miss one of the sessions. They have the PowerPoint for people to take. Also, it's an unbelievable conference. We were excited because we had Bi-Polar Boy here, who is one of the people on the schedule for this conference we are attending. There was approximately 300 people who attended the presentation of him at FHSU. The national speakers who will be at the conference will be exceptional. The energy and ideas that are brought back from these conferences help spur the groups on.

Sen. Ladd moves for a direct vote to amend the bill to read \$300 for lodging. The amendment of the bill fails. We are back on the discussion of the bill. Sen. Leer moves for a direct vote. The bill passes.

IX. Announcements

- a. Tiger Football vs. Pittsburg State, Saturday 10/25 @ 2 p.m. – Lewis Field
(Free food for the first 200 students w/ Tiger Card – 1:00 p.m. to kickoff under the tent in the north end zone)
- b. SGA Budgetary Seminar, Tuesday 10/28 @ 7:30 p.m. – Stouffer Lounge
- c. Spooktacular Quest for Change, Friday 10/31 @ 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Quad
- d. White House Party: FHSU Election Night Watch, Tuesday 11/4 @ 8 p.m. to midnight – Forsyth Library
- e. Tiger Volleyball vs. Southwest MO Friday @ 7p.m. and Saturday FHSU vs. Truman.
- f. Art Slam '08 Halloween party at Coffee Rules Friday 10/31 @ 7-11p.m. There will be a costume contest and open mic night. Come enjoy and have a good time.

X. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Sen. Purdy, 2nd by Sen. Ladd @ 7:42p.m