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SGA Minutes - December 11, 2008

FHSU Student Government Association

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Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

MINUTES

Thursday, December 11, 2008

7:00 p.m. – Black & Gold Room

<u>Majority</u>	
Simple:	16
2/3:	20

- I. Call to Order
VP Engel calls to order @ 7pm.
- II. Roll Call
Admin. Asst. Shellnut calls roll.
- III. Guest Speakers
- IV. Executive Reports
 - a. President (Tyler Hughes)

The special election results are in. Pres. Hughes announces a job well done to SGA staff and body. Goal of 1,000 students was met and surpassed in an unprecedented turnout. Pres. Hughes thanks students who spoke in their classes about voting in the special election. SGA had a total of 1,181 ballots cast in this election; 580 yes and 601 no. The percentage spread is 49 and 51. Obviously the students have spoken. SGA is going to do its best to give the students what they ask for. This has been really divisive. There has been a lot of bullheadedness and bickering but the students have spoken and SGA is going to stand by that and will do our best to make sure their opinion is not lost.

Pres. Hughes was approached by Diversity Affairs, the Black Student Union, and Tigers in Service about a service day on Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday 01/19. There is a sign-up sheet in the CSI office, in the basement of the Union. They will be going into area elementary schools to do some educational-service-learning type of events.
 - b. Vice President (Cole Engel)

We thank our staff a job well done this week and the entire semester by reaching out to your constituents and encouraging students to vote. This is the most students we have ever had vote in a special election, in the seven years that VP Engel has been at FHSU. He spent his time visiting with lots of classes in the college of business classes, as well as other colleges, and buildings on campus. Pres. Hughes and VP Engel have met another platform goal of engaging the student body and getting them to care about what is going on around campus. They've met a goal with the turnout numbers of the special election that hasn't been met in a very long time. He missed the basketball game last Friday to give back the students at FHSU by participating in the allocations preliminary meeting.
 - c. Executive Assistant (Luke Hachmeister)

Week was spent preparing things for the special election, putting together the billboard, manning the booth, and served his office hours.
 - d. Treasurer (Robyn Sellard)

Attended preliminary meeting for allocations. Treasurer Sellard spent the rest of the week putting together the committee's comments and questions. They will have those sent off to the organizations by Friday. Tied up loose ends with the business office and served the rest of her office hours.
 - e. Administrative Assistant (Ashley Shellnut)

Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

Updated the previous minutes, wrote letters to Kansas state senators and representatives, served the rest of her office hours, and will be attending the monthly Student Publications Board meeting on Friday before going on break.

f. Legislative Affairs Director (Corey Anglemyer)

The blank congratulation cards are in the SGA office. LD Anglemyer gives special thanks to senators and exec staff that have filled out one or more of them. SGA needs several more senators to write congratulation cards for the remaining Kansas State Senators and Representatives. He would like them to be filled out soon so that he can have them sent out by either Friday afternoon or Monday morning. He attended the Bookstore Contract committee for the bookstore on Thursday afternoon. This Tuesday your questions will hopefully be answered when they attend a presentation by a company called ED Map in the Forsyth library. Have a great break.

g. Webmaster/Historian (Doug Mercer)

Webmaster Mercer made some updates on the website and served his office hours. Please give him any pictures you would like to see in the SGA photo gallery.

V. Committee Reports

a. Appropriations (Sen. Stramel)

There are three bills up for second reading. There were not any hearings in committee. Sen. Stramel wishes everyone good luck on their finals. He wishes for everyone to have a merry and safe Christmas and a happy New Year.

b. Senate Affairs (Sen. Winter)

Senate Affairs met briefly and talked over things to be addressed next semester. They will announce the winner of the cool Christmas sweater during Announcements.

c. Student Affairs (Sen. Smriga)

Student Affairs did not meet but they do have a resolution up for 2nd reading for the U.S. Public Service Academy.

d. Legislative & Political Action (Sen. Engel)

LPAC met with Dana Cunningham, facilities planning director, about recycling. His thinking is that he wants to have a consistent container to have those throughout campus. This will probably call for a large action plan request in the future. He suggested that SGA team up with facilities planning. He has no problem with SGA moving forward. SGA can either order some nice containers from a company or he mentioned that the Cabinet Shop can build them for SGA, but they are backed up right now. SGA can also buy containers to use temporarily until Facilities Planning can move forward with implementing containers. It would be great to get feedback during Open Forum. The cardboard containers, there are a few around in Rarick Hall. Everybody have a merry Christmas.

e. Allocations (Sen. Winter)

The Allocations committee went through all of the preliminary requests and they will have the comments out soon. The final deadline will be Friday, 01/23.

VI. Open Forum

LD Anglemyer: We wanted to get some feedback from the students on what you think the look and feel of a bookstore should be. Obviously we're going to have merchandising there no matter what.

Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

We want to get some feedback as to what you would like the next bookstore to look like if there are going to be major changes.

Sen. Zerfas: I actually have a problem with our bookstore. As some of you know, I was doing an internship this summer. I didn't get back from my internship until the week of school starting. The bookstore told me that I had till 5 o'clock on Friday to get my books and they had already re-shelved them for me. I'd like to see a bookstore that would keep their promise to students to have the books for them. It ended up taking two weeks to get all my books. I did poorly on a couple of exams because I didn't have them.

Sen. Leer: You might consider teaming up with them, and our food service, and having a coffee bar with the bookstore.

Sen. Konkel: I would like to see, at the beginning of the semester, is an extension of a week or more for returning unused books. I've been in classes where I didn't realize I didn't need the book until 2 or 3 weeks into the class.

Sen. Purdy: I have been talking to a few students and apparently there is some things going on with the virtual college and on-campus students. I overheard students talking about how they are on-campus students and in the middle of taking on-campus classes they had to take a virtual course because it wasn't offered anyway else. It was only offered online. They were an on-campus student and they were forced to pay the virtual college fees. I don't think that's right. I don't know if anyone else has heard anything like that. Has anyone talked to other students that have had this happen to them?

Sen. Winter: I had to do that this semester. I couldn't take it on campus. I had to take it online. It is happening and I have had to do that twice now.

Sen. Stegmaier: I have had to do that quite a bit over the last three years. They're not offered at all on campus.

Sen. Hertel: I had to take an online class last year but I was charged for an on-campus class for it. I don't know what was going on with it last year.

Sen. Munson: I have never had that happen personally but I have had friends that with the way their schedule worked out with their semester planning they had to take a class that was only online. Other times it was on campus.

Sen. Sexson: I have a required class next semester that I have to take online. In this case it is because the professor who usually teaches the class is on sabbatical.

Sen. Purdy: What is everyone's opinion on that? I don't think that's right. On-campus students, if they take a virtual class, I know they pay more. We don't see any of that money. They don't pay any student fees for that. What are the opinions on that? Do you think we should pursue that or try to do something about it?

VP Engel: Historically, the university's policy is that you are considered an on-campus student if you are enrolled in one credit hour. You pay on-campus tuition and fees for every hour that you are enrolled in. Effective this academic year beginning in August, that policy has changed. Tuition and fees are assessed based on the credit hours that you are enrolled in. Although you are classified as an on-campus student, if you are taking three on-campus hours and three virtual hours, you are assessed three hours of on-campus tuition and fees and three hours of virtual college tuition and

Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

fees. As far as the amounts are concerned, the tuition at FHSU is no different. The difference lies in the fee structure. If you are an on-campus student, you are assessed \$26.65 per credit hour for the on-campus student fees. If you are in the virtual college you are assessed \$69.95 per credit hour for the virtual fees. You can figure the difference in how much the difference is. Whether you are enrolled in a virtual class or an on-campus class the tuition component is the same. The difference in charge per credit hour comes from the fee. Virtual students do not pay the on-campus fees, therefore they are not represented here at Student Government, in the democratic voting process, or anything like that. The policy change took place this year. Those amounts are just for residents of Kansas, if you have residency in the state. I don't have the chart memorized but I can provide it for you.

Sen. Munson: After hearing that, the difference between fees on-campus versus online, I don't think that's right. If I'm taking 12 hours on campus and one virtual credit, I don't think that I should have to pay more for that one credit hour. The majority of my time is spent on campus. I don't see how that is right.

Sen. Sexson: I don't have a problem with the fee structure being a problem. I have a problem with the fact that it's a required class. I'm an on-campus student and I would like to take it on campus in an actual class. Seeing it removed as an on-campus class is my problem. I don't have a problem with the fees being assessed extra because there is that cost that comes with having a virtual class, as opposed to an on-campus class.

Sen. Winter: It's required for my major to take this class. If there is a way to figure out if it's only required online but I'm an on-campus student if there's a way for me to get on-campus fees for that. I understand that it's going to be difficult but if someone's completely doing their degree online then they should get the online fees. I don't think I should be assessed with virtual fees when I'm on campus and I have to take this to get my degree. I don't find that as fair.

Sen. Ladd: On the on campus and virtual college, some classes are offered both on campus and online. The price would be an incentive to be an on-campus student versus the virtual college. Can we direct this question to Mr. Burnett? Why are some classes online and why are some classes on campus?

Dr. Jeff Burnett: Last year SGA asked the same question and I took it to the provost. Student Affairs had the same question. Why some of the on-campus classes are disappearing? We did a lot of research through Dr. Gould and Dr. Crawford. That's really not the case. The on-campus classes, the majority percentage, are not rapidly disappearing and being replaced by online classes. What is happening is this. The classes that are so low attended, even if it's for your major, to keep the costs low, they are making them online classes. If there is so many that are low attended, to keep your cost down, it's an online class. The reasoning behind it is really to benefit you. Those classes only happen to those that are not well attended for several years. This is in order to keep those classes and to keep the majors moving forward.

Sen. Purdy: They did it to save us money. In Sen. Winter's case she has to take it virtually and has no other choice. Is there a possibility of taking the people who are on campus, and if they have to take the class virtually, have them pay the on-campus amount? Having to pay for the extra dollar amount for the virtual fee is absurd.

Dr. Burnett: I understand your point. Just so you know, coming from the faculty senate representative, that's something that you will have to take up with Dr. Gould or Dr. Hammond. You're getting beyond my scope and beyond my reach. I'm sure those discussions will take place. I can team with your leadership and find an answer for you.

Sen. Purdy: I appreciate that.

Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

Pres. Hughes: I know in my own major, we have a course that is only offered on campus one semester. My department has an unwritten policy that every class we offer has to have one on-campus section at least one semester. They plan it out a year or two in advance. That may be lack of foresight on the student, the advisor, or the chair's part. I know that a lot of departments try to offer every course on campus at least one semester a year, whether it be during the fall or spring semester.

Sen. Leer: Burnett, you say they are being moved online because of low attendance. I know some of the classes the instructor will give the class on a video for the online students as well. What would be the possibility of having the class, as a simultaneous talk, so it's available online and the on-campus students can have the on-campus access? Especially for students with any kind of learning disability; they are given the opportunity of being on campus.

Dr. Burnett: That's an excellent point. I understand the ADA involvement there. We have to understand also is that when you start dual-offering classes at the same time, there's going to have to be a separate overload payment to faculty. It first has to be accepted by the faculty member and the funds have to be approved. The funds have to be available to keep paying. The thing that we don't want to happen, of course, is having a faculty member overloaded trying to meet on campus and virtually. This becomes an issue because the teaching quality is not going to be apparent anymore. That is something we have to think about. We can't just keep offering more and more classes. When you start doubling classes that becomes an issue of quality. The faculty want to make sure it's still quality teaching. It's a little bit beyond my scope but we will find that answer for you.

Sen. Sexson: We always talk about high tech and high touch, then you look at the online classes, but I never see the teacher or hear from them except through e-mail. It seems like when I have an online class I don't get nearly the same out of the class. I don't have a teacher there that I can immediately ask a question and get an answer. I feel like I don't get the same gain by being in an online class as I do on campus.

Dr. Burnett: Again, that's a great point. Something you have to understand is when you are teaching a dual class it tends to be an overload to the faculty member. It is very important to many of the faculty members to stay in touch and have a personalization with each student. Virtual classes have their own issues and problems. It then takes the instructor even more time to make sure everyone has that personalization. With the already present overload, again we are talking about quality, and it is an issue. The provost is concerned with quality and not wanting to over-extend a faculty member. That is why you see, even with the low attendance, the online classes because the instructor isn't overloaded and they can still spend the time as needed.

Sen. Leer: To avoid the overload, couldn't you still follow the same quota. If you're going to have 30 students that want to take a course, and 5 on-campus students want to take the course, couldn't you have the 5 take the course on campus and the 25 students online? I know some of the classes in Tomanek Hall are set up for when the university had satellite courses. Wouldn't that also enhance the quality for virtual students, if they were able to see the video of on-campus students taking the course?

Dr. Burnett: Possibly, but in order to break even, an on-campus undergraduate course, it needs to have ten people. It is an issue and they're tracking that. Satellite or distance education is a possibility. Then you run into concerns of distance education, fighting people in class, and once again, not having enough numbers in the classroom. Fiscally it doesn't make sense unless you charge more and more to the students. That's exactly what we're trying not to do. Quality is the point here and I know it can be frustrating.

Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

Sen. Purdy: The virtual college does a good job but the issue is I don't think we should be charging on-campus students with the virtual fee. Can we direct it towards a committee? It needs to be dealt with. I don't know how the process works.

VP Engel: The LPAC committee will be charged with the task of researching this following up with the discussion taking place this evening and the opinions of students across campus. Preliminary discussions are good but the LPAC committee will be making this a priority next semester.

Sen. Engel: When a student wants to buy an on-campus credit hour and they have to buy a virtual hour then those fees are going to the virtual college and not the on-campus students. That is going to affect our on-campus environment. When we have problems, like fee shortages and fewer students are a paying on-campus fee, that is a chance we are loosing to collect more fees. These fees help contribute to people like the athletic programs and student activity fees.

Dr. Burnett: I completely understand. I will pass that message on and I know your representatives will too. The provost office is doing an excellent job. I promise you this has been thought out.

VP Engel: I appreciate you answering our questions as our official faculty senate representative. LPAC will be taking charge of this issue as soon as we resume classes in the spring semester. Visit with students and try to gather as much information regarding this issue as you can. This will help us to give feedback to the administration and meet somewhere in the middle regarding this process.

Sen. Ladd: With the recycling bins, why wouldn't we just stay on campus with our dollars versus sending our money to whatever company we would be ordering from?

Sen. Engel: The problem with that is that the cabinet shop might be backed up with their Picken Hall renovation. It could be awhile before they get to make these recycling bins. The other option is to purchase nice containers or we could purchase the temporary cardboard ones which are extremely inexpensive. They then could be recycled or used elsewhere when we are able to get the cabinet shop can make us containers.

Sen. Ladd: Go ahead with the recyclable containers until we can get the permanent ones built instead of getting the containers with some company.

Sen. Konkel: I agree that we should get the inexpensive ones that can be recycled until we can get the permanent ones.

VII. New Business

VIII. Old Business

- a. Second Reading of Bill 08/F/112: Advanced Technology Student Organization Appropriations
Sen. Stramel motions to consider the bill with a 2nd by Sen. Purdy.

Jeff Baier: I am the President of ATSO. In September, We took a trip to Denver, CO that we take every year. We visited businesses that pertain to our major. We are able to see what the real world is like and visit their employees.

Sen. Purdy: How big is your organization and what do you guys do?

Baier: We have approximately 25 members. Some of the things that we do is we put on the TigerLAN every semester. We have a community service project called 'Computers for Communities'. We take donations for area businesses, of their old computers, refurbish the

Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

computers, and gave them to needy families. Now we recently started giving them United Way and other non-profit organizations can take our refurbished computers. These trips are a big deal. We take one in the fall and one in the spring. They are mostly focused for the INT Department which is computer and network related.

Sen. Purdy: Moves for a direct vote.

No objection to a direct vote.

Discussion ended and the vote totaled: Y=29 N=0 A=1

Bill passes.

b. Second Reading of Bill 08/F/113: University Leader Equipment Fund

Sen. Winter motions to consider the bill, 2nd by Sen. Purdy.

Michelle Ireton: I am the editor and chief of the University Leader. This semester, one of the computers that we use for design died. We have a second computer that is on its way out. Right now we have two editors that are in limbo trying to share the computer with other people. It is causing us to have late nights when we are having production. We have to share computers while we are all trying to produce the final product at the same time.

Sen. Purdy: Are you getting it from the Mac website? Did you look at any other ways to get the computer for a cheaper price?

Ireton: Yes, we are ordering it through the student discount.

Sen. Konkel: Moves for a direct vote.

No objection to a direct vote.

Discussion ended and the vote totaled: Y=27 N=0 A=3

Bill passes.

c. Second Reading of Bill 08/F/114: Alpha Gamma Delta Appropriations

Sen. Stegmaier motions to consider the bill with a 2nd by Sen. Quinones.

Grace Finney: I am the President of Alpha Gamma Delta and I'm here with Stephanie Kramer, the president-elect. We are requesting money to go on a leadership convention that is hosted by our international headquarters. We have budgeted to have one delegate to go and would like to send two more. We have a lot of new members and we need them to have that training to make our group succeed after many of our seniors leave. We are asking for the money to send them.

Sen. Winter: Is there someone on Appropriations to give us the breakdown on what the \$525 is going to be used for?

Sen. Stramel: The \$525 will be used for registration at \$90, lodging at \$90, and mileage at \$273, and \$72 under other costs for a total of \$525. Those are all done by formula.

Sen. Winter: Out of curiosity, wasn't their registration over \$200/person? Is there a reason we are only give them \$90?

Treasurer Sellard: We used the formula for all the registration, lodging, transportation, and meals for the breakdown. Then we took that \$525 and put that for their registration because they told us that is what they wanted the most of.

Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

Sen. Winter: There is three going and isn't that about \$275/person? Doesn't that make it over \$800 for registration?

Treasurer Sellard: I don't understand.

Sen. Winter: If each person owes \$275 for registration wouldn't that made it \$825 for their registration fee? I don't see if it's all going for registration, why don't we just give them the \$825? That will cover the registration and then they could pay for everything else.

Sen. Winter moves to amend the bill to read \$825 for registration with a 2nd by Sen. Konkel.

Sen. Purdy: You followed formula like you would everyone else? Sen. Winter, why would we want to amend the bill? Then we would have to do it for future organizations.

Sen. Winter: Is this the same formula we didn't follow for a group earlier this year?

Sen. Purdy: Which group?

Sen. Winter: There was a group that we did not follow the formula on; Tiger CLAWS. I believe we didn't follow the formula for Tiger CLAWS. If we're not going to do it once, I don't see why we can't do it now and give them the \$825 for registration. It's \$275/student and that is a lot of money. It's a lot to be covered and it would be out of pocket.

Sen. Engel: For clarification, we're upping the price because \$825 is what it is going to cost for the three students to register at \$275/student?

Sen. Winter: What is the registration Stephanie?

Stephanie Kramer: The registration and the lodging is one set fee together.

Sen. Engel: That breaks down to \$275 each?

Kramer: When we send our checks in it is \$275 a person and that includes our lodging and registration.

Sen. Stegmaier: I'd like to point out, like we did for Tiger CLAWS. The committee has the leeway of following the formula or not. We have some wiggle room. I would also like to point out on the request, as Grace did point out, Alpha Gamma Delta did already budget for the president to go, which is going to be Stephanie Kramer. This would leave two other members for the registration cost at \$275. I think \$525 is more than enough. The difference between Tiger CLAWS compared to Alpha Gamma Delta is that Alpha Gamma Delta is an established organization that has fundraising efforts and has been here awhile compared with Tiger CLAWS who is relatively new and didn't have fundraising opportunities. I will come back to the point that this is up to the committee and its discretion.

Sen. Leer: Do we know when the last time they came for trip funding and what amount was?

VP Engel: It was not this year.

Sen. Zervas: Are you sending one or three members?

Kramer: We are sending three.

Student Government Association

Hughes/Engel

Sen. Winter: They budgeted for one to go but they also offered to cover their own mileage and meals. I don't see why we don't give them the registration and lodging since it is one set fee. They still have to cover the rest out of pocket. So I don't see why we can't go a little bit more and help them cover a lot of out of pocket expense.

VP Engel: We will be direct vote of the amendment. We are not voting on the bill we are voting on the amendment. The amendment will read registration cost at \$825. The amendment will require a simple majority.

No objection to a direct vote.

Discussion on amendment ended and the vote totaled: Y=15 N=15 A=0

The chair votes in the affirmative.

Amendment passes.

Sen. Engel: Moves for a direct vote on amended bill.

No objection to a direct vote.

Discussion ended and the vote totaled: Y=19 N=11 A=0

The chair votes in the affirmative.

Bill passes.

d. Second Reading of Resolution 08/F/101: United States Public Service Academy

Sen. Hansen motions to consider the resolution with a 2nd by Sen. Purdy.

Sen. Hansen: This resolution is indicating our support and encouragement of the bill going out to be signed by congress in January. If you have questions please ask. I want to clarify that is what the resolution is actually stating.

Sen. Purdy moves to pass the resolution by unanimous consent.

No objection to unanimous consent.

Resolution passes.

IX. Announcements

- a. SGA Student Senate Adjourns tonight for Winter Break until Thursday, January 22, 2009.
- b. SGA Executive Staff will serve limited office hours next week due to finals, Student Senators are not required to serve. Student Senator office hour requirements will resume Monday, January 26, 2009 (after the first meeting back from break).
- c. Finals Food Frenzy, Sunday 12/14 – Forsyth Library & Memorial Union (details on back of Agenda). Free meal, free pizza
- d. Sen. Winter presents the award for best Christmas sweater to Sen. Braun.
- e. Sen. Hansen: I want to thank everyone for all their support of the 3 on 3 basketball tournament that was held on Saturday 12/06 by Tigers Against Violence and Leadership 310.
- f. FHSU Women and Men's Basketball on Saturday 12/13 versus Missouri Western. Come out and support the Tigers.
- g. Sen. Zerfas announces his last meeting. Keep the campus more involved with sports, SGA, and all other things on campus. He was glad to see that SGA got 1,100 students out to vote during the special election. Let's go Tigers!
- h. Good luck on your finals, have a great winter break!

X. Adjourn

Sen. Purdy motions to adjourn with a 2nd by Sen. Konkel @ 7:49pm.