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5-7-2009

### SGA Minutes - May 7, 2009

FHSU Student Government Association

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# Student Government Association

## Hughes/Engel

### MINUTES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

7:00 p.m. – Black & Gold Room

<u>Majority</u>	
Simple:	13
2/3:	16

I. Call to Order  
VP Engel calls to order @ 7:02pm.

II. Roll Call  
Admin. Asst. Shellnut calls roll.

### III. Guest Speakers

#### a. President Hammond – Tuition & Fees Proposal

We are ending up with 10% cut give or take. The senate bill is 70 million short of budget as it stands. This year's budget, FY 09, because of the short fall, FHSU was cut 2.5%. The concern with the senate bill is it is being cut \$70 million short. That's why the governor has said that if the budget can get back to zero... The House has tried to cut more from the budget. One of the senators moved to concur with the senate budget. He argued that we can stay in session for another two weeks or the House could concur with the Senate budget. If that passes and is upheld, there would be no need for any further conference committees. The omnibus bill would be sent to the governor. It was voted on and passed. However the senate position on the budget is another 2,85 from the budget. It still leaves us \$70 million short. At the last minute they had one of their people switch. They have 24 hours from the time that the vote was closed to reconsider. It is then sent on to the governor even though it's \$70 million short. Unless the governor was to veto it the bill would pass through legislation. If it's still \$70 million short, it may be vetoed. That will be voted on Friday in the senate and then sent on over to the House.

You would run the bill and ... as a package. They have to be run separately. There's still some work to be done but I believe by Friday afternoon or Saturday the legislative debate could be over. That will be voted on the senate Friday. There are not a lot of people apposed to it except some legislators who... This bill only provides for one generator and it also has with it ...for wind energy for Sunflower. President Hammond believes that the bill, after it hits the senate floor in its final form will pass the house and be off the table. The other issue, before the governor left, there has been an interest to override that veto. There may be some attempt, in the closing hours, to veto the abortion bill. If they are able to agree on how to close the \$70 million gap, they believe they can get back taxes for half of that \$70 million.

Tonight is your last senate meeting and my last chance to talk to you about the budget. We don't know what the budget is going to be but we have some direction now. If the ending balance is zero then we will have to figure out how... using administrative ability to ... like to 2.45% cut. It talks about a 3%, 6%, 9%, 12%, and 15%. The 9% budget reduction, with the 7.3% plus...is a \$3.4 million cut. The way we would meet that cut is through some strategies that the campus administration has for summer schools.

The construction work that is taking place is normally contracted during the summer; however, the university is pulling physical plant crew members to do the concrete pouring now instead of during the summer. Pres. Hammond feels pretty confident that

# Student Government Association

## Hughes/Engel

the strategies that FHSU has in place will produce a \$1/2 million in savings. FHSU administration has been trying to develop the best operating strategies for each building, as far as lights and air conditioning goes. Some people may be a little uncomfortable and hot toward the end of the summer work weeks.

The intent for the university is to grow the tuition revenues by \$1 million. Some of that is through the virtual college and some from on-campus enrollment. FHSU administration has asked professors that are willing to take a few more students into various sections of courses. In addition, the administration has decided FHSU would offer another half a million dollars. We would not only be able to pay ourselves... Our athletic programs stepped up and in the past have maintained squad sizes in football and other sports. They are going to allow more students to be part of our athletic programs at FHSU. Everybody on campus has worked with the administration carefully to generate strategies for cutting back costs where necessary or increasing revenue if possible. That permits the administration to, no matter what the cut take off the first \$1/2 million without budget cuts. The rest of the cut which is left, the university would divide equally between tuition and budget cuts. As you know, FHSU is the only school in the state that is under \$100/credit hour. The 9% budget reduction would raise tuition to 95.70/credit hour. The strategy is to divide some between growth and summer efficiencies.

However, the 12% cut is more likely in building the budget. FHSU still has to wait until we get the numbers when the bill is passed in the legislature. In the end, FHSU is going to have to know that we have enough money to budget the budget. By FHSU taking off the \$1.5 million off the top and generating increase revenue through tuition... generate revenue from tuition... in order to get a 1.5 in tuition, you're looking at ... Below the target of making sure we're under the \$100/credit hour.

We're looking at a 15%. If we take the \$1.5 million off the top that would mean we would to raise the tuition and the budget to raise \$2 million. That would take us above the \$100/credit hour goal. At KU and K-State. You can't pay attention to the percent but the amount per credit hour and how much that comes to. Let me stop there and see if you have any questions.

Sen. Engel: I had a discussion about the wind development and the stimulus package...

Pres. Hammond: I didn't. The stimulus package, that Pres. Obama signed and made a recovery bill. There was a whole bunch of money. There's a category called state stimulus. Parts of the funds have to be spent on K-12 and Higher Education. I'm not sure I understand the formula but it's producing ... a year. We could have access to maybe up to \$1/2 a million. From the state's stimulus funds, we could end up with \$1/2 - 2 million. It's supposed to be used to create jobs. The discussion in Kansas, especially with KBOR, has been used for projects. The fear is depending on the stimulus money. You don't want to take the stimulus money and imbed it into your annual budget. K-12 is putting it in the operating budget. We tried to fix the budget money now, so we don't have further problems or a train wreck down the road after the stimulus money is all used up. The board can direct us on what or what not to spend it on.

Sen. Engel: They were telling me about conditional permits with the city and...

# Student Government Association

## Hughes/Engel

Pres. Hammond: The federal government is separated into different departments. That's the Department of Energy. Since the city has taken the action that they did to restrict building wind turbines, we're not in a position to qualify. We're going to submit various... If we give you the money it's not deliverable for 2-6 weeks. It could be a month later that you receive it. We can't take that money until we know that we can legally build the wind turbines. It would save us \$250,000 under the current cost structure. The value of the wind is going to go up as they raise their price structure. It would be able to save us even more money. Electrical energy is going to be more expensive not less expensive. It's not coming from stimulus money. The Department of Energy has investments that it's going to be made to the state. We have the land, we don't have to buy or lease land.

Sen. Engel: Is there reason why ...

Pres. Hammond: They would have to answer that question. At the city commission level said we should be exempt. They want to protect property in the city and the 3 mile buffer for city growth. The purpose for this action doesn't hold water. I think their attorney said that if they made this exception for us they can put themselves in the way of getting sued. We are in the process of drafting a variance... Hopefully they will. Thanks students who have given ideas. I'm hopeful that we will be able to build a budget and not do substantial damage to the budget and education at FHSU. I think all of you will be proud of us for how we have handled the budget for the current crisis. It shows where the others states are. This is the reductions that have occurred. There are many universities that have had mid-semester tuition raises. Less than 5 states haven't been having problems. Twelve states are in the 4-6 categories which is where FHSU is at. It could be a lot worse than what we are facing. It's not making it any worse to know that others are suffering more than us. Hopefully we will be able to build a budget for all of next year and not have to make any reductions.

#### IV. Executive Reports

##### a. President (Tyler Hughes)

Worked on the Navigator Award and the interviews are Friday. The Union Staff gave a free meal today in the Quad. This past year has been the most rewarding of Pres. Hughes' life and not just in by college career. It's not me as an individual, it's what SGA has done as a group. For all of the good that SGA did, they did do a lot of good this year collectively. Pres. Hughes would like to thank each of the SGA members. It has been a group effort. Without being cheesy or sentimental he would like to thank you all from the bottom of his heart.

##### b. Vice President (Cole Engel)

Had a few final thoughts for the year. VP Engel thanked Lynn Pullman for making sure SGA had rooms for the meetings during the year. Thanked Jerry and his crew for setting up the room each week for the SGA meetings. Thanked friends from KFHS, sometimes meetings were very short and other times very long. The advisors, outstanding advisor of the year Shanna Meyer and Tisa Mason. VP Engel enjoyed the years on student senate. He has accomplished several things and dealt with issues on campus and in the community of Hays. It will no doubt be a challenging year with the

# Student Government Association

## Hughes/Engel

budget crisis ahead. He will still be at FHSU next year but is a proud member of the faculty at FHSU.

- c. Executive Assistant (Luke Hachmeister)  
Not much happened in the office this week. Trying to set a new high score in Bejeweled with little success. Thanks everyone for a fantastic year. In particular, Tyler for checking his Facebook status and giving him this job. Cole for the wisdom, Robyn for the games of catch, Ashley for doing the minutes so he didn't have to, Corey for the sage advice regarding all the things he couldn't do, and for Doug updating the website.
- d. Treasurer (Robyn Sellard)  
Got a letter from the Marketing and Management Club after returning from their trip. Treasurer Sellard will always remember jokes that should never be repeated.
- e. Administrative Assistant (Ashley Shellnut)  
Updated the minutes and served her office hours. Learned a lot from the senate and executive staff during the course of the year and will be absent next year studying in France but will continue to follow up with SGA and campus issues.
- f. Legislative Affairs Director (Corey Anglemyer)  
Didn't realize we were preparing speeches. Continue to keep in touch with your legislators. If something is important to you then you need to let them know your thoughts.
- g. Webmaster/Historian (Doug Mercer)  
Updated the website and next week will be preparing it for the move to the new website next year.

### V. Committee Reports

- a. Appropriations (Sen. Stramel)  
Have 5 items for old business. Thanked everyone for a great year.
- b. Senate Affairs (Sen. Winter)  
Thanked all who served on the Allocations committee.
- c. Student Affairs (Sen. Smriga)  
Did not meet. Sent good luck to next year's committee, senate, and administration.
- d. Legislative & Political Action (Sen. Engel)  
Sent best wishes to next year's senate and next year's committee.

### VI. Open Forum

Sen. Purdy: Had a question for Dr. Hammond regarding next year enrollment. What are the numbers you are hoping to get next year? I know that's a big fear, that on-campus enrollment is going down.

# Student Government Association

## Hughes/Engel

Pres. Hammond: They aren't going down. They were up this fall and spring. Next year will be up even more. One of the things that have turned things around is the price structure of the virtual college. Freshman registration was Monday; there were 150 in that group. Had students from Oklahoma, Missouri, Colorado, Texas, and Arizona. The university is being perceived as a national university rather than one attended by just Kansans.

Sen. Engel: What are the on campus fall to fall numbers for enrollment?

Pres. Hammond: Last fall to this fall was an increase. This fall to next fall will be an increase. I don't have the numbers memorized. When senators ask me about enrollment they are usually asking about student fees. As you can see from FY07 to FY08 we had an increase.

### VII. New Business

### VIII. Old Business

- a. Second Reading of Waiver 09/S/104: Center for Student Involvement  
Sen. Purdy motions to consider this waiver, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sen. Thompson.

Sen. Purdy moves for a direct vote.

Y=24 N=0 A=0

Waiver passes.

- b. Second Reading of Bill 09/S/127: ATSO Equipment Fund  
Sen. Purdy motions to consider the bill with a Sen. Braun.

Jason Zeller, Vice-President of Advanced Technology Student Organization: The intention is to start with a cluster project. It will be a stack of servers that is used for student projects. The equipment will be used to further some ongoing projects today. It's intended to be used by student first. We will donate the extra processing power that is left over to medical research in the form of distributed computing projects such as Folding@Home. The printer is to be used in another of ATSO's projects, Computers for Communities. That's so we can print our contracts. It's a community service project. We originally started Computers for Communities with Washington Elementary. They were used till 2006. Since then we have advanced to proving machines with the area at large and have donated 70 machines to the community. Nex-tech and Bank donate funding for the licensing and provides the computers to be distributed. ATSO is partners with Microsoft and so we refurbish those computers and send them out.

Sen. Winter: What is the lifespan of the cluster?

Zeller: Indefinitely. This will be the start of the project and the company we are partnering with is supporting us.

Sen. Winter: My question is, if we fund this, how long is it going to last?

Zeller: Servers will last indefinitely.

# Student Government Association

## Hughes/Engel

Sen. Purdy: Is there a warranty?

Zeller: There's at least a one year warranty. They will replace it with next day service. Any questions we had were answered the next day.

Sen. Engel: Last year we gave money to the Cyber Athletics Club. I'm wondering if that equipment can be used for some of these projects.

Zeller: It's designed directly for a game server. It would be a separate.

Sen. Winter: Is it five or six in a cluster?

Zeller: They are giving one free with that pack. Originally five come in a pack but with the ones we bought, you got a free one, making it six.

Sen. Purdy: It says you requested five.

Zeller: That didn't include the sixth free one. There will be six total.

Sen. Smriga moves for a direct vote.

Y=18 N=0 A=6

Bill Passes.

c. Second Reading of Bill 09/S/128: ATSO Appropriations

Sen. Purdy motions to consider this waiver, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sen. Chavez.

Andy Miller, Treasurer of Advanced Technology Student Organization: Thanks senate for passing last bill. For this trip we went to Kansas City. We have gone on at least one trip each semester. I know this is why the INT Department has a 99% job placement rate. We got to go to the FBI and see what they do. Also went to a few data centers and other places. The \$301 is reimbursement to the INT.

Sen. Engel: Move for direct vote.

One objection: Sen. Ladd.

Sen. Ladd: What kind of fundraising do you guys do?

Zeller: Oktoberfest is usually our main fundraiser but we have been unable to do so. Beyond that, we don't raise enough money but opportunities; we get donations instead of getting funding.

Sen. Engel: Does TigerLAN create revenue?

Zeller: There are a lot of prizes given out and the revenue goes back into the events.

Sen. Stegmaier moves for a direct vote.

Y=22 N=0 A=2

# Student Government Association

## Hughes/Engel

Bill Passes.

d. Second Reading of Bill 09/S/129: CSI Equipment Fund  
Sen. Stramel motions to consider the bill with a Sen. Braun.

Chandra Daffer: The request is the purchase for one computer that we will place in the main office. With the increase numbers with the student traffic in the office, we feel it's important to have another computer. By purchasing an extra computer a first priority for student organizations. The quote from the request came from the CTC and will be purchased through the intuition.

Sen. Winter: I don't see a lot of traffic in there. Elaborate on the amount of traffic.

Daffer: We don't directly monitor the computer use. We don't count them as they walk in.

Sen. Smriga: We generally have computers sit vacant in the Union. Could they work on those or work down in the Cody Commons? What advantages do you see for having this computer in the actual CSI vs. using one outside?

Daffer: Lots of services in CSI. The printers are right there if they're running for a meeting. Our printer is connected to those and to use the copier. They could work with our staff, SGA, Diversity Affairs, Karen, and our professional staff. They could get approval at that time as well.

Sen. Stegmaier: The computers in the Union are for everyone to use, what kind of programs do the ones in CSI have that others do not?

Daffer: They have same programs. The computer in the UAB office has graphic designer programs. It might be a good opportunity for the need of student organizations to organize posters. That would be accessible for student organizations.

Sen. Winter: Is there a reason you can't just take one from somewhere else in the Union?

Daffer: I don't have the ability to move those computers. I could ask Bill Smriga.

Sen. Purdy: Do you have to purchase this one through the CTC?

Daffer: As a department we have to buy it through the University.

Sen. Ladd: Are there any unused computers on campus that we can use rather than buying a new one?

Daffer: I have not asked them if there are computers lying around.

Sen. Stegmaier: I have had a little bit of experience with CTC. We don't want anything that you can pick up around campus. They have a lot of wear and tear on them and the specs on this one are a lot higher.



# Student Government Association

## Hughes/Engel

Sen. Smriga: Move for direct vote.  
One Objection: Sen. Winter.

Sen. Winter: I have a problem those other options that have not been looked into. I think you can talk to the Union and not utilize these funds. I feel like there are other options before going and buying a new computer.

Sen. Engel moves to the previous question, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sen. Thompson.  
Y=21 N=3 A=0  
Previous question passes.

VP Engel announces a change in the majority.  
Simple: 12 2/3s: 16

The senate is on direct vote of bill.  
Y=19 N=4 A=0  
Bill Passes.

e. Second Reading of Bill 09/S/130: Sigma Chi Appropriations  
Sen. Stegmaier motions to consider this bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sen. Dempewolf.

Charles Keefer, President of Sigma Cai: We are requesting funds for one registration fee and for fuel to go to North Carolina. The first five that are going are paid by the fraternity. We pay with those the Sigma Chi rough our annual dues. The other \$810 will be for fuel. We are currently selling bierocks and asking for alumni donations to help fund the trip.

Sen. Stegmaier: Can you tell us where your dues go.

Keefer: Dues go to national organization and house.

Sen. Smriga: With six people going on the trip, have you explored flying? What is the price difference? Won't this create wear and tear on the university vehicles?

Keefer: We had to cut the costs. We will be going through our alumni.

Sen. Purdy moves for a direct vote.  
Y=22 N=0 A=1  
Bill Passes.

### IX. Administer Oath of Office (President-elect Stramel & Vice President-elect Thompson)

Chief Justice Emily Graf administers oath of office.

Hand off of the Traditional Baseball and Bat, signed by the President and Vice-President.

### X. Announcements

a. Office hours for senators are not required during finals week, executive staff will be serving limited office hours, good luck to everyone on your finals!

# **Student Government Association**

## **Hughes/Engel**

- b. Congratulations graduates & good luck in your endeavors!
- c. Have a great summer!
- d. Final appropriations balance is \$4299.14 and the equipment fund is \$3063.85.
- e. Final thoughts with Pres. Hughes. Thanks the executive staff for everything they did this year.

### **XI. Adjourn**

Sen. Purdy motions to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sen. Konkel @ 8:25pm.  
One no vote noted: Sen. Purdy.