



Wittenberg University Student Senate Minutes

Outline Below:

SENATE MEETING AGENDA

On Tuesday, **April 9th** at 7:00 p.m., in the Offices of Student Senate, the Student Senate held a Meeting with the following persons present:

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call:
 - a. *Tardus*:
 - b. *in Absentia*: Stern, Terrell, Peña, Patton, Neutzling, Specht, Pipinich, Gill

Minutes approved by:

- II. Officer Reports/Goals: (10 minutes)
 - a. **Gardner, President** —
 - i. Israel / Palestine Conflict Panel on April 4th
 1. There was really good turnout for the event, so thank you for attending if you were able to.
 2. If you see Sam Nitzberg make sure to thank him for putting the event together!
 - ii. Waiting for results of blueprints regarding firepit designs
 1. Will be proposing a max budget of \$70,000 to build the firepit, will likely be completed either over summer or early fall.
 - iii. Planning to "red paint" hand in Shouplin Senate office on April 16th, after the meeting.
 - iv. Will be reaching out to those without transition documents in the Teams folder in the next 24 hours.
 1. On the 16th, Executive-elects will be coming to the meeting to be transitioned. If you would like to invite your Senate-position-elect as well, you are more than welcome to do so, and there will be a time for transition conversations to take place during that meeting.
 - v. End-of-year dinner to take place at **Ridgewood Café** on Tuesday, May 30 at 7:00 pm.

- b. **Dewey, Vice President** —
 - i. No report.
- c. **Kuzilwa, Treasurer** —
 - i. Budget allocations have been made, will be presenting the budget to Casey Gill this week and bring the budget to senate next week.
- d. **XXX, Secretary** —
 - i. There are vacant positions for Senate next year, so hopefully people apply for those after the election result email is sent out, but if not reach out to interested individuals to get them to apply.
- e. **Terrell, FSC** —
 - i. No report.
- f. **Stern, 2024** —
 - i. Don't forget to donate for your philanthropy cord!
 1. You can get your senior cord at the senior class photo on April 18th.
- g. **Peña, Public Relations** —
 - i. No report.
- h. **Lightner, Diversity** —
 - i. No report.
- i. **Browning, Student Organizations** —
 - i. Still waiting for the Golf Club to resubmit their documents.
 1. The new senate will have to be the ones to vote on new student organization going forward this year.
 - ii. For the student leadership awards, does anyone have any incentive for people to submit more nominations?
 1. There were 43 nominations for the 16 awards.
 2. Ideally, the office would like to see 100, because some awards did not get any nominations.
 3. One thought I had was for the "Program of the Year" award coming with a stipend for a program in the following year. Would there be a way Senate could sponsor this?
 - a. Student Senate would like to see more engagement from students before putting a financial incentive for this event, to ensure that all students are getting an equal opportunity to receive the award.
 - i. If Senate is not willing to put forward the money initially, that engagement of students applying won't happen. Chicken and egg situation.
 - ii. Potential for creating financial incentives for 2 or 3 awards as a test pilot to see if this would generate more engagement, and depending on results can either be expanded to include more incentives or be reduced after testing the potential.

4. Senate discussion on increasing engagement for the Student Leadership Awards:
 - a. The fact that this event is functionally another Honors Convocation, while taking place less than a week after Honors Convocation itself, makes applying for the awards/attending the ceremony itself more inconvenient for students than anything.
 - i. The Honors Convocation recognizes individual achievement whereas the Student Leadership Awards recognize more organizational achievement, but from a student perspective, unless you are HIGHLY engaged with that organization there's no real incentive to apply.
 - ii. If the event could be structured more like a spin-off of an all-organization "formal event"—much like how Athletics hosts the Ezrys Award ceremony—it would create a distinctly different type of event than the Honors Convocation and brings more variety of types of events that recognize achievement.
 - iii. What is the possibility of hosting this event at another time?
 1. Could the event be hosted during the week of WittFest itself to generate "hype" for that event as well as provide a week break in-between Honors Convocation and Student Leadership Ceremony?
 2. What if this event took place during the Fall semester? This would help spread out the awards ceremonies across the calendar year rather than focusing them all on one portion of the year.
 - b. The lack of nominations is somewhat reflective of the engagement of the individuals in organizations.
 - c. To make an award meaningful, there should be an additional incentive other than just getting a paper plaque.
 - iii. Also, are Senior Senate members getting cords again this year?
 1. These will be provided at the end-of-year Senate dinner and will be available for pickup from Casey Gill following this event.
- j. **Raymond, RHA** —
 - i. Within the next week, RHA is going to be making a post to promote applying for executive positions for next year.
- k. **Hunt, Greek** —
 - i. Next president's roundtable will be on April 15th.

- ii. The Greek Life Photoshoot occurred earlier today and there was good turnout.
- I. Weis, Green —**
- i. I have made a reservation for the CDR and adjacent room for this event and included Katie Simms, Casey Gill, and Joi G. S. to get this approved by someone with clearance.
 - 1. Casey may have an update on this. If not, I'll have to make sure the space gets approved for us.
 - a. To disrupt brunch in the CDR there needs to be a plan set in stone, and needs to be presented in a formal agenda status in order to be approved. Casey will be meeting with Joi tomorrow and if she has any further questions afterwards, will meet with Lightner, Weis, and Specht to discuss concerns.
 - ii. Promotional material is being made and will be posted within a couple of days.
 - iii. We are expecting a turnout of 200, and we are asking the Student Senate to cover those students who don't have meal plans (\$1000)
 - 1. The organizer (Cody) and ht queens may also be promoting online so if non-students were to attend then they would pay to enter. (I'm not expecting many of these people.)
 - iv. GSDA has agreed to pay for the queens (\$727) and DJ (\$350).
 - v. The official event contract is still being made and will be signed shortly.
- m. XXX, AAPIIC —**
- i.
- n. Compton, Witten'Burbs —**
- i. Approval of spending on sanitary bag stations near Faculty, Sprecher, and Keller apartments. (\$540).
 - ii. Reached out to Chief Hutchins to get engagement metrics on the TigerSafe app and found out that there are currently 704 users.
- o. Dicks, CBS —**
- i. No report.
- p. Patton, Interfaith —**
- i. Crop Walk signups are still available! The walk is on Saturday, April 13th at 9. Use the link to register for the walk, donate money, and raise awareness. We are collecting canned goods and money for Second Harvest Foodbank. All are still welcome to attend and spread the word!
 - 1. We have raised close to \$1000.00 and have almost 30 people registered!
 - ii. On Wednesday, April 10th, Cru will be having its weekly meeting at Living Water Church at 7:30, There will be worship and praise with Wittenberg and Capital students. A carpool is being organized so everyone can go.
 - iii. Thank you to all who attended the Chapel's Eclipse service on Monday and Sunday Service at 4:30.

- q. **Neutzling, SAAC** —
 - i. Home games/meets:
 1. 4/9: Baseball @ 5:15pm vs Cedarville
 2. 4/10: Baseball @ 6:00pm vs Bluffton
 3. 4/12: Men's volleyball @7:00pm vs Mount Union
- r. **Specht, GSDA** —
 - i. Drag Brunch: April 20th 11-1pm
 1. Poster is coming out soon.
 2. Let's set up a meeting.
 - ii. Looking to find people who would like to be on exec!
 1. Let me know if anyone is interested or know anyone interested!
 2. All positions available.
- s. **Pipinich, 2025** —
 - i. No report.
- t. **Harper, 2026** —
 - i. There is a concern that the coffee creamer in the CDR is not being refilled when it runs out.
 1. They will take the creamer container away to refill it, but then it never returns.
- u. **Lowry, 2027** —
 - i. Will reach out to Leah/Parkhurst to see if they are available to come to Senate next week (2-16-2024).
- v. **Gill, Advisor** —
 - i. No report.

III. Committee Reports: (5 minutes)

- a. **Dewey, Special Events** —
 - i. Election results are in and the election result email will be sent to the student body following amendments that may or may not go through today.
- b. **Kuzilwa, Finance** —
 - i. No report.
- c. **Gardner, Student Life** —
 - i. No report.

IV. Open Forum:

- a.

V. Old Business:

- a. Article IV: Class Cabinet: Section 1, 2 [Proposed Amendments 3.26.2024\Article IV \(CC\) 1,2 Proposed Amendments \(RL\) .pdf](#)

- i. The rising senior class officers have historically carried banners and torches during commencement, so if this amendment were to go through who would fill in those vacancies during commencement?
 - 1. The rising senior and junior representatives will fulfill these duties, with the incoming Student Senate President and Vice President being additional options if the junior class representatives are unable to attend.
 - ii. Motion - Browning
 - iii. Seconded - Lowry
 - iv. Result - Passed
- b. Article V: Election Codes: Section 1,5,6 [Proposed Amendments 3.26.2024\Article V 1,5,6 Proposed Amendments \(RL\) .pdf](#)
 - i. Motion – Dewey
 - ii. Seconded – Kuzilwa
 - iii. Result - Passed
- c. Article IV : Officers of Student Senate: Section 1,2 [Proposed Amendments 3.26.2024\Article IV Proposed Amendments RL .pdf](#)
 - i. Section 1
 - 1. Proposal to reject the merging of the secretary and pr senator positions in section 1.
 - a. Result – Passed.
 - 2. Motion – Browning
 - 3. Seconded – Dicks
 - 4. Result – Passed
 - ii. Section 2 has been tabled due to a clerical error in providing full documentation of the proposed changes and will be voted on next week.
- d. Article II: Student Senate Committees: Section 1,3,4,5 [Proposed Amendments 3.26.2024\Article II, Section 1,3,4,5 Proposed Amendments \(RL\).pdf](#)
 - i. Proposal of an amendment that would designate class representatives to serve on the following committees:
 - 1. One representative from each class shall sit on the Finance Committee.
 - 2. One freshman and one junior representative shall sit on the Student Life Committee.
 - 3. One sophomore and one senior representative shall sit on the Special Events Committee.
 - a. Motion – Kuzilwa
 - b. Seconded – Browning
 - c. Result – Passed
 - ii. Motion (as amended) – Browning
 - iii. Seconded – Lowry
 - iv. Result - Passed
- e. Article III: Student Senate Special Committees: Section 2 [Proposed Amendments 3.26.2024\Article III, 2 Prposed Amendment \(RL\) .pdf](#)

- i. Motion – Browning
 - ii. Seconded – Hunt
 - iii. Result - Passed
- f. Article V: Student Senate Committees: Section 1,2 [Proposed Amendments 3.26.2024\Article V Section 1,2,3 Proposed Amendments \(RL\) .pdf](#)
 - i. Motion – Kuzilwa
 - ii. Seconded – Dewey
 - iii. Result – Passed
- g. Allocation of \$540.00 (\$180.00/each) for animal sanitary bag stations
 - i. Proposed locations: Faculty, Keller, and Sprecher
 - 1. Motion – Browning
 - 2. Seconded – Compton
 - 3. Result – Passed

VI. New Business:

- a. Allocation of up to \$1,000 to go towards the Student Senate/GSDA Drag Brunch on April 20th to be utilized to sponsor Wittenberg students who do not have a meal plan to attend the event.
 - i. If this \$1,000 limit is met and Wittenberg students without a meal plan are still trying to attend the event, they will be required to pay the \$10 meal entrance fee associated with eating in the CDR.
 - ii. Motion – Dicks
 - iii. Seconded – Compton
 - iv. Result – Passed
- b. Allocation of up to \$70,000 for the construction of a firepit on campus.
 - i. This money is allocated with the stipulation that financial diligence is used, and that money is not being needlessly spent because it's available.
 - ii. Motion – Browning
 - iii. Seconded – Lowry
 - iv. Result – Passed

VII. Announcements:

VIII. Adjournment:

- a. Motion to adjourn: Gardner 8:13 pm
- b. Second: Browning