

Wartburg College Student Senate

January 19th, 2017

11:30 am

WBC 214 Buckmaster

WARTBURG

STUDENT

SENATE



1. Roll Call/Attendance

Joke: Q: What is the tallest building in the entire world?

A: The library, because it has so many stories.

2. Guest Speaker: Scott Sharar

I know you guys have had a lot of questions about snow and ice removal, we get these questions every year.

Q: What is allocated to maintenance for sidewalk safety? If we have a mild winter, then we have more money to do for other projects and vice versa. We do not get allocated a certain amount. If we were to receive a determined amount each year, then at a certain point of going over budget we would have to stop our services.

Q: How is the department affected in relation to larger budget cutbacks?

A: Cutbacks do not affect us. We are picking up some initiatives from Fire and Safety. We do not cut anything out from a budgetary standpoint.

Q: At what point does the college decide to cancel classes?

A: That's above my pay grade. Closing policies can be looked up online. Because it's a residential community they do not cancel it from a school standpoint, rather professor based. I don't think that we have had a lot of these instances in the past.

As a point of reference, we have two full time grounds men with 50-60 years of experience combined. We monitor storms heavily and if storms are done early in the morning then we start early. When storms are ongoing we wait until it stops because we can't achieve anything. With ice instances, they do the W first because people come in earlier, then they do the student routes from student dorms to the Student Center, then around the main area to the Student Center. If the wind and temperature are right and our methods are not working, we will wait. We did just adapt two of our salt machines so we can spread sand which we did not had the technology to do so before. Once it gets warm enough for the salt to be effective, that is when we can finally get to scraping up the ice. If there is ice then it snows, we leave the snow on there because it actually gives you better traction.

Senator Greer: There are days that when it snows an inch and hour and you don't remove it until it stops, is that correct? Could we alter that for students with disabilities?

Sharar: My apologies, we do adapt and maintain conditions and lanes for those students. We do start with those buildings.

Senator Jaeschke: For the large puddles around campus, do you just wait to address those?

Sharar: Yes, we are dealing with the two areas with this problem. We have used sand to increase traction around it but this can also create low spots elsewhere. Pumping it out would not be a long-term solution. It's another timing thing.

Academic Ombudsperson Pollack: I know Monday was a bad day, were those conditions so bad that nothing could be done?

Sharar: We actually did a lot. We went through two pallets of ice melt but the ice was too thick to scrape off right away. At that point we did not have the tools and supplies right away.

Senator Jacobs: Now that the sand is available, what criteria do you use to choose between the two?

Sharar: It is up to the maintenance men. We will spread sand so we have traction above ice. On the windy days that we cannot do ice melt we will use sand.

Academic Ombudsperson Pollack: Is there a possible pretreatment method?

Sharar: We have tried a brine solution last year but was not successful. Did not enable us to scrape things off easier.

Senator McMichael: I would first like to say you and your team do a great job, this year has been especially difficult. There has been a problem with mold old in the manors, can you tell us how that is being taken care of?

Sharar: In order to dehumidify the rooms the temp must be below 55. The water is cool in the buildings but the not cool enough. The problem often gets worse in times like summer where things are being cleaned and extra are being added in. We are looking to budget to replace carpet, starting bottom floor, with vinyl plank flooring. The loop that goes to and from each air conditioner coil is often a contributor of mold. If it is not insulated well enough it can cause a black surface mold. The plan with that is building by building they will be replacing a piece called an aquapek.

Senator McMichael: With the black mold buildup in ventilation pipes and in the rooms, how is that taken care of?

Sharar: All we do is circulate the air across the coil. We have exhaust fans that in essence pull fresh air in. There isn't a true ventilation system. As far as the pipe replacement, we hope to see the budget and do some this summer.

Senator Cannon: What are you currently doing for those living in the manors now, as it is a safety concern for those living there??

Sharar: If students feel unsafe we can do a mold spoor test in the room. We have not done a single test this year. We do a test inside and outside the room. We have never had more inside than outside the room. If this were true that would be an issue. This can be taken by maintenance request. It does take 96 hours to do a final reading.

Senator Cannon: If the mold comes back, in my case I live in the manors, I was told it is our responsibility.

Sharar: Mold in the Showers has been a common problem. There are bleach products given that you can use. We do have things to treat it also.

Recorder Henderson: When we had our room checks, I had the maintenance man look at our ventilation grate in the shower which was completely filled and dirty. He said to get that fixed we should just fill out a maintenance request form and the ventilation would get better.

Sharar: It is mostly mold roots in the grout. Mold takes root and those roots cannot be killed we are told.

Senator Jacobs: I live in Lohe, students have been asking about the main door. What is being done to fix that?

Sharar: We have ordered parts from a private contractor that should be here any day now.

Senator McMichael: What is the process to getting those doors fixed? Similar to security doors.

Sharar: Work orders are filed. In times of strong winds, doors are closed and locked. Things are taken care of after.

3. Devotion: EAD Alene
Martin Luther King Tribute – Challenge us to continue his legacy every day.
Devotion for next week: Vice President Creed

4. Approval of Last Week's Minutes: 1/12/17
Vice President Creed: This will be moved to a vote
Minutes stand approved

5. New Business

- a. Resolution #19- Honor Council Revision, Academic Ombudsperson Pollack

Academic Ombudsperson Pollack: Motion to consider

Second: Senator Hurd

This has been in the work for numerous years now, I'm am trying to finish it. This deals with academic misconduct. The problem is that history is not traced per student. This resolution starts when students violate the honor code and if they do, they deal with it. Then if the misconduct is agreed on, it moves on and they sign a letter that goes to the Dean of student's office to stay on record. If they disagree on guilt or punishment, it is sent to the honor council. This council is the change; they are a body that will hear the issue first and suggestion id given to the Dean. If that is not agreed on it will go to the campus appeals board. The dean of faculty has the power to overrule the board

Academic Ombudsperson Pollack: I motion to table until next week

Second: President Vogel

Tabled until next week.

6. Old Business

- a. Resolution #17- Supplemental Request, National Science Teachers Association

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Motion to table

Vice President Creed: This organization didn't not show up to their meeting with BRC.

Second: Singleton

Resolution #17 tabled for one week

7. Student Issues

Senator Trabue: Can we get a definitive list of classes and times for next year?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: The academic catalog can sort you into the classes you would like. From there you can go onto my.Wartburg and search classes for this year and in previous years to see when they have traditionally been offered.

Breyanna Primous: You can also go to advising worksheet on advising tab which gives you a list of everything you must take.

President Vogel: When you declare your major it gives you the programs for that academic year. You can change your major or minor to a specific academic year requirement wise. Can only do this once.

Vice President Creed: You can click for different disciplines per semester.

Senator Keller: I've heard a lot of upset students hoping MLK volunteer events would be rescheduled?

EAD Alene: Talk to Kristin T. Torres. They are not planned to be reschedule because would need shortened classes.

Dean Kittle: Something we have talked about was a service Saturday. That feedback would be great.

President Vogel: I have talked to the VAC executive team, they are looking to change from an advising organization to something more concentrated. Depending how they follow through with that it could change opportunities. With ice and safety concerns, we aim to collect as much information as possible. We want to figure out the most effective way to get that information relay it before anything happens.

8. Dr. Kittle/Dr. Nolan Reports

You should have received a survey from Dean Ernsting that has to do with our accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission. I encourage you to take it.

Senator Jaeschke: Take it seriously and don't rush through it.

Dean Kittle: Typically, the samples are skewed for schools but we hope to have one that is less skewed. We like to encourage RAs to take it. We will be opening a peer learning lab in the library in the space immediately to the left from the skywalks. It will house pathways, Pathways Peers, and the Math Lab. Know that that will be opening officially very soon. The college is nearing the end of its 10-strategic plan. We have developed this framework called "lifting up the future" it will have faculty and students to help identify areas for improvement.

Academic Ombudsperson Pollack: Could you briefly outline what Higher Learning Commission is?

Dean Kittle: The Higher Learning Commission accredits degree-granting post-secondary educational institutions in the North Central region of the United States. They accredit an institution through a process to determine that they have appropriate advising processes among other things. The team will visit us in March for about 2-3 days. They will visit with students and faculty to ask them more questions then pull together groups to learn more about a topic. When the faculty came back early, we went through a mock situation. We are 100% confident that we will be re-accredited. We just don't want follow-up. It creates many problems.

Senator Delibas: What will happen to the 3rd floor pathways?

Dean Kittle: Professional staff will stay upstairs, 2nd floor will be pathways peers. We hope there will be more use. Not sure when it will start.

9. President's Report.....Tyler Vogel

I am going to send emails to everyone to touch base with the delegate initiative. The time to share what you have learned would be during liaison reports. I also have the list of 1st year senators from last semester. For new and returning senators, it is an optional program

where you will be paired with a faculty or administrator to meet with 1-2 times per month to learn about what they are working to bring that back to Senate. If you are interested but are not already paired up or would like to sit on an institutional committee, let me know.

8. Treasurer's Report.....Seth Jobes-Ryan

Supplemental request:

- When an organization or group of people apply to BRC for additional funding for a conference, event, etc.
- The BRC has 2 main rules that govern their ability to give funding:
 - The 80% rule
 - \$200 per person, \$600 per conference
- Supplemental Requests can be submitted at any time throughout the academic year as long as BRC and Senate are able to vote on the request

Allocations:

- In March BRC meets with all the heads of all the student orgs to determine how we will Allocate our funds for the upcoming year
- We generally Allocate around \$30,000 total to the organizations each year.
- From there the organizations "claim" their allocations through submitting their receipts for reimbursement.

Administrative Ombudsperson: What is the reasoning behind the 80% rule?

President Vogel: The Manual was drafted 10 years ago which is when it was determined. It was then drafted into the BRC handbook. It is a guiding principle. It has proven to be helpful.

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Because it part of the BRC manual, to go against it a resolution would have to be passed.

Supplemental Requests this Year

This year BRC has received 8 requests so far. There is no rhyme or reason for that.

- This is a 63% decrease compared to last year. (22 requests)
- Partially due to long drought in Supplemental Requests
- So far this year BRC has awarded \$1862.50 in Supplemental Requests (\$1042 has been claimed so far)
- At this point BRC has awarded 28% of its supplemental budget
- At this time last year BRC had awarded 38% of its supplemental budget.

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Generally, most conferences do happen second semester so we do foresee more coming in this semester.

How to Claim Supplemental/Allocation Funding

- All funding that is awarded to groups is done by reimbursement
- After the expense is incurred they simply submit to me a copy of the receipts and then I transfer money to reimburse the appropriate people
- All awarded funds and recorded in a spreadsheet to ensure that all people are awarded the correct amount.

How is the Senate Budget affected by big picture budget changes?

The readership fee is a \$10 fee charged once per semester to go to the readership account along with the student services fee that we get a small portion of Student Senate’s budget is affected by the size of the student body.

2nd Half Plans

- Increase publicity for Supplemental Requests
 - Most conferences are 2nd semester anyway
- Get Allocation claim rate above 80%
 - Inform organizations of current Allocations along with instructions for next year.
- Identify possible campus improvement projects
- Work jointly between BRC and SRC on Hall Improvement Projects.
- Merge 2 Senate accounts

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: This year we hope to the allocation of hall improvement projects at a whole instead of individually where each hall feels that they must spend their full

President Vogel: When we encourage people to apply for SR, when should they do that? Before or after?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Students should submit requests beforehand, prior to the trip, conference, or event, for their own best interest. They should do this as soon as possible so they know going into the event exactly how much they will be getting reimbursed.

Senator Keller: When you mentioned merging the two accounts, is there a reason they are currently split?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Currently the Readership Fee comes in \$10 entries. When we do it like that in 10 increments, it’s easier and acts as an intermediary for the transactions. It would make things simpler.

Senator Delibas: Are allocations are for just clubs? Is there an amount you give to each club; do they have a limit?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Allocations are based on population and need base. We will get a list of all planned expense for the next year in the Spring. We look at each one’s request then from there we will narrow it down to determine final amount. Some organizations need more funding than others like Service Trips and ETK.

Senator Delibas: How does an organization file it? Do we send it to BRC?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Allocations are determined for the next year. File in the Spring to receive for the next year.

President Vogel: You (the organization) have your own account so you can take that.

10. Recorder’s Report.....Ashlee Henderson
For those requesting new constituent lists, I encourage you to contact the RA for that building or floor. I do have the contact to get new Off Campus lists. Please take a look at the Student Senate page on info.Wartburg to see the Student Senate Leadership Scholarship. It is a simple application and reference form.
11. Academic Ombudsperson’s Report.....Benjamin Pollack
On this day in history, January 19th 1814, Wilkinson Territory was acquired by the United States

12. Administrative Ombudsperson's Report.....Emily Laudner
Hall improvement projects, HIPS, have a little scheduled planned. I hope to get resolutions built up and drafted which takes three weeks. One month hope I hope to get them voted on. We can table things longer. By April 7th we hope to have things bought and implemented. I am hoping to get things in quicker this year.
13. Executive Assistant for Diversity's Report.....Naomi Alene
The Difficult Conversations will be held January 24th at 7pm in the W classrooms. Will Myers put together a survey for international students' housing concerns. Let me or Will know if you would like to help distribute this survey or know others that would be interested in taking it.
14. Vice-President's Report.....Hannah Creed
Elections are Feb 16 please come and talk to me and Tyler for information about everything. All info is on applications. Mandatory meeting February 2. Applications due that day at 4pm beforehand. Appointed positions are up to elected president and vice president.
15. Committee Reports
16. Liaison Reports
17. Open Senate/Reminders
18. Adjournment
Vice President Creed: Motion to adjourn
Second: Senator Jacobs
Adjourned 12:44pm