

Wartburg College Student Senate

November 3rd, 2016

11:30 am

WBC 214 Buckmaster

WARTBURG
STUDENT
SENATE



1. Roll Call/Attendance

Attendance Question: What is your favorite holiday or holiday tradition?

Joke **Q:** What do you call a sleepwalking nun?

A: A roamin' catholic

2. Guest Speaker: President Colson

I want to talk about two things: tuition and fees, and institutional need.

Every October we set a budget for room, board and fees. The tuition fees rose 3.5%, the average is 3.44. We are in the midst of a four-year plan to keep rates below 4%. In the past those rates have raised twice that. Four years ago we decided to keep the rise under four percent in hopes that in the end the college would be more comparable. Ways student Senate has been influential in the past by reminding PBAC to think of the raise in tuition as a number rather than a percent. By sticking to this number, we are able to keep the raise around \$1,000-1,200. This demonstration helped to show us that we should adopt this model. This is also the reason why we announce the increase in October rather than January. Students ask why the student package doesn't increase with tuition is because variable costs are estimated when students enter their first year. We are sensitive and try to plan the exact package that helps each student. The plans are doctored to each student's needs. **Institution need process:** The article Ellen Felton wrote in the Trumpet was a clear explanation. Every year the Dean is required by our handbook to analyze our institution need. Brian Ernsting is required to look at our needs as expressed by student demand and curriculum and match it with the resources we currently utilize. He is required to consult with the faculty counsel and seek their advice. He then makes his recommendations to me. Sometimes needs are lower and we have to adjust downward. Other instances call for us to adjust upward. Enrollment can raise from year to year. We have to match our resources and provide for your needs. We can see shifts in student interests and we need to respond. We look at student enrollment patterns and curricular interests and must eliminate certain positions. Right now the dean has identified positions that need to be eliminated over time. It is a way in which we keep the strength of the institution and keep expenses in control. We would love to have a vast set of offerings but must keep ourselves disciplined. Even though we are identifying places we can eliminate expenses we are still making investments in new academic programs. That is in response to student interests. It is very painful to go through this process because some of the positions we must choose to eliminate are people whom we have great relationships with. That is the hardest part about this job. Sometimes I must step back and make these decisions.

Senator Matthew: I understand last year the majority of positions last year were handled with retirement packages; how many are there this year?

President Colson: I am not going to share that number to maintain confidentiality.

Senator Jaeschke: On the topic of tuition and fees, is that 4% just for tuition?

President Colson: Yes, but is not CPI. Generally, prices of colleges rise at the approximate rate of health care, which has to do with level of education of the workforce.

President Vogel: Some of the issues in the past weren't handled as written in handbook, is it true they are trying to change?

President Colson: I don't think that is correct. Nobody likes every detail but the process has been followed accordingly each year. To get back to Alec's question: The number of positions to be eliminated can change. We don't want to create the impression that it is a fixed number.

Senator Jacobs: I know tuition is raising under 4 % has there been discussion about raising tuition instead of eliminating positions?

President Colson: Yes, but at the end of the day we are never going to be able to let our desires run free. We have to enforce some discipline on ourselves. That might be opening the door to a slippery slope. It is far better for the college to be disciplined.

Senator Myers: When cutting programs at liberal arts college, how do you keep a liberal arts education? For example, the cutting of the French and possible German program?

President Colson: That would be an untrue rumor (about the cutting of the German program). If you look at the way, the faculty is dispersed among the educational disciplines and are evenly distributed as we have been over time. With enrollment all three of the groups flex upward and downward. Constitutionally we maintain that by the curriculum we design and the courses we require. Even if there might be an imbalance, the faculty have expressed the desire to teach a broad liberal art education. Some professors bear a heavier load of students because they believe in a quality education.

Senator Matthew: Drake freezing tuition for individual years, has there been much research behind that?

President Colson: Schools have tried to freeze tuition in the past but it will be interesting to see Drake's experiment. They plan to hit them hard the first year and for the expenses to level out over time. We build a financial aid package that we believe that will fit a student for their four years here. I am not opposed to that but it will be interesting to see how Drake's experiment will go. I appreciate the work you do and I am always happy to visit with students.

3. Devotion: Senator Jacobs

Voting - I urge you to go vote. If you live in Knights or Manors you will poll at Bartels, if you live anywhere else on campus, you go will poll at the firehouse.

Devotion next week: Administrative Ombudsperson Laudner

4. Approval of Last Weeks Minutes: 10/20

Minutes approved

5. New Business

Vice President Creed: Motion to Suspend the rules

Second: Treasurer Jobes-Ryan

The rules are suspended

- a. Resolution #8- Senate Review Committee placements, VP Creed

We need to vote on this today because we need to meet soon. We have selected Colin Jacobs, Alec Matthew, Trevor Hurd, Sam Pfab, and Amy Isvik

Vice President Creed: We will move this to a vote.

Abstained: Senator Jacobs, Senator Matthew, Senator Hurd, Senator Pfab, Senator Isvik.

Resolution #8 passes

Vice President Creed: Motion to reinstate the rules

Second: Senator Jacobs

- b. Resolution #9- Supplemental Request, WSMTA, Samantha Hallgren

This will be moved to BRC for one week.

- c. Resolution #10- Supplemental Request, Caleb Milius and Kathryn Chabal

6. This will be moved to BRC for one week.

- a. Resolution #11- Readership account proposal, (Water bottles), Sustainability

President Vogel: I will try to visit with the committees about this.

Vice President Creed: This will be moved on to committees for one week.

Senator Isvik: Was this split into a two or three way?

President Vogel: This was split between Student Life, Sustainability, and Senate for a total of \$325.92.

7. Old Business

- a. Resolution #7 - Supplemental Request, Wartburg Democrats, Colin Jacobs

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Motion to consider

Second: Senator Singleton

Senator Jacobs: The Wartburg College Democrats were approved as an official organization by Student Senate after the allocation process had already started. We're are using this supplemental funding request to ask for funds for this school year. This request was to fund the speaker we had who talked about the Missouri Approach method in regards to corrections methods. Originally we asked for campaign material for Hillary Clinton but asked BRC to take that out due to time constraints. We also provided food for our beginning of the year for the viewing event.

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: The BRC met last week to discuss this request and after some deliberation we decided to amend this request to \$220. By viewing the itemized list for the MA speaking event and amending that to what we were comfortable with and then taking 30% of that due to the volume of the request and the fact that there would be an additional request for this same event from Sociology club because it was a joint event.

Senator Hurd: Who was the professor that funded the speaker?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Professor McQueen payed for the speaker out of pocket, with knowledge he may not be fully reimbursed.

Administrative Ombudsperson Laudner: Is this \$220 a lump sum for both?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: When Sociology comes, we plan to give them the same thing. Of that amount \$200 was for speaker and \$20 for food.

Senator Gheysens: Is this a lot less than normal?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Yes, this is an unusual but we are trying to spread out the expenses due to an increase in allocation claim rate instead of the strict 80%.

Administrative Ombudsperson Laudner: Colin, what did your campaign materials consist of?

Senator Jacobs: Buttons, signs, etc., but we asked BRC to remove that.

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: We did remove those items.

Senator Jaeschke: Could you talk more about supplemental requests?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Due to more awareness about the supplemental request process we didn't want to overfund certain requests in order to be able to fund those that demonstrate need in the future.

Senator Gheysens: Can we communicate that with students so they know to not spend so much?

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Yes, but we do encourage students to meet with us first. We do see that students ask for a higher amount, knowing that we can only give 80%

Senator Hurd: Is the \$200 going to the professor?

Senator Jacob: Since this is less than we thought we will likely just give it all to professor McQueen.

Vice President Creed: We will move this on to a vote

Opposed: Senator Jaeschke, Senator Gheysens

Abstained: President Vogel, Senator Jacobs, Senator Keller

Resolution #7 passes

Congratulations to Jenna Brannaman for being selected as Senator of the Month!

Tied for second: Senator Buckwalter, Senator Voigt, Senator Rehberg, Senator Myers

8. Student Issues

This has been moved back up to the top so we can have time for student issues without being in a rush and people leaving early.

9. Dr. Kittle/Dr. Nolan Reports
10. President's Report.....Tyler Vogel
 Congratulations to Jenna Brannaman our new senator of the month! I would like to thank the Colsons for having us in their home and for a great time! Senator Andrus' father passed away this last weekend and I would like to take a moment of silence. We have a card for everyone to sign that will go to her and her family. The delegate initiative is starting up next week so everyone can start looking forward to that.
8. Treasurer's Report.....Seth Jobes-Ryan
 Last year Senate spent \$1,295 on polos.
 Polos Options:
 1. All senators new or returners receive polos funded by Senate. Cost: \$1,005 for 60 senators.
 2. Senate purchases new polos for first year senators only. Cost: \$485.75 for 39 senators.
 3. Buy polos for all new senators and an option for returners at \$5.
 4. Buy polos for all new senators and an option for returners at \$10.
 The cost of the polos is \$16.75 each, no matter quantity, can talk about material. The highest amount of saving would be buying polos for only new senators.
 Lapel pins are \$2.67 each, price variation as follows: 100x = \$267, 115x = +\$26.75, 130x = +\$52.5.
Senator Matthew: What would be the incentive to vote for the fee option over the all option to buy all senators new polos?
Second: Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Only incentive for the fee would be so Senate does not have to incur that extra expense.
Senator Singleton: Are these polos going to look different?
Treasurer Jobes-Ryan They would be similar but black.
Hurd Senator: This is calculated for dri-fit?
Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Yes, both cotton and dri-fit are the same price.
Parliamentarian Zmudka: Where would the saved money go? Would this money be in a different pool?
Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: That would be directed toward the student budget.
Senator Milius: If we want to go toward not getting new polos every year why are we getting a different color?
Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Historical trend, we did discuss just doing grey.
President Vogel: Premise stays the same, it just stays with the tradition.
Senator McMichael: Have we thought of the option that old senators pay the full \$16.75 price?
Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Yes, but these options have been projected with Senate absorbing a portion of the cost. That option would be best reflected in option #2.
Senator Jaeschke: If we stick with grey every year how much would we save?
Treasurer Jobes Ryan: \$2,400
Senator Buckwalter: This may not be the most popular option but, do we even need polos?
Second: Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: It is something to give back to the senators, we can discuss that as an option.
Senator Brown: Is it true that we typically don't fund apparel for other organizations?
Second: Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Correct don't usually fund shirts for other organizations.

Senator Brown: What percent of the budget would it be to buy polos for all senators?

Second: Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: It would be about 1/75.

President Vogel: We have in the past; we cannot give to organizations that will internally distribute the apparel. We can only fund other organizations if the clothing is externally distributed.

Senator Brown: But we are spending \$1,000 shirts for internal use?

Parliamentarian Zmudka: Can we add a no polo option?

President Vogel: We want to take care of our senators so please don't feel guilty for spending some money on this.

Vice President Creed: Motion to suspend the rules.

Second: Senator Jacobs

The rules are suspended

Straw poll taken: Option #1 - 0; Option #2 - 12; Option #3 – 3; Option #4 – 15; Option #5 (no polos) – 14.

Consensus: Option #4 – Senate provide polos for all first year senators with the option for returners to purchase a polo for \$10.

Straw poll taken in favor of buying lapel pins, consensus: **no lapel pins.**

Senator Milius: Can we talk about lapel pins later in the year?

Second: Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Yes, that can be revisited at a later date.

Administrative Ombudsperson Laudner: Yay decisions!!

Senator Milius: Motion to reinstate the rules.

Second: Treasurer Jobes-Ryan

The rules are reinstated

10. Recorder's Report.....Ashlee Henderson
11. Academic Ombudsperson's Report.....Benjamin Pollack
Institutional need, it is not an easy thing to do. I just wanted to remind everyone that no matter how you feel about it you still represent Student Senate. You are the face of the student body. On the faculty side of things, it seems like a last resort, they have been going through a lot of changes over time like no pay raises, different payment for overtime, and benefits.
Senator Jaeschke: Are the trends a prediction or a reaction?
Academic Ombudsperson Pollack: It is a bit of both. Like the engineering program, they see a great interest in that and are seeking more opportunities in that field. You can email or talk to President Colson, Dean Kittle, or Dean Ernsting. We want as much transparency as Tyler has been saying all year. Yesterday in history, the Cubs won their first world series since 1908.
12. Administrative Ombudsperson's Report.....Emily Laudner
Senator Guertler: SRC has been focusing on student and faculty appreciation. We want students to talk to their professors and thank them. We are going to be asking students to tell us their favorite professors. We will table for this students can receive a cupcake for telling us who their favorite professor is.

Vice President Creed: Many 1st years have not known about the recycling bags. Push this out to your constituents. They are available in the RA office. It is a simple check out system, you can even check out a couple. For student issues, concerns like water quality and other issues are great things to be brought up in Senate meetings. Even if you are just talking to your friends, you can bring those concerns to Senate so they can be answered and you can answer those kinds of questions outside of Senate. Senator Voigt couldn't be here today but we wanted to let everyone know that the Complex hall event is next week.

13. Executive Assistant for Diversity's Report.....Naomi Alene
There will be a monthly diversity newsletter sent out this month so please highlight it in your emails. Kristal Madlock still needs more people for the MLK committee.
14. Vice-President's Report.....Hannah Creed
15. Committee Reports
Senator Gheysens: KVMC hall council will have a Christmas-Study break later in the Semester. We will have another meeting again soon to get more details hashed out.
Senator Jaeschke: GLR hall event last night went awesome and could not have gone so well without all of the senators! Thank you!
Senator Rehberg: CliF is having our ice cream social tonight from 7:30-9:30 in the Clinton kitchen downstairs.
Senator Guertler: On the 9th SRC will be baking cupcakes from 6-9pm. We will be tabling for that next Thursday.
16. Liaison Reports
17. Open Senate/Reminders
Recorder Henderson: The History Club is putting on a Trivia tournament next Wednesday, Nov. 9 from 6:30-9:30, most likely in Luther Hall. Location may change with large number of RSVPs. Teams are 2-4 with a \$20 entrance fee per team. The winning team gets half the pot (of entry fees) and the remaining money will go to the History Club to fund future events and projects. There will also be popcorn provided as a snack during the tournament. Teams should RSVP to Tyler.amick@wartburg.edu ASAP.
Additionally, the History Club is putting on a cemetery tour of local cemeteries this Sunday at 1, led by Dr. Lindell. It will follow the dark side of Waverly's past, with some very interesting stories along the way. Again, RSVP to tyler.amick@wartburg.edu.
Senator Miller: SRC has created a survey poll for people to say who some of their favorite professors are.
Senator Jacobs: One last time, go vote!
EAD Alene: I-club is having a chill Friday at 9pm at Diers House.
Senator Astarita: International education is next week
18. Adjournment
Vice President Creed: Motion to adjourn
Second: Senator Singleton
Meeting Adjournment 12:45pm