

Wartburg College Student Senate

WARTBURG
STUDENT
SENATE

December 1st, 2016

11:30 am

WBC 214 Buckmaster



1. Roll Call/Attendance

Joke: What does a thesaurus eat for breakfast?

A: A synonym roll!

Attendance question: What do you do to destress?

2. Guest Speaker: Rich Seggerman

We will go through a variety of things this morning. We will discuss topics of the budget itself, the actual revenues and expenses of 2015-16, the 2016-17 budget and preliminary budget for next year, and the whole revenue enhancement process we are going through. We are going to talk about the operating budget and the preliminary budget later as well as the presidential budget. The operating budget is a plan of how we plan to use our resources. There are a lot of different drivers for the budget. The number of full time students we have is a huge driver as well as the amount of institutional financial aid we provide to students. We tried to attempt to increase the salary pool which has been small or nonexistent like in the last year. The last 5 years has been a challenge with a decline in enrollment. Benefits have also declined as the cost has increased. The President's Budget Advisory Committee is comprised of the President, his Cabinet, and a student representative that helps set priorities and the budget for the school. The biggest revenue piece of our budget, 71.9%, comes from the Gross Tuition & Fees we charge and receive at \$53,808,992. Other sources like Endowment income and Auxiliary Enterprises - Dining Services, room and board - help with the revenue in our budget. There are things called Capital gifts and Endowment Gifts that do not flow through the budget. In the remodeling of Clinton Hall, those gifts are not included in the revenue category because they are set aside for a specific person. On the Expense side of things, the biggest expense is Financial aid at 38% - \$28,718,957. Our second biggest expense is Salary and Benefits with 36.1% at \$26,997,168. Financial aid does increase at a higher rate than what tuition increases at. Our financial aid has exceeded above the 4% which we have previously tried to keep it under. Some of our annual gifts are limited as they are used to balance the budget. The portion of the expenses for Financial aid went up from 38.4% to 39.8% for the 2016-17 year. The Financial aid sector only recently grew to be bigger than the salary expenses category. We bring a preliminary budget to the Board of Regents in May which includes the number of incoming students and financial aid. In the fall we look at that again and revise that budget. One of the biggest things is that we are down about 20% of students living on campus and 10% full time students. Res life is trying hard to keep the students on campus that need to be. Financial aid projections were lower than what we thought. There was a change in health plan recently and had to take away the salary pool we had recently been

planning. We have about \$550 thousand in “net” campaign gifts. All of the campaign gifts will go away and be used up. We have \$700 thousand of bonds from the W to help balance overall budget. Looking at creating the 2017-18 budget, we hope to have a flat or decrease in tuition increase. We hope to have the same number of students on campus and full time students. We need to find about \$1.3 million in revenue enhancement and expense reduction. We would like to see endowment spending rate to increase from 4.5%-5% which would provide an additional \$250 thousand. We will bring a new preliminary budget to the board in May. WE are hoping to have all of these items identified by the end of January 2017.

Senator Cannon: How is the W paid for? I looked up on the city records for 2014 revenue of \$800 thousand when the expected \$1.3 million? Is it expected to someday make up to that expected amount?

Seggerman: If we would have built the W without the community in mind, we would have built a much smaller faculty. We were looking to create a facility that would cover the costs of the college’s use as well as a facility that would create revenue. We would have had to replace the facility anyway. The facility in itself is just a part of the operation. The difference was, for the W, we added extra square footage and programing expenses that will generate \$9 million more than what that extra square footage cost.

Senator Cannon: Is that based on the old projection?

Seggerman: That is based on the new. The additional cost of the additional square footage would more than pay for it.

Senator Matthew: Could you elaborate on Drake’s tuition freeze plan? Pros and cons?

Seggerman: They are freezing incoming tuition which will progressively get higher as they students stay there. If we were to do that, it would mean drastically decreasing the amount of scholarships we give out. We are trying to slow down the increase of financial aid. They have done a variety of different things there like a bump in enrolment for a couple years. Then when they are out competing against other schools it becomes a deciding factor in the school decision process.

Senator Milius: How many apply to Wartburg each year?

President Vogel: It will be interesting to look at that for next semester.

Senator Milius: Have they considered a small application fee?

President Vogel: It would be difficult to do that. It would turn into a deterrent because none of our sister schools do this.

3. Devotion: Senator Pfab
Video “Look up from your phone”
Devotion for next week: **Senator Jaeschke**
4. Approval of Last Week’s Minutes: 11/17
Vice President Creed: We will move this to a vote.
Minutes Stand approved
5. New Business

6. Old Business

7. Student Issues

Senator Buckles: Dean Kittle could you talk about the break schedule?

Dean Kittle: As the number of students we are recruiting that are from more than 500 miles away increases, Student Life is considering how we need to adjust our practices, including the potential need to offer a longer break in the first semester. We talked with Sally Malcolm to create a new schedule that would incorporate a longer break. I asked them to make two different calendars that factor in a week long break just to see that it would look like.

Treasurer Jobes-Ryan: Has there been any thought about making Thanksgiving Break a week long?

Dean Kittle: We are interested in all feedback. Fall Break seems to be the most viable option. I would like to see us start earlier but that would be a big shift for us because we usually start after that holiday weekend.

Senator Matthew: In my first year, we had a week long Thanksgiving Break. Did that just kind of happen?

President Vogel: That is something build in the schedule every few years. Not sure why this is.

Dean Kittle: We have to have x number of days per semester so likely because of this we have a different situation every year to accommodate that number. I know it is cyclical and can't be replicated.

Administrative Ombudsperson Laudner: Since the schedules are made two years in advance, is it true that we (third year students) won't see it?

Dean Kittle: Yes

Senator Krull: Has there been a thought about not having classes the Wednesday of Thanksgiving?

Dean Kittle: We have visited the idea but typically this leads to canceling Tuesday classes and then students skipping Monday classes altogether.

Senator Zheng: Have you considered starting classes earlier?

Dean Kittle: That is a viable option, since we can't make it shorter at end of term because of CWW. There was discussion about shortening Christmas Break.

Straw poll taken between: starting earlier and shorter Christmas Break, consensus – starting earlier

Straw poll taken between: week long Thanksgiving Break and week-long Fall Break, consensus – week long Thanksgiving Break.

Senator Isvik: Have you looked into Fall Break having shortened classes like Thanksgiving?

Dean Kittle: It would have to be one or the other.

Vice President Creed: Are there any other Student Issues?

Senator Coon: I have heard from my constituents that there are not any recycling containers in the Complex lobbies.

Administrative Ombudsperson Laudner: I can talk to Cassie Hales and area coordinators.

Senator Linkletter: Some of my constituents would like USA Today newspapers on Clinton one.

Administrative Ombudsperson Lauder: In previous years we decided on a reduction to the amount of papers in circulation for cost reasons. We have thought about restarting circulation in Clinton 1 for its high popularity. Let me know if there are any other areas we should consider.

President Vogel: I know that the Journalism and Communication department would like to have them available.

Administrative Ombudsperson Laudner: The closest for them would be the library.

8. Dr. Kittle/Dr. Nolan Reports

Dr. Kittle: There is an emergency response exercise next Monday at 7am by the Mensa. This demonstrates an active shooter event. We will be gearing up for exercises that will involve students like disruptive protests to see what students' responses should be like.

Senator Matthew: With the Clinton renovation, are the increased expenses covered in fees or the Transforming Tomorrow Campaign?

Dr. Kittle: For a short answer, yes, those additional costs will be factored into fees.

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

Last night I sent out all of the official emails to all the delegate initiative faculty/staff members. I will send out an email after this meeting with the information for you senators to talk to them about pertaining to issues, campus improvement ideas, and more personal information. New senators will start next semester. Give them your schedule for next semester.

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

10. Recorder's Report.....Ashlee Henderson

We are now taking applications for the Student Senate Leadership Scholarship. It is open to all students, including non-Senate members, that will be juniors or seniors next year. Students may fill out the application with simple questions and a short essay about leadership as well as the recommendation form and submit them to Kathy.dreesman@wartburg.edu by Monday, January 30th. Applications will be evaluated by the Leadership, Education, Service Committee who will make recommendations to Senate. The Senate Exec team will then evaluate those finalists to choose two students to each receive the \$500 scholarship that will be disbursed between fall and winter semester of next year.

11. Academic Ombudsperson's Report.....Benjamin Pollack

On this day in history, December 1st, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus.

12. Administrative Ombudsperson's Report.....Emily Laudner

I did Find out how to post one the Clinton boards. Thank you to those who went to the Black Hawks game. They would be open to us to do another Wartburg night. We are in full planning mode for the winter festival with FULL APPROVAL for the ice rink. We are looking into renting ice skates with a company for the day of. Also looking into the availability for other days. We will need a lot of help. The timeframe that the ice rink will be up is

undetermined. Anyone can help even if not in Senate. You can attend our SRC meetings on Sunday nights at 9pm in WBC 101. We are meeting with new organizations, if you would like to participate in our meetings. Because we have had the first snowfall, I want to touch on some issues we had last year. Security can help with getting your car started but cannot help with shoveling it out. Keep a shovel in your car, get up earlier. Keep those things in mind.

President Vogel: I like to keep cat litter in my car for traction.

Administrative Ombudsperson Laudner: Also, the large bins in the parking lots have sand in them for the same purpose during the winter.

13. Executive Assistant for Diversity's Report.....Naomi Alene
There is a Diversity Newsletter this week so please highlight that in your emails. Holiday Shoppe need help this Sunday from 2-5pm at Redeemer Lutheran Church. MLK Committee needs help with discussion topics and speakers for our event. We will have a performance about diversity, justice, other related topics. We currently have no one but need performers. Contact me with interest!
14. Vice-President's Report.....Hannah Creed
Thanks for one-on-ones. The Jingle and Mingle Christmas Party is next Tuesday, December 6th from 7:30-8:30pm. Dress in holiday attire if you like and there will be awards! Also there will be a white elephant gift optional gift exchange, up to \$5. If you bring a gift, then you can take a gift.
15. Committee Reports
Senator Keller: Political Action Committee will be hosting a Readership event on December 12th on the first floor of the Library. There will be sweet breads and cookies from Dining Services on campus. This event is to be a stress reliever from finals and to encourage students to sign up for their free trial of the New York Times. The time for this event is yet to be determined.
16. Liaison Reports
17. Open Senate/Reminder
Senator Singleton: Tuesday December 6th, at 7pm KWAR is having their Eggnog Pong night. You and a friend sign up with \$2 fee, prize TBD. Winners will be featured on our social media. If you have any questions and are interested, email me. If we have enough people sign up, we can possible schedule
Senator Milius: Today is the first inaugural Iowa Push Day for Dance Marathon. We are raising money for new rooms in the children's hospital goal at Iowa. Our goal is to raise \$183,000 for 183 new rooms. Every \$18.30 you raise; your name will be entered in a drawing to win two tickets to the Iowa-Michigan game.
Senator Jaescke: Are we doing senator of the month?
Administrative Ombudsperson Laudner: We will do it next week.
18. Adjournment
Vice President Creed:
Second: Treasurer Jobes-Ryan
Adjourned 12:39pm