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Wright State University Alternative Newspaper: The Senator, Volume 1, Number 4, September 10, 1968

Wright State University Student Body

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THE SENATOR

Volume 1, Number 4

September 10, 1968

THE STUDENT SENATE met on Sunday evening in the fourth floor lounge of Allyn Hall. Among the items considered was a revised budget for the 1968-69 year for the Student Government. The senators approved a budget authorizing expenditure of \$7,300. Of that sum, \$5,900 comes from University allocation of the Student Activity Fund and the remaining \$1,400 coming from receipts which were carried over from last year. Last year's University allocation ended on June 30th and all remaining funds were returned to the University. Of the budget, \$5,000 was allocated for student activities. An additional \$400 was added to the Art Film Series so that no admission charge would be necessary. There will be no charge for any activity provided for in this year's student government budget.

In addition to the budget, the Student Senate continued action on the revised Constitution of the Student Body and the Senate's own By-laws until further research could be done on the Community Government approach and a report offered. The senators expressed the opinion that they wanted to present the Student Body with the best possible Constitution and they had not entirely been satisfied with the inherent isolation of the students, faculty and administration that the present system perpetuates. A report will be offered as soon as possible.

The most important portion of the meeting of the Student Senate centered around the intensely discussed TRANSPORTATION FEE PROPOSAL that Dr. Brage Golding, President of Wright State, unveiled at a meeting of the same Student Senate on August 11, 1968. The discussion was prompted by the presentation of a petition calling upon the Student Senate to repudiate its previous endorsement of the proposal. The petition was signed by 109 students and faculty. Since no resolution or motion to endorse the fee proposal was adopted at the previous meeting the senators refused to accept the petition. They pointed out that since no vote had been taken or no motion adopted none could be repudiated or withdrawn. Senator W. Jim Glaser expressed the sentiment of the members when he pointed out to Mr. Don Sweeney, candidate for the State Senate from the 6th District and Mr. Dave Zimmerman who were there to present the petition, that the members had only expressed an opinion in the matter as individuals. The consensus of opinion resulting from that meeting meant that the individual senators agreed with the position of President Golding on the issue and supported his recommendations based upon the information he had given them. At the same time, the senators suggested that Mr. Sweeney may have been in error by discussing the issue with the newspapers before even attempting to talk to Golding about it. The senators suggested that if students had been given the same briefing on the issue, the proposal and University Finance that they, the senators, had been given they believed most people would be less hostile to the proposal. The senators reaffirmed their previous posture on the question namely that if all other alternatives were exhausted and the reduction of academic programs, faculty or staff salaries or very desirable student services became imminent then the proposal would be acceptable provided that everyone, students, faculty and staff, pays alike. This being only an opinion of individual representatives no commitment in the name of the Student Senate was made as before.

When questioned more on the issue of endorsement, the senators pointed out that they had been asked to express an opinion on the topic of the fee proposal and because they were representatives of the Student Body they had an obligation to do just that namely express an opinion. No motion was adopted because no was asked. The purpose of the Golding-White visit was to communicate some important information to a representative group of students not to ask the Student Senate to pass on the question of a fee proposal. Another senator remarked that the question of fees was the responsibility of the Board of Trustees. (over)

The senators suggested to Mr Sweeney that if he was interested in reaching the right source that he should concentrate on the Board of Trustees and attempt to convince them of the soundness of his position.

The individual senators reaffirmed their support of the position taken by Golding and White but refused to adopt a resolution either for or against the fee. (The members again stated their position that the Student Senate as an institution had not been committed on the question but that the members had expressed a consensus of opinions for the proposal based upon the facts and information presented to them.)

The senators cautioned Mr Sweeney against using the issue just for political mileage during this election season and suggested that he may want to consider taking a position encouraging the State of Ohio to increase its proportional support of higher education.

Student Body President Gary Hunt noted that Student Senate would be the last group to favor increasing the costs of education in the state and he made mention of the areas that student government was working to reduce the costs. These activities included a long-promised BOOK EXCHANGE SYSTEM which will be operative on the WSU campus in time for the Winter Quarter of '68. Also noted were the CROSS-REGISTRATION PROCEDURES just recently adopted by the Dayton-Miami Valley Consortium which will permit WSU students to take courses offered at the other member schools but not at WSU without additional costs. The Student Senate is also a member of the OHIO CONFEDERATION OF STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENTS which will urge increased state support of higher education at the January meeting of the General Assembly. President Hunt has also recommended that Student Senate affiliate with U.S. NATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION in order to benefit from the host of services and activities that group has to offer. The Senate is considering that proposal. The S.B.P. also commended the students and faculty of the University for WRIGHT START which he said he thought had been of great value and hoped it would continue. He also commended President Golding for his support of the program. Hunt also urged Sweeney to support the bond issue on the ballot this November which if adopted will provide the money for Wright State's new LIBRARY.

While leaving the door for future discussion clearly open on the topic, the senators would not revoke their individual support of the University President or the position he had taken. They reaffirmed their faith in the belief that Golding was doing what he felt was best for the University. The senators suggested that if Sweeney and others who were not in favor of the proposal were interested in learning about the issue they should discuss the matter with Golding or White. Anyone opposed to the proposal is free to express his opinion to the Trustees by writing a note to President Golding to that effect and ask that it be carried to the Board. The President is then obligated to transmit the messages and would be happy to do so, the senators believe.

THE STUDENT SENATORS also expressed their displeasure with a newspaper account which suggested that they had been "snowed" by Golding. While acknowledging that his understanding of University finance was somewhat limited, Hunt mentioned that he had recommended that an explanation of the issue, the problem and the proposal might be considered using the newspapers and other media.

Indications are that the Board of Trustees will act on a proposal at its meeting on September 25, 1968, although no official statement to that effect has been made.

IMPORTANT NOTICE! IMPORTANT NOTICE! IMPORTANT NOTICE! IMPORTANT NOTICE!
Acting Athletic Director Don Mohr has just announced that the first meeting of the students interested in becoming part of WSU'S first INTERCOLLEGIATE SOCCER TEAM will meet on Monday, September 16, 1968, at 5:00 PM in room 275 Allyn Hall. All interested persons should plan to attend. In order to be eligible a students must be: male, full-time student and in good academic standing with the University. THIS IS WRIGHT STATE'S FIRST INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM!!!!

The first scrimmage will be with WPAFB on Thursday October 3rd on the Base. WSU's first game will be Saturday, October 5th at Wilberforce. The game time is 1:30 PM. Plan to attend!