

Student Government Discusses Resolutions and Amendments

BIG RAPIDS – The Student Government of Ferris State University met this past week where the bulk of the meeting time was devoted to seeking approval for one resolution and three amendments, as well as introduce two other documents. President Jonathan Gaskell has been elated with the group's progress in introducing legislation to the general assembly this semester. Six documents were presented this week, while next week looks to have just as many, if not more. General assembly members also teased their upcoming presentations; Representative Wes Myrick worked on over seven different resolutions during the Spring Break alone. Gaskell was unable to recall the last time so much legislation was introduced in one semester by the Student Government at Ferris State University.

Among the documents being presented at the past week's meeting were three different amendments; a Constitutional amendment, an amendment to the Mandate of Internal Assessment, and an amendment to the Rules of Appropriation and Allocation. All of the amendments were mostly corrections to remove repetition, spelling and grammar errors, as well as announce formerly unwritten rules. Each amendment passed with a unanimous vote. The resolution up for vote this week was introduced by representative Myrick of the Disability Awareness and Education organization and was supported by Associate Vice

President of Student Affairs Joelle Sawisch. The resolution called to change the accessibility statement that is required to be included on all campus postings to something more inclusive of individuals that may not necessarily be disabled. The statement currently reads "Anyone needing special accommodations to attend this event should contact..." and ends in a contact phone number. The new statement, which removed the word "special," was unanimously approved and will be passed on to Student Leadership and Activities, who will be in charge of making the change and alerting campus organizations.

Associate Vice President of Finance Libby Schmidt presented an allocation that needed approval from the Media Communication Association, totaling \$1,400.00 in approved funding, which was approved. Other organizations that received approved funding from the division, but did not need approval from the general assembly, were the Public Administration Association, which was approved \$949.00; the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, which was approved \$765.00; and Panhellenic Council, which was approved \$318.00. The division will meet again on March 30 at 5:30 pm in the Rankin Center's Centennial Dining Room.

In other news, Executive Vice President Michael Finch presented information from his trip to Grand Valley State University, where he researched information on items such as greek life advisors, gay-lesbian-bisexual-transgender (GLBT) programs, women's centers, and other diversity issues on campus. Information was gathered and distributed to the newly formed Diversity committee, who will have the charge of using the information to assist in improving diversity on the Ferris campus.