I. Call to Order – 3:32 pm
II. Roll Call
   b. Absent- Collins (e), Fulton (e), (e), Linville (e), Wallace (e)
   c. Guests-
III. Pledge of Allegiance
IV. Approval of Minutes
   i. Senator Tobergta
   ii. Seconded by Senator Ruth
V. Open Session
VI. Executive Board Reports
   a. Vice President of Public Relations - Tracy Osborne
      i. Good luck on finals! Hope you had a good semester 😊
   b. Vice President of Student Involvement - Kevin Reynolds
      i. Last week I attended the Faculty Senate meeting. Things they are dealing with: NKU is one of the only institutions in Kentucky with a general education requirement as high as ours. Most have gen ed requirements of 30-36 hours and we are around 50. They are having a debate about that currently. The proposal is at 34. This is something that SGA should look in to in the future. Faculty believes that if we gave students extra electives they would waste them and I disagree. There will be a meeting over the summer addressing this issue and I’m sure that won’t be the end of it.
      ii. SAACS accreditation has said that the QEP was too vague and have asked NKU to revisit and specify what to do within general education.
      iii. President Cronon-Clarification- It has been approved; they asked to make the goals more clarified and attainable.
   c. Vice President of Administration - Shauna Prentice
      i. Thanks! 😊
   d. Executive Vice President - Melissa Koppenhoefer
      i. Congratulations on a great year and thank you all for allowing me this opportunity.
      ii. This Friday, Dr. King will be attending the University on May 1st. He is the president of the CPE. SU 302. 10:15-11:15am. Let Steve know if you’ll be attending.
   e. President - Gabe Cronon
i. No Report

VII. Committee Reports
a. University Improvements - Joe McGinnis
   i. Good luck on finals; it’s been a pleasure.
b. Student Rights - Chris Tinsley
   i. Good luck to everyone on finals. Thanks to everyone on my committee for your hard work. It’s been a pleasure. End of report.
c. Finance- Leigha Phelps
   i. Would those on the Ann Braden committee please stand. They helped me look over the applications and choose the scholarship winner. Today we would like to recognize our winner. This is Ashley Ellis. I know Ashley very well, so I abstained from voting. Her application was outstanding and she will do a great job in promoting social justice on campus. Congratulations.
d. Ad-Hoc Constitution – Chris Ruth
   i. Thank you all for a great year. Please encourage people to vote on the Constitution. Have a wonderful summer. It’s been a pleasure.

VIII. Ex-Officio Reports
a. RHA - Michael Farris
   i. Feast for Finals is this Thursday in Norse Commons at 9.
   ii. When are we meeting about meal plans?
   iii. President Cronon- He said he’d get back to me.
b. SBA – N/A

c. Judicial Council – Sheree Davis- Thank you to anyone who was involved with the process. We sent out a statement to everyone. We have decided the election was void. If you have any questions please let me know. Good luck on finals!

IX. Advisor Report(s)

a. Associate to the Dean of Students- Steve Meier-
   i. I think it’s neat to see how SGA has evolved over the past year. Starting with KLA and seeing how things have evolved. I would like to congratulate everyone for an outstanding year. Job well done 😊

b. Dean of Students - Jeff Waple
   i. This has been a great year. I agree with everything Steve said. I look forward to the future.

X. Old Business

a. Resolution 012
   i. Senator Ruth- Call to question
   ii. Seconded by Senator Tinsley
   iii. 25 in favor; 1 abstention

b. Resolution 016
   i. Senator Kaseke- 6th whereas- Move to change from INS to BCIS.
   ii. Seconded by Senator Tinsley
   iii. Passes unanimously
iv. Senator Ruth- I talked with Brittani and Leigha. I think you guys did a very good job defending your position on it but I still feel that there is an alternate venue that we can take. Creating an assistance package as its worded- I still feel ‘ify’ about taking money that is available to the entire student body and giving it to one specific group. $500 is not very significant compared to what they pay. Maybe talk to the Administration about pulling money from somewhere else to tackle this.

v. Senator Georgescu- It may not seem substantial compared to what they’re paying, but every little bit helps. We could give a break to those who need it and won’t be denied the opportunity to help.

vi. Senator Tinsley- I just have a question. If we don’t pass this will the other scholarships stay as they are now? So we will still have to come up with that other $1000.

vii. President Cronon- Yes, the idea behind this is to address a student concern, combine these into one lump sum, and help out with this budget crunch. If this resolution fails we will still honor the others but there will be no international scholarships.

viii. Senator Tobergta- Helping the entire student body sometimes consists of I small group. This is a small amount of money that will significantly help someone who really needs it.

ix. Senator Johnson- My position hasn’t changed on this. I think it sets a bad precedent for SGA helping specific groups. I’m sensitive to their problem, but I don’t want to see Student Government become a cash cow for anyone who needs money. I just think it sets a bad precedent and we are not here to cater to the needs of a particular group we are here to represent 15,000 students and we are not doing that in this resolution.

x. Senator Kaseke- Something people should keep in mind is that international students contain anyone who is not American. Anyone on F-1 status. I think sometimes because you saw those students who came here you forget that it consists of everyone. I don’t even think these 2 $500 scholarships are enough. We need to help them out somehow. The reason they come to us is because they feel that we don’t care for them. Local students have many scholarships they can apply for and International students have none. I think it’s only fair to just give them this small amount of money.

xi. Senator Hazenfield- Last meeting I expressed how it is important to have International Students attending NKU. The reasons they are coming over here may be different from what we expect. Some students may come here because it is cheaper for them or it’s just something they want to experience. They aren’t all here in this hard situation. I wish this were split, and we could revisit this in the fall and go into more detail with how we can help out. My
platform is to withstand from passing this resolution today and revisit it and find a better solution because I don’t think this is it.

xii. Senator Coy- I agree with a couple senators that SGA’s mission is not to help special interest group, however I don’t think this is a resolution that does that. I think it’s more of leveling the playing field. I looked at NKU’s website and spoke with someone in the Financial Aid Department and there are maybe 1 or 2 scholarships that don’t cover more than $1 or $2000 of their costs. Only 1,000 full tuition paid scholarships are given to F-1 students annually. There are maybe 6 or 7 who have been offered scholarships. In order to receive one of those students they have to be the top student in their country. That is how limited these scholarships are. Another thing I found is that at a minimum wage, if they work 20 hours/week (including summer, Christmas, etc) they are considered under U.S. poverty level. If any citizen is under the poverty level, they are automatically given grants to cover full tuition and money for books, etc. Just think about that- compare U.S. citizens and International students.

xiii. Senator Ruth- Please understand that I’m not trying to deny the evidence. I completely understand that there is a significant problem. The problem is that they don’t have a scholarship. If that’s the problem, instead of indirectly coming up with a Resolution for $500, which is not substantial, it is helpful, but not substantial to what they need. Why not go directly to the Administration and say there are not many scholarships. We need this done. If we do this and “hopefully” they will see this need, I don’t think it’s going to happen. I completely agree. I want these students and they are some of the smartest students I know. I just think we should be strong and go to the administration. That’s all.

xiv. Motion to table Resolution 016-Senator Ruth

xv. Seconded by Senator Tinsley

xvi. 13 in favor; 11 opposed

xvii. Resolution 016 has been tabled.

c. Resolution 017

i. Senator Tinsley- Call to Question

ii. Seconded by Senator Ristic

iii. Resolution passes

d. Resolution 018

i. Discussion-4:33

ii. Senator Georgescu- Call to Question

iii. Seconded by Senator Kaseke

iv. 23 Yay; 1 Nay; Senator Ferguson & Gardner Abstention

e. Resolution 019

i. Discussion 4:35

ii. Senator Bohl- Call to question

iii. Seconded by Senator Miller
iv. Passes unanimously
f. Resolution 020
   i. Senator Miller- Call to Question
   ii. Seconded by Senator Tobergta
   iii. Passes unanimously

XI. New Business

XII. Announcements
   a. Danielle- I’m having a program tonight @ the Pavilion called Sex & Candy at 6:30. Wiffle Ball game on Wednesday @ 7pm.
   b. Chris Ruth- I would like to ask the Judicial Council a question. Do you have any idea of when this election will occur?
   c. Chief Justice- Sheree- Dean will comment on that.
   d. Dean-Judicial Council has no say in that. That is up to me.
   e. Chris Ruth- However this happens, doesn’t the student body President have to be inaugurated into the Board of Regents by May?
   f. Dean- No. I looked at the KRS Statue. It just says the Student Body has to elect a President who then has to serve; it doesn’t give a specific date and time.
   g. Dennis- Does it say first meeting of the fiscal year?
   h. Dean- No it doesn’t say anything like that. I’m surprised you didn’t ask these questions before. The rules that are written in your Constitution give 10 days to appeal this, which takes us to May 8th. We are looking at a fall lection.
   i. Kevin- Can we suspend that?
   j. Dean- I would be really hesitant to do an election during finals. I don’t think that’s good on anyone. It is your Constitution. I can’t rule on that. I don’t see any real answer other than an election in the fall.
   k. Melissa- Based on the statement that Judicial Council issued, isn’t it a new election which would give the opportunity for anyone to submit a packet? Wouldn’t that mean an entire new election?
   l. Dean- That’s not how I’m interpreting it. I’m interpreting it as those who already ran can rerun, or you can drop out, but no one new would enter. We have several other angles we have to look into because KRS statutes are very vague as well as your Constitution. This also says that Dean of Students has right to alter guidelines in good cause. Thank you for that power. This is vague. We haven’t gone that far because of the 10 day appeal and we have to honor that. Anyone can appeal that decision and we have to allow that to happen.
   m. Keith- The senators whose terms are expiring this semester-what happens to them?
   n. Dean- We don’t have these answers yet. There are a lot of questions. We are investigating them. Our first thought was to take all 3 slates together to KLA. Those are questions that we don’t have answers to yet.
   o. Keith- KRS-Section 8A references the Student Regent seat.
   p. Sheree- We had to hold a special election in the past; We have experienced that in the past and I have been around for 5 years. We’ve
experienced a lot of things, but nothing like this. Our role in this process is to make the decision. The Constitution doesn’t really give us any power to handle it. That’s why the Dean doesn’t have these answers yet because our Constitution doesn’t give us any power.

q. Steve- If we had a special election you would have to open it up for a certain amount of time for anyone to run.

r. Dean- I have some phone calls to make to get some help. I’m hoping someone else has gone through this and we can see where to go.

s. Gabe- I think we all agree that there are a lot of unknowns so I would like to end this on a positive and congratulate you guys on all your work.

t. Chris- How does this affect the timeline of the Constitution?

u. Dean- Even if this election was note void there is still a process it would have to go through and we will have to do that. It may be a tighter timeline but that will be up to next year’s SGA. Passing the Constitution and the timeline shouldn’t be a big concern.

v. Gabe- It will be on the ballot on the next election. It will then be vetted through legal affairs and up to the Board of Regents.

w. Chris- If this passes in the fall will we have enough time to stick to our 1 election a year?

x. Dean- We should. We have to grant that 10 day appeal time. If you want to appeal it that’s in your power but I don’t suggest it. I don’t think it’s the best academic decision.

y. Josh- We are having Rent-a-Tau. It is a silent auction to bid on a few of us to help you guys move out or wash your car or whatever you need. Come buy us and we’ll help you out.

z. Paul- I’m really good at getting my Mr. Clean on.

aa. Senator Miller- The Callahan RA staff is holding a Cali Bash 2 celebration for the end of the year. There is a softball field and we are going to have a kick ball tournament. If you’re interested just see me after the meeting. There will be cornhole and food. We’ll be there 6-8 tomorrow in the parking lot.

bb. Chris- I feel like we have to do something about this election stuff. I know we want to end on a good note but I feel like we should really talk about what’s going on. I feel like this will really mess up next year’s SGA. If we decide to have an election in the fall, there will be several weeks where we have no progress and the President will lose his summer of planning. I just think it’s a really bad idea to have 3 months of inactivity within SGA. I would like to move to re-open new business.

c. Seconded by Senator Hazenfield

d. 13; 11

XIII. New Business

a. President Cronon- This is what I’m concerned about. I’ve always said you are the most powerful voice in this body. The first thing you do by taking away the right to appeal is take away their voice. I understand that the summer is needed and this is a hard situation but when you deny an appeal right you deny student voice. This is not my opinion, this is your
SGA President saying we are in a bad position already, so think about that.
b. Senator Ruth- I move to have the appeal until Friday- change from 10 to 5 appeal days.
c. Seconded by Senator Tinsley
d. Dean & Chief Justice- This would be an amendment to the Constitution and you are not able to do this without going through the proper channels. Just to clarify our decisions- it is to void the election, not disqualify anyone. You can also still appeal if you want. Any questions?

e. Senator Kaseke- Could we disqualify the Presidential & Vice Presidential candidates so the rest of the election can stand?
f. President- As far as the motion on the floor: it is the decision that that would not be possible. The motion fails because it is unconstitutional.
g. Dean- It is in Article 10. It would have to go through a Vice President and then up to the President and Board.
h. Senator Tinsley- To clarify- we have until May 8th to submit an appeal?
i. Senator Tobergta- I’d like to close New Business
j. Seconded by Senator McGinnis
k. 11; 13
l. Senator Ruth- Dean- If someone was to submit an appeal, can you give me any specifics as to what you would be looking for? In an appeal, what is needed- a petition signed by the student body?
m. Dean- It can be individual appeal or it can be group appeal. You are appealing the decision by the judicial council to make the election void.

n. Senator S. Henry- I move to create an ad-hoc committee of current SGA members to do work over the summer.
o. Seconded by Senator Ferguson
p. Dean- President’s duties: Shall recommend Ad-Hoc committees.
q. Chief Justice Davis- What would the committee be?
r. Senator S. Henry- SGA members who won’t be leaving who can do the work of the executive board over the summer so there is no down time.
s. Chief Justice Davis- I’m just not sure if this ad-hoc committee could have those duties such as budget.
t. President- I will make a decision on this before my term is over. Trust me that I will maintain the integrity of student government.
u. Dean- This will give us time to answer those questions.
v. President- That is an excellent idea. Let’s see what happens and what the decisions are. I will notify the senate as soon as we have a decision.
w. Senator Tinsley- An appeal to the Dean would be an only an appeal on the decision of the void election. Could we appeal that the senate election should stand?
x. Chief Justice Davis- You can appeal any parts of that. You can appeal the positions that were voided if you would like. Just write it up and sign it- it’s up to the Dean. You can appeal it, it’s just not guaranteed to go through.
y. Senator Tinsley- When you say it may or may not go through, does that mean I can write an appeal and it may not be accepted?
z. Chief Justice Davis- No you can appeal. I just don’t know what the decision will be.

aa. Dean- It says you can appeal within 10 school days.
bb. Vice President Reynolds- How did we suspend the Constitution for one thing and have to amend it for this?
cc. President Cronon- That was a by-law.
dd. Senator Ristic- I agree with Vice President Reynolds. When we did our constitutional revisions we suspended part of the constitution.
e. President Cronon- We suspended legislative procedure. Not the constitution.

ff. Dean- This would be changing, not suspending.
gg. Senator Gardner- As far as the appeal process goes, how long after May 8th will decisions be made? It may be a good idea to have an emergency meeting of the senate.

hh. Dean- I have to allow until business is over on that Friday.
i. Vice President Reynolds- You do have the power to override.
j. Senator Johnson- How many of us are going to be around for the fall? Today is the last of the appointments’ term.
k. Senator Tobergta- Close Discussion

ll. Seconded by Senator Chaney

mm. 13; 6; 7

XIV. Announcements
XV. Adjournment – 5:24 p.m.
a. Motion by Senator Tobergta
b. Seconded by Senator Ruth