

Nine members appointed to Senate

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During the SGA Senate meeting held on Friday, Jan. 18, nine people were appointed to the Senate: William Henderson, Moran Sellers, Thomas Martin and Ashlee Mobley, Jamie Mount, Jacob Stephens, Tyler Martin, Christopher Hill, and Amber Farson.

During the legislative address, Senate President Amy Bueno spoke about the Campus Master Plan and how there is a need for a new student union because students need a place to go and hang out. This is to push to have a place for students to hang out because the Campus Master Plan speaks about housing being expanded.

Another important topic that was covered in the meeting was a grant that UWF was given.

"We were approved for a \$3.75 million in STEM performance-based funding for a program set up last year by House Bill 7135," said Student Body President Cora Merritt. This program is called the information technology performance funding pilot. It awarded 25 percent of the \$15 million allocated to the top four ranked universities in the state. We came

in third behind FIU, and UCF was fourth. We are really excited about this grant to continue working on STEM performance funding."

To continue getting this grant, UWF must help students succeed in science and many different types of technology majors. The school must also work with the community to help students get jobs in these career fields. Furthermore, the grant providers also look at how many students are holding jobs in these fields with these majors.

The green fee was also discussed. According to UWF's website, the Student Green Energy Fund Proposal is a grassroots, student-led initiative seeking to create a fund for campus energy efficiency and renewable energy projects at UWF." After the meeting, Merritt said, "The Green fee proposal forms will be out Jan. 22, and they will be open for a month. We're going to be doing it through a memo to faculty, staff, and students in two different e-mails; we're also advertising it through Facebook and social media. We have sustainability coordinator. He (Jacob Stephens) is working on proposals for us. He's also working with

other students if they have ideas or would like to work on sustainability project and submit a proposal, just contact the SGA presidents or Jacob." In a follow up e-mail interview Merritt said, "The Student Life and Service Fee Committee will review the proposals."

During the administrative address, Kevin Bailey, vice president for Student Affairs spoke about two main issues. The first issue was why there were some students who were not coming back their sophomore year of college and how the university can help provide support to help students in areas they struggle the most.

"Those courses would include: Math, English and pretty much anything with -ology at the end of it," Bailey said.

The university wants to see their students succeed in class and in life. In the future, the university is willing to work towards making tutors more available from the start, not just when these students get a warning. The second topic that Bailey spoke about was campus safety. There is a new program for faculty and staff to help them learn and deal with harassment and discrimination.