



PHOTO, 4B
GSA shows pride with campus and community

Student Government Association abolishes housing scholarship

Added amendment says SGA must pass new scholarship by 2025/2026 election cycle

ANNA COX

SPORTS EDITOR

SHAILEY WOOLDRIDGE

COPY EDITOR

The resolution to abolish a previously established housing scholarship passed after an amendment was added.

The Student Government Association passed SR 23/24-03 after Rocco Hicks, a sophomore political science major with a minor in communication studies from Prattville, Arkansas, made an amendment.

"It just gives us the opportunity to make sure change actually happens," President of SGA Micayla McGowen, a junior marketing major from East End, Arkansas said. "Seeing the Senate come together and actually showing what SGA is capable of, is really what was the great thing about this whole situation."

Jackson Galloway, a junior electrical engineering major from Little Rock, presented his resolution after it was tabled at the last meeting.

The amendment came after public comments, in which Zayd Kelley, a junior political science major from Cabot, Arkansas studying at The University of Central Arkansas spoke. Kelley is the president of the Arkansas Student Government Association and attended the meeting after hearing about the removal of a scholarship at A-State.

Kelley said during the public comment section that SGA needs to guarantee a

new scholarship will be made when they abolish the old one.

Hick's new amendment reads as follows: "If this resolution is passed, the Student Government Association pledges to pass a new scholarship/scholarships for in-need students by the 2025/2026 election cycle, or this resolution is nullified in its entirety."

Galloway said he was not upset about this addition, rather he was happy that it passed.

"I'm thankful Rocco amended that because that was a little bit of an oversight. I agree that the students should have some accountability from us. I think that was a good amendment," Galloway said.

Kelley said he has hope for whatever scholarship replaces the old one.

"I think that A-State (SGA) they have proven themselves tonight and I hope that whatever scholarship supersedes and replaces the old one, hopefully it'll be better and it'll be stronger," Kelley said.

Senators Parker Collins, Frank Wirz, Chase Felkins and Louis Gonzalez are working together to create a new housing scholarship.

"Coming into this, I was ready to die on the hill to not abolish the original one," Wirz, a sophomore biology major from Dexter, Missouri said. "I'm kind of glad that amendment came around to give us a deadline."

Wirz said with the amendment added to Galloway's resolution, the length of the process of



Photo by Jack Douglas | Photo Editor

The Student Government Association votes to pass the resolution to abolish the housing scholarship. The resolution included an amendment to pass a new scholarship by the 2025/2026 election cycle, or the resolution is nullified.

creating a new scholarship is up to the entire senate.

"If it's just a four-man team it might take the whole year," Wirz said. "It's just up to everybody else now, how long they want to kick the ball down the road."

Collins, a sophomore marketing major from Benton, Arkansas, said they are gathering information about the past scholarship and listening to other senators' and advisers' opinions of what the new scholarship should be.

"The specific numbers and the amount of people

who get the scholarship is definitely under consideration right now, but we'll definitely work on it. It's something that's going to get done a lot quicker than previously," said Felkins, a sophomore biology major from Dexter, Missouri.

Connor Williams, a senior nursing major from Marked Tree, Arkansas, voted against Galloway's resolution as a symbolic gesture. He said he disagreed with removing the scholarship as a whole and disliked the idea of completely throwing it out.

However, he was overall happy that it passed with the amendment and that he was pleased with the changes made to the resolution.

Williams started a petition last week to have an SGA-funded housing scholarship on campus. The petition gained close to 150 signatures but was not officially submitted to SGA. Williams said he only started the petition as a way to gather student input and prove that there was a desire for a scholarship. "I don't want the whole

situation (the removal of a housing scholarship) to become a seemingly broken promise to the student body," Williams said before the amendment was presented.

Public relations chair Trin Reppenhagen's ER 23/24 - 04 passed with no fails. The resolution was to replace a graduate chair with a new Student Support Services senator seat to represent those who are disabled, first-generation and low-income students.

The next SGA meeting will be March 12 at 5:30

Gender and Sexuality Alliance host drag show to celebrate pride

JERRY DON BURTON

NEWS EDITOR

The Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) student organization hosted a pride event Tuesday night featuring a drag show and lip-sync battle.

Charlize Griffin, GSA president and a sophomore graphic design major from Cabot, Arkansas, said GSA hosted the event to unite the community and celebrate pride.

"We really wanted to host this event because we aren't here in June during pride month," Griffin said. "So we knew we wanted to bump it earlier in the year to still have pride on campus and what's pride without a drag show?"

Griffin participated in the event under the drag name Lilith Mourningstar. Student and professional drag performers danced and sang during the event, which was held at Centennial Hall in the student union.

Student performers were Griffin, Kai Lawless who performed under the name Jackson Spade and Nev Winfield, who performed under the name Afro-dite. The professional performers included

Iroh Silver, Rusted Electra and Stevie Quinn LaRain.

Juno Beauchamp, a first-year political science major from Jonesboro, said he loved the event. He said he attended a drag show at Arkansas State University before and is looking forward to attending more in the future.

"It gives the people here an opportunity to shine," Beauchamp said.

Lawless, GSA treasurer and first-year biology major from Westfork, Arkansas said he hopes the event helped to introduce drag at A-State.

Lawless said this is the first drag show he has been involved in the production of.

Winfield, a sophomore psychology major from Jonesboro, said they are newer to drag and attended to get more experience and get to know the A-State community better.

"My drag-sona, Afro-dite, she's very sassy and theatrical," Winfield said. "I want my audience to be hyped up, feel really good after I leave the stage and want to get up there and dance too."

Halfway through the event a lip-sync battle was held. Griffin asked for two



Photo by Rachel Rudd | Editor-in-Chief

Kai Lawless, GSA treasurer and a first-year biology major from Westfork, Arkansas, performs during the drag show.

volunteers for the battle. Abigail Mason, a senior psychology major from Caruthersville, Missouri and Trin Reppenhagen, a sophomore graphic design major from Searcy, Arkansas, volunteered. Reppenhagen won the first round.

Chris Smith, a junior history and communications double

major from Cabot, Arkansas and Sidney Davis, a junior creative media production major from North Little Rock volunteered for round two of the lip-sync battle. Davis won the second round.

For the final round, Davis and Reppenhagen went head-to-head as they lip-synced to "How

Far I'll Go" by Auli'i Cravalho from the movie "Moana." Davis won the final round and was awarded a 3 Musketeers bar. However, she injured her knee during the battle.

CONTINUED:
DRAG SHOW, 4A

THIS WEEK IN THE HERALD:

OPINION, 2A

- Alabama IVF ruling sets a dangerous precedent
- College campuses are failing to keep students safe

NEWS, 3A

- Arkansas State University hosts 6th annual Living Legends awards ceremony
- Retired staff member, Gina Bowman, dies
- Campus Crime

SPORTS, 1B

- Baseball loses winning streak now 8-1
- Women's basketball falls to ULM

ARTS & E, 2B

- The live action remake of "Avatar: The Last Airbender" is pointless
- This week's Pop Pick: "The Lego Movie"
- MGMT's "Loss of Life" hits all the right notes

LIFE, 3B

- Black History Month at A-State