

# Amendments put on back burner

By **JEROD CLAPP**  
Editor  
jclapp@ius.edu

The constitutional amendments that would change the structure of the Student Government Association's senate were withdrawn at their Feb. 8 meeting.

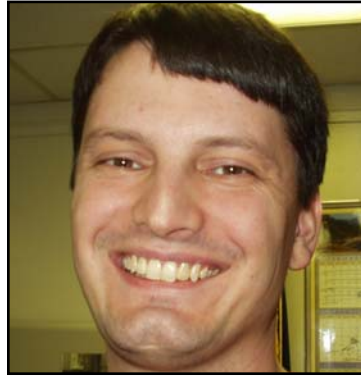
The amendments would have had deans from each school and leaders of other departments appoint students to senate seats.

Instead of being put on a ballot in a special election before the senate elections, the amendments will be reviewed by the SGA's policy and procedures committee to see if any changes will be made before the amendments are voted on by the student body.

Jaarad Taylor, political science junior and SGA presi-

*'Maybe we don't need to change the way it's structured...'*

**Jaarad Taylor**  
president  
SGA



dent, said having a vote on the amendments during the general election could be detrimental.

"If the amendment didn't pass in the general election, then the people running for seats in the schools wouldn't be representing anything," Taylor said.

Taylor said the original

plan was to have the amendments voted on to be put on a ballot by the end of January to ensure the seats in each school for candidates.

"We don't have enough time for the special election," Taylor said. "We've run out of time. We've missed the boat."

If the amendments are

voted on, they will affect the 46th session of the SGA, not the 45th as was originally planned.

Reuben Otero, computer science junior and SGA senator, said putting off the vote on the amendments could give SGA time to get the word out about them as well as get feedback from students.

"It kind of gives us a whole year to advertise the restructuring," Otero said. "It also lets us see what the students think about it. We could get great input from the students if we talked to them."

Otero said he plans on speaking to classes as well as individual students about the amendments to get their take on the restructuring.

Taylor said the extra time to review the amendments

could be helpful.

"It's going to make it a more well-rounded document, if they want to do that," Taylor said. "They may stick with what we've got, and I can respect that."

Joe Taflinger, general studies junior and senate temp, asked the SGA why the new rules would be followed if the current guidelines are being violated.

Taylor said Taflinger had a valid point.

"He's right," Taylor said. "Maybe we don't need to change the way it's structured, maybe we need to look at the rules and the basics. It's a simpler solution, and a lot of the time, a simpler solution is a better solution."

Ben Wilmes, biology senior and internal/external affairs secretary, said there

have been problems with getting SGA committees to give reports and work on projects for the student body.

"There are a lot of new people in the senate, and it's hard [for them] to know where to get started and where to assert themselves," Wilmes said.

Taylor said the committee work is one of the most important parts of what SGA does.

"We don't really have people working in those committees," Taylor said. "The committee work really does the core functions of SGA. It gives something back to the students."

Taylor said the SGA's University Affairs Committee can look at the performance

SEE SGA, PAGE 2

## Work-study students less likely to drop out of school

By **BOBBY DENSFORD**  
Staff Writer  
rdensfor@ius.edu

Compared to recent statistics from a national study, the effect of work-study participation in helping students stay in school is 15 points higher at IU Southeast than the national average.

The figures come from IU Southeast enrollment numbers for freshmen enrolled in the fall of 2004/2005 who were still enrolled in the 2005/2006 academic year.

According to IUS student financial assistance, studies have shown that for the overall general population of students across the nation, work-study students working less than 20 hours per week are 4 percent more likely to stay in school than the average student. For the 2005/2006 at IU Southeast, the percentage of work-study students returning from their freshman year was 19 percent higher than the IU Southeast overall retention rate for freshmen students, a difference of 15 points.

Leslie Turner, financial aid counselor and work-study coordinator, explained why work-study students are more successful in general and then, why IUS students, in particular, are doing better than the national average.

"In the first place, work-study puts dollars in the students' pockets," Turner said.

"Second, work-study is flexible with their schedules."

"Next, the students receive encouragement from their employers," Turner said. "Their superiors want them to graduate. Everyone's goal is to help that student get that degree."

"Finally, studies show that the more time a student spends on campus,

the more "connected" they become," Turner said. "The more connected they become, the more likely they are to stay and graduate."

Turner said she cannot conclusively answer why IUS work-study students are so much more likely to stay in school than the national average, but she has some ideas.

"I believe it's because of all the other efforts being made on campus to help students stay in school and graduate," Turner said.

"Namely, the mentoring program, the academic success program, the student development program, all of the student organizations - why even the physical plant is student-driven," Turner said.

"Another reason is it's our mission at the university that helps our students achieve their goals and graduate," Turner said.

"Most universities are interested in getting numbers in. We are interested in getting students out."

Lisa Henry, fine arts junior, relies on her work-study position. She averages 16 hours per week at the library.

"It helps me pay my bills and it's very convenient because it's right here on campus," Henry said.

"They work around my schedule and the people here are great."

She said since she will be pursuing a master's degree in library science, her work-study experience is also relevant to her future employment.

Heather Comer, elementary education junior, works as a receptionist in the Student Development Center.

She averages between 10 to 15 hours per week at the center.

"I like it because it's flexible and I like the people I

SEE WORK-STUDY, PAGE 2

## Rejected



Photo by Caroline Bryan

**IU Southeast player Jeremy Holland is guarded by Asbury players Ben Spann and Michael Spann during a game on Feb. 8. See page 5 for more.**

## Competition deadline approaches

By **MARTI JOHNSON**  
Staff Writer  
manjohns@ius.edu

The 2007 Kentuckiana Metroversity Writing Competition is approaching its deadline for entries.

The Kentuckiana Metroversity Writing Competition was officially opened to

entries in November 2006.

However, due to a lack of interest until closer to the deadline in past years, publicity for the competition around campus did not start until the first week of classes in the spring 2007 semester.

"There usually isn't a lot of interest until closer to the deadline," Walt Jackson,

campus coordinator for the competition and group writing instructor for the Writing Help Center, said, "so it turned into more of a spring semester activity."

The competition guidelines will allow as many as two entries in the short fiction, creative non-fiction and research writing categories per entrant.

In the poetry category, up to five submissions are allowed per entrant.

There will be first and second place prizes awarded in each of the four categories. The first place prizes will be \$100 and the second place prizes will be \$50.

In addition to being divided by writing-type categories, the competition is also divided into undergrad-



Patricia Spencer

uate and graduate divisions.

"It's important for our stu-

SEE METROVERSITY, PAGE 2

**Walt Jackson**  
group writing instructor  
Writing Help Center