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## COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS 11/13

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- I. **DATE/TIME:** Tuesday, November 13th, 2018 7:00pm
- II. **LOCATION:** Farley Hall
- III. **SENATORS:** Will West, Meredith McDonald, JR Riojas, Johnny Yang, Jase Woods, David Voell, and Will Corley
- IV. **RECAP:**
  - Discussed Collaborative Promise Meeting that occurred on 11/12 with ASB External Affairs Executive Directors
  - Discussed meeting with Mayor Robyn Tannehill
    - Mostly discussed effectiveness of ID scanners on the Square, SafeRide stops, and the Waffle House.
    - Mayor Tannehill supports the idea for parking SafeRide buses on the Square, she actually suggested using the Neilson's parking lot since it is well lit and located right next to the courthouse. External Affairs Executive Directors are in talks with SafeRide coordinator.
    - Mayor Tannehill loves the Waffle House idea and is very supportive of it.

- Crosswalk update - Johnny contacted an Oxford official a week ago about constructing the crosswalk across Jackson Avenue, still waiting on response and will follow up in the next few days.
- Congressional action on raising the student activity fee by 5 dollars may not be necessary, as there is an upcoming meeting with the university CFO where tuition may be increased so the fee might just get changed then, Elam says to wait.
  - Purpose of raising the fee is to be able to provide smaller groups on campus more funds, as they deserve the same support and representation, but are not receiving it financially currently.

## V. **DISCUSSION/BRAINSTORM:**

- Waffle House
  - Next step going forward with Waffle House, as suggested by Mayor Tannehill, is to find a local investor that understands the market in Oxford, may be outside of the power of ASB but could be productive to raise awareness.
  - Waffle Houses traditionally serve communities of at least 50,000, but even after annexing a new part of the county Oxford in still only

25,000 (but that does not account for the student population at the university).

- Senators know of many people driving all the way to Batesville just for Waffle House so there is obviously a student need for it.
- In the meeting Meredith called the Batesville Waffle House to ask who the owner was to see if the committee could get into contact with them to learn more, but she was told to contact corporate.
- Meredith send an email to Waffle House corporate about starting a franchise in Oxford.
- JR suggested starting a Twitter campaign facilitated by the ASB Twitter page to rally student and community support and acquired the contact information of the Communications Director of ASB.
  - Suggested hashtags include #LOU4wafflehouse & #CanIPleaseGetAWaffleHouse?
- Meredith started a Facebook page Rebs 4 Waffle House:
- <https://www.facebook.com/rebs4wafflehouse/>