

ASWWU Executive Board Meeting Documents

3/5/26

Document Number	Agenda Topic Title
1	Draft Minutes – 2/26/26 Exec Board Meeting
2	S&A Fee Committee Membership Update
3	Athletics Fee Referendum
4	S&A Committee Letter from President Randhawa

ASWWU Executive Board Meeting Minutes- DRAFT

2/26/26 | 4:15 PM | VU 567

ASWWU Executive Board Members

Present: Cates-Doglio, Davis, Maynard, Stegeman, Skinner, Polo, Carnell

Absent: NA

Advisor: Lorio

Secretary: Lorio

Guest(s) in attendance: none

Motions

Motion #	Title	Result
ASB-26-W-27	To approve the 2/26/26 consent agenda items as presented	Passed
ASB-26-W-28	To appoint Madison Pettey to ASVP University Operation Vacancy, Effective Spring 2026 for remainder of 25-26 Academic year, pending completion of all required administrative process for hiring.	Failed
ASB-26-W-29	To appoint Angel Montalvo Zarate to ASVP University Operations Vacancy, Effective Spring 2026 for remainder of 25-26 Academic year, pending completion of all required administrative process for hiring.	Passed

1. Call to order

Cates-Doglio, Chair, called the meeting to order at 16:17

2. Revisions to the agenda

None

3. Consent Items – Routine business items that do not require discussion

ASB-26-W-27	Motion: To approve the 2/26/26 consent agenda items as presented.
Motion Made By: Skinner	Motion Seconded By: Carnell
Vote Count: 7 Aye, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain	Action Result: Passed

4. Public forum – Time for WWU & community members to address the ASWWU Executive Board

None

5. ASWWU Executive Board Reports

a. AS President Report (Cates-Doglio)

Draft, 2/26/26

- i. This week involved testifying in WA Leg on topics important to HB2070, WWU per student funding bill, currently dead, advancing support for future action
 - 1. Maynard: noted our goal of lobbying achieved with the bill, getting a hearing, is a major win for WWU.
 - ii. S&A Fee Committee:
 - 1. Budget basics reviewed, Admin Services Assessment Fee (ASA) will be charged /included in all/most S&A Fee budget proposals this year including Athletics
 - a. Chose not to run for S&A Chair this year. DRAC Rep Ella Horner will be chair
- b. ASVP Sustainability Report** (Skinner)
 - i. SEJF this week, have heard all grant presentations, vote on presentations in 2 weeks
 - ii. Student Sustainability Coalition planning ongoing, looking to start meeting soon
 - iii. MOU w/ Divest Apartheid group discussion ongoing
 - iv. Sustainability Action Plan report released
- c. ASVP Diversity Report** (Polo)
 - i. Ethnic Student Center(ESC) History, 35th Anniversary is this year, VP Div is on planning committee
 - 1. Still gathering more resources for Anniversary celebration
 - ii. Ongoing work on VP Diversity role update and planning for future additional resources for connecting with students and admin
 - iii. Meeting with Centers Leadership re: impact of ongoing budget cuts on staff
 - iv. Collab Council may be meeting next week
- d. ASVP Activities Report** (Stegeman)
 - i. Wrapped up Athletics Fee Referendum meetings with AS Senators
 - ii. Fall Info Fair Coordinator (Student Engagement employee position) has been hired
 - iii. Student Union Advisory Group (SUAG) field trip to Lakewood
 - 1. Conversations to update understanding and use of Lakewood Facilities and programs (e.g. challenge course, etc), potential partnerships with campus groups
 - iv. Decorations workgroup meetings ongoing with planning
- e. ASWWU Executive Board Advisor Report** (Lorio)
 - i. Timesheet reminder, WEB4U offline after 5pm, Friday Feb 27th, submit 2/16-2/28 timesheets by 4pm to avoid system issues

6. Information Items – Items that do not need a vote

- a. Finalist Introductions – ASVP University Operations Vacancy** (Cates-Doglio, Doc 5)
 - i. Name, pronoun, major, why you chose to apply, favorite finalist question
 - 1. Anthony Molnar (they/them): looking for way to get actively involved, excited about work of position, Theme music question

2. Heather Curfman (They/she/any) current CBE Senator, interested in being involved in a functional way, interested in participating in conversations that support inclusion of intersectionality, Question: Dissent question, shared perspective of why question
 3. Angel Montalvo Zarate(he/him), Poli Sci major likes being involved, interested in helping understand the scope of the University, demonstrating impacts on students and advocating for students and student issues, Question: Dissent Opinion
- ii. Clarifying questions
1. Polo: Did 4th finalist respond to meeting invite, Cates-Doglio: no response from finalist
 2. Maynard:
 - a. Specific projects or topics?
 - i. Curfman: Building trust and connections across campus, diversify current connections. Hopes to increase effectiveness of navigating different topics.
 - ii. Molnar: Evolve concept of representation for students in this position, cultivate connections with different stakeholder groups from individuals to activist groups
 - iii. Angel: participated in different scale gov ops at diff institution/HS. Prefers in person discussions with students, focus on outreach project to students
 3. Cates-Doglio: Clarify RC acronym, Rainbow Coalition
 4. Polo: Question for Angel about what perspective you bring as a first-year student, Cates-Doglio expands question to other finalists
 - a. Montalvo Zarate: Clarified, 1st yr at WWU, JR by credit status, as a member of a diverse community, hopes to help build bridges to diverse student groups on campus.
 - b. Molnar: perspective of transfer student, passion for material impacts of policies, focus on outcomes.
 - c. Curfman: perspective of older/non-traditional student, can be strange/adds a power dynamic to discussions, aware of potential perceptions and maintains focus on impacts of the work and what the best function and work of AS Governing bodies is.

- 7. Executive Session** Announced to discuss qualifications of Finalists for ASVP University Operation Appointment, 20 minute total, Start: 16:47, Resume regular business at 17:07, extended 10 minutes to 17:17, extended to 17:27, extended to 17:42
- a. **Discussion of finalist qualifications for vacancy appointment of ASVP University Operations position**

Regular meeting reconvened at 17:48- time between end of Exec and reconvening needed to restart online meeting

8. Action items – Items that may need a vote

- a. Appointment of Finalist to ASVP University Operations Position (Cates-Doglio)**
 - i. Effective Spring 2026 for remainder of 2025-2026 Academic Year**

ASB-26-W-28	Motion: To appoint Madison Pettey to ASVP University Operations Vacancy, Effective Spring 2026 for remainder of 25-26 Academic year, pending completion of all required administrative process for hiring.
Motion Made By: Maynard	Motion Seconded By: Stegemen
Vote Count: 3 Aye, 3 Nay, 1 Abstain	Action Result: Failed

ASB-26-W-29	Motion: To appoint Angel Montalvo Zaratel to ASVP University Operations Vacancy, Effective Spring 2026 for remainder of 25-26 Academic year, pending completion of all required administrative process for hiring.
Motion Made By: Polo	Motion Seconded By: Skinner
Vote Count: 4 Aye, 2 Nay, 1 Abstain	Action Result: Passed

9. Discussion Items – Items that do not need a vote- Tabled all discussion items

- a. ASWWU Decorations Workgroup Update (Carnell & Stegeman)**
 - i. tabled

- b. S&A Committee Letter from President Randhawa (Cates-Doglio)**
 - i. tabled

10. Call to adjourn

Cates-Doglio, Chair, called the meeting to adjourn at 17:51

Hello Aspen and John,

I would like to get on Student Government agendas for this week a change in the S&A Fee membership. Jessica Bennet, who is serving as the Campus Recreation's voting member, no longer intends to register for Spring quarter and therefore will not be a student. Campus Rec has proposed Lauren Masley to replace her in that role. Please use feel free to use this email as a supporting document to recommend Lauren to fulfill this role. I will work on a transition plan with Campus Recreation to get Lauren up to speed on the committee happenings.

All the Best,



Greg McBride | [He.Him.His](#)

Director Viking Union

[Viking Union](#) | VU 545

Western Washington University

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ASWWU Government Official Referendum Proposal

Referendum Title: Viking Athletics Fee

WWU Department or Program responsible for implementation of proposed action: Western Intercollegiate Athletics

WWU Department/Program Staff Contact: Butch Kamena

WWU Student (or Student Group) Proposing Referendum: Student Athlete Advisory Committee – Elizabeth Swift

ASWWU Elected Sponsor: Ruby Stegeman, AS Executive Board Vice President of Activities

Date(s) Referendum Proposal to be officially presented to ASWWU Governing Bodies:

- ASWWU Executive Board: 3/5/2026
- ASWWU Senate: 3/4/2026

Proposed General Election Ballot for Referendum (e.g Spring 2026): Enter

Official Final Draft Referendum Information Packet (what will be available to voters if passed to go on ballot):

Note: all information below is exactly as submitted in final draft by referendum sponsor and support program staff.

1) Official Ballot Question:

Shall Western Washington University, beginning Fall Quarter 2027, charge all students enrolled in six or more credits at the Bellingham campus an Athletics fee initially set at \$80.36 each Fall, Winter and Spring Quarter, and increasing by the same annual percentage as S&A Fee increases? If this referendum is approved, and the S&A Fee Committee so recommends, the Western Washington Board of Trustees will be asked to approve reducing the S&A fee by \$53.57 per quarter, beginning Fall Quarter 2027, and removing the Department of Athletics from the S&A fee allocation process, in hopes of providing increased funding to all current S&A fee recipients. The net impact to full-time student fee payers is an increase of \$26.79 per quarter. If the Western Washington Board of Trustees does not approve such, this referendum will be void.

2) Official Referendum Statement of Support (250 words or less):

ASWWU Government Official Referendum Proposal

The ballot proposal would remove the Athletic Department from the Services and Activities Fee process and replace those funds with a separate Athletics Fee set at \$80.36 a quarter in starting Fall 2027. This proposal would provide increased funding not only to athletics, but to a wide range of student groups and activities funded by the S&A fee, including the WWU Associated Students, DRAC, Sport Clubs and Intramurals, the Centers, and Student Engagement. Rising costs are limiting what these groups can do, forcing a reduction in services. Taking Athletics out of the S&A fee and adjusting it downward will allow funding to all groups, including athletics, to increase by up to 12%. For athletics, a specific fee would be similar to what is already in place at Central Washington University and would increase funding, which presently is below the average of both NCAA Division II and the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. The benefits of athletics are wide-ranging. Department events provide a place for campus engagement, where campus groups can set up information tables, be recognized and promoted through specific group nights, and have their programs promoted through social media platforms widely seen both inside and outside the WWU community. The introduction of an athletic fee and reduction of the S&A fee would lead to a total fee increase of about \$26 a quarter for full-time students. The benefits will reach not just athletics, but a wide range of diverse student groups impacting the entire WWU community. Please vote YES.

3) Official Supporting Documentation (additional details)

Subject to the approval of WWU's Board of Trustees, this referendum proposes to separate the Department of Athletics from the group that receives Services & Activities funding, and create a separate ASWWU Athletic Fee, thus increasing funding for both Athletics and the groups remaining in the S&A fee process. Upon the passage of this referendum, a separate athletic fee set with a baseline of \$80.36 per quarter, and increasing consistent with increases in the S&A fee, would be implemented beginning Fall Quarter 2027, and the Athletic Department would withdraw from the S&A fee group, with the hope that any funding previously allocated to Athletics would be distributed among other groups.

4) Official Fiscal Note (required for any student-voted Fee referendum)

ASWWU Government Official Referendum Proposal

The projected fee revenue would be \$3,013,500 for FY28. The projected revenue is based on \$80.36 per quarter with a student count of 12,500. There will be an annual inflationary adjustment each year, consistent with the S&A Fee inflationary adjustment.

The fee will support the needs all 15 intercollegiate athletic programs at WWU and will provide revenue to support the goods and services (uniforms, equipment, game operations, insurance, etc.), travel, student employees, with any remainder supporting non-state funded coaches and support staff that work with students daily.

Men's Sports:

Cross Country
Soccer
Basketball
Indoor Track & Field
Outdoor Track & Field
Golf

Women's Sports:

Cross Country
Soccer
Volleyball
Basketball
Indoor Track & Field
Outdoor Track & Field
Golf
Softball
Rowing

FY25 BUDGET ACTUALS (Operating Budget Only)

Revenue

S&A Fee Allocation	\$2,247,482
Other Revenue	<u>\$1,262,940</u>
Total Revenue	\$3,510,422

Expenses

	\$4,084,304
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (573,882)

FY26 BUDGET PROJECTIONS (Operating Budget Only)

Revenue

S&A Fee Allocation	\$2,278,063
Other Revenue	<u>\$1,341,603</u>
Total Revenue	\$3,619,666

ASWWU Government Official Referendum Proposal

Expenses	\$4,119,602
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (499,936)

5) If the referendum is proposing a student fee, what will the fee oversight structure be?

ASWWU Executive Board would be authorized to create a student committee to review Athletic Fee spending and make recommendations in writing to the Budget Director in the University President’s office and to the Board of Trustees.



Office of the President

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February 11, 2026

Dear Members of the WWU S&A Fee Committee,

In accordance with Washington State RCW 28B.15.045, I am writing to provide justification for an adjustment the University intends to make within the approved 2025–26 S&A fee allocation. Although the committee has not yet held its first business meeting of the year, I am providing this information now so there is sufficient time for discussion and action during this academic year.

For context, in July 2025, the Assistant Director of the Multicultural Student Services (MSS) position was phased out as part of a broader effort to address a structural budget deficit and realign organizational resources. At the same time, and with the opening and continued development of the House of Healing Longhouse (Lhaq'temish-ew'xw ets'e Xwlemi'), we created a position within the Office of Tribal Relations to ensure sustained student support and programming for the success and well-being of Native American and Indigenous students—a key institutional priority. This new position is expected to carry several of the key responsibilities of the previous MSS position related to support of Native American students within the framework of elevating tribal relations and the House of Healing.

Subject to committee and Board of Trustees approval, a portion of the S&A fee funding originally allocated for the salary and benefits of the Assistant Director of MSS will be used to support up to 60 percent of the salary and benefits for the newly created Assistant Director of the House of Healing Longhouse position. This position incorporates key responsibilities previously carried out within MSS while aligning with the University's current structure for supporting Native American and Indigenous students and ensuring the long-term success of the House of Healing Longhouse as a central cultural, educational, and community space on campus.

This adjustment remains consistent with the intent and allowable use of S&A fee funding. Both the former MSS role and the new Longhouse position share core responsibilities that directly support student engagement, leadership development, culturally responsive programming, and the management of student-centered spaces serving historically underrepresented students. The Assistant Director of the House of Healing Longhouse will oversee daily operations, programming, and student advising; collaborate closely with Multicultural Student Services; and support student organizations and engagement efforts in ways that align with the purposes outlined in the original allocation.

For 2025–26, this reallocation will support no more than 60 percent of the salary and benefits for the new position (\$66,251) and will remain within the total S&A fee amount previously approved. The remaining 40 percent will be supported within the originally approved departmental allocation. Looking ahead, full S&A fee support for this position for the 2026–27

academic year is anticipated to be requested by the Office of Tribal Relations through the standard S&A fee allocation process.

This restructuring reflects the University's continued commitment to Native American and Indigenous student success and to ensuring that the House of Healing Longhouse thrives as a vital space for community, culture, and learning.

Thank you for your continued partnership and careful stewardship of S&A fee resources in support of Western Washington University students. Please do not hesitate to reach out if additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabah Randhawa". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Sabah Randhawa
President
Western Washington University