



ASWWU Legislative Affairs Council Meeting Minutes Draft

10-31-24 | 4PM | Viking Union 567

ASWWU Legislative Affairs Council Members

Present: Aspen Cates-Doglio - ASWWU VP Legislative Affairs, Chris Rosenquist - OCE Coordinator of Legislative Affairs, Louis Hay – Student Senator, Matt Condon – Student At-Large, Priscilla Nunes-Martinez - Student At-Large

Absent: None

Advisor: Adam Lorio

Secretary: Ruby Stegeman

Guest(s): None

Motions

LAC-24-F-2	To Approve the 11-7-24 Consent Agenda	Passed
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1. Call to Order

Cates-Doglio, Chair, called the meeting to order at 15:03

2. Revisions to the Agenda

Revised to add a 15-minute information item to discuss bill ideas.

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

I. Approving the 10-31-24 LAC Meeting Minutes

Doc 1

- Amended to correct name spelling errors

LAC-24-F-2	Motion: To approve the 11-7-24 Consent Agenda as Amended
Motion made by: Rosenquist	Motion Seconded by: Condon
Vote Count: 4 Aye 0 nay 0 abstain	Action Result: Passed

4. Information Items - Items that do not need a vote

I. Check in

Discussion Notes:

- Discussed any emotions surrounding the recent election
- How will the election affect the work we do here? (Rosenquist)

II. Learning from the 2024 Lobby Day Agenda

Cates-Doglio

Discussion Notes:

- Think of things that didn't pass in the last legislative session that you would like to see again
- 2013-14 agenda gives an idea of the size of agenda to aim for
- Discussed the purpose of having a legislative agenda and what to aim for when creating it
- 2024 agenda
 - Had 19 bills
 - Only get to talk about 3 when meeting with legislators
 - 2/3rds of the bills passed
 - Discussed one of the bills that died before they attended lobby day last year
 - SB 5895 concerning collective bargaining for certain employees enrolled in academic programs at public institutions of higher education.
 - Would cover non-academic student employees
 - Would allow bargaining power to every single student employee at Western
 - HB 2242 Supporting sexual assault survivors at institutions of higher education
 - Should consider putting on the agenda this year
 - HB 270
 - Considering putting on the agenda
 - Does a good job centering people who will be harmed the most by climate change
 - How does it relate to our work at western? (Condon)
 - Sustainability is a pillar at WWU, and some students will be affected (Cates-Doglio)
 - HB 2114 is on WSA agenda
 - Already have rent stabilization in in Bham, don't need to consider bringing back
 - 2013-14 agenda
 - Had 3 main focuses and a bills of interest section
 - Will probably have 4 main focuses and bills of interest (bills that we support but decided shouldn't go on the main agenda)
 - Like how in depth it was, like the graphs and thinks there are some good graphs to use surrounding per-student funding
 - Considering a way to get information on bills of interest to students, bill tracking (blog?) (Rosenquist)
 - Basic needs bills will largely be introduced during winter break, need to be bill tracking then

III. University Administration Lobbying Agenda

Rosenquist

Doc 1

Discussion Notes:

- Met with Nora Selander director of government relations
- Biggest priority is per-student funding
 - Won't be using "underfunded" language because it says to legislators that they underfunded us, want to be moving away from that
 - Asking for \$21 million in total, not in addition
 - That money is to stop the bleeding, will not give us any new services, ensures that we won't have to shrink services
 - Likely we will get some money, maybe not all
 - The education account that taxes businesses is the only account showing positive revenues, may mean they might look to it to get money for other stuff
- Compensation
 - Fee or fund split, \$5 million to cover compensation for staff
 - Then compensation money can go back into other things
- Enterprise resource planning system
 - Admin trying to replace the whole cloud-based system (web4u, etc.)
 - Old technology and doesn't work very well
- Poulsbo Instructional Facility
- Climate commitment act
 - Money will go to converting the heating plant on campus
- Student Success center
 - Wanting to build a new facility that will house student related services, to get them out of old main
 - Already underway but asking for more money
- Asking for a lot
- Be thinking about what is important to students (Cates-Doglio)
- University has said they won't oppose collective bargaining for operational student employees, win for students, but makes it not a top priority for this year (Cates-Doglio)
 - Try to predict the fiscal consequences of that (Lorio)
 - The wages for non-WAWU student employees already increased by HR to align with the current bargained wage scale for WAWU, big increases with no additional funding (Lorio)

IV. Rough Timeline

Cates-Doglio

Doc 1

Discussion Notes:

- Getting off the ground, getting an understanding of what might go on the agenda (11/7)
- Legislative action fund, getting a deeper understanding of what funds the LAC (11/14)
- Working on the agenda, getting an idea of what the final product might look like
- Outline #1, finish first outline of what the legislative agenda might look like (12/5)
- Work over break, how to track bills, using the agenda outline to do so (12/5)
- Winter timeline (dates not finalized)
 - Finish the agenda, pass the agenda out of LAC
 - Lobby day planning, whatever is left off lobby day planning at that point

- Finalizing lobby day on Feb 6th if necessary
- Will be meeting after lobby day to debrief, talk about maybe sending small groups down, debriefing how LAC ran.
- Might have to meet in spring to pass the bylaws
- Rosenquist noted that on Jan 1st he will go to Olympia and won't be here since then
 - Encouraged speed in finalizing the agenda
- Next meeting try to have an idea of 4 biggest priorities
- Lean into connections with students, ask your peers what matters to them (Lorio)

I. Discussing Potential Bills for the Agenda

Doc 1

- Condon, likes the idea of drafting a bill and trying to find a sponsor
 - Should be short, sweet, and simple
 - Use political capital and time wisely
 - Basic needs, human rights?
 - What is the most doable?
- Food is doable, caveat is that legislature has been doing it for a long time (Rosenquist)
 - AS passed food security fee last spring
 - WSA looking at program to incentivize campuses to allow EBT to be used on campus
 - Usually always a bill surrounding food at the legislature
- Consider doing a survey (Condon)
 - Too late for survey, but can invite basic needs program leader to a meeting (Rosenquist)
 - Have an excellent resource for the stats side of thing, Matt Bryant conducted entire basic needs survey across the state, need to connect that to student stories as well (Phillips)

5. Action Items – Items that may need a vote

None

6. Call to Adjourn

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