



# Western Washington University Associated Students

## AS Board of Directors

November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
MS Teams

**Board Members:** *Present:* Abdul Malik Ford (President), Keenan Kaemingk (VP for Activities), Nicole Ballard (VP for Governmental Affairs), Carson Brock (VP for Student Services), Nora Harren (VP for Sustainability, Ranulfo Molina (VP for Diversity), and Sargun Handa (Senate Pro-Tempore)

*Absent:*

**Advisor:** Annie Byers (AS Board Program Coordinator), Eric Alexander (Director of the Viking Union)

**Secretary:** Sierra Templeton

**Guest(s):** Mario Alem, Hunter Stuehm

### Motions:

**ASB-20-F-17** To table the AS Executive Board meeting minutes from the date of October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. *Passed.*

**ASB-20-F-18** To approve the Transportation Advisory Committee Charge and Charter. *Passed.*

**ASB-20-F-19** To pass the Alternative Transportation Fee Committee Charge and Charter contingent upon adding a Student At-Large position under voting members. *Passed.*

**ASB-20-F-20** To move the Transportation Advisory Committee Charge and Charter to an Action Item. *Passed.*

**ASB-20-F-21** To move the Alternative Transportation Fee Committee Charge and Charter to an Action Item. *Passed.*

*Abdul Malik Ford, AS President, called the meeting to order at 2:38 p.m.*

### I. Approval of Minutes

October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

*MOTION ASB-20-F-17 By Handa*

To table the AS Executive Board meeting minutes from the date of October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

*Second: Ford*

*Vote: 7-0-0*

*Action: Passed*

*Yes:*

*No:*

*Abstaining:*

### II. Revisions to the Agenda

None

### III. BSO Demands

A. Updates

1. Ford stated that he had a meeting with Residence Life, who are planning to implement an affinity housing space for black students, similar to the structure of the gender-inclusive housing. They are currently trying to gather input from students, and work on a welcome week within the program. He also met with the United Faculty of Western Washington University concerning employment status and conditions at Western, as well as their plan to identify and incorporate BSO demands within employment. The job descriptions for the Black Student Coalition are being finished up.
2. Brock stated that Residence Life is working on the option of sibling pairs for housing, incorporating more black art within the residence halls, and looking for leadership outside Residence Life to work on programming of this.
3. Ballard stated that she met with Brian Burton concerning updates on the Ethnic Studies program. They are considering two options. The first would be to create and expand the American Cultural Studies and as funding is made available, curriculum would be developed into its own studies program. The other option would be to create the program from scratch, but this year is a tough year for funding because of COVID-19 so this may not currently be feasible.
4. Molina stated that the temporary job description for Black Student Coalition leadership has been created, and the positions should open up in the following week.
5. Handa stated that she has been training senators and working on inviting a guest speaker for the training. Handa also met with Brooke Love on the Academic Coordinating Commission priorities, the top five of which are all BSO demands.

**IV. Public Forum** (*comments from students and the community*)

None

1. Ford did state that the Public Forum will be open throughout the meeting, and future online meetings as well.

**V. Action Items - Guests**

A. None

**VI. Information Items - Guests**

A. None

**VII. Personnel Items** (*subject to immediate action*)

A. None

**VIII. Action Items - Board**

A. Transportation Advisory Committee Charge and Charter

*MOTION ASB-20-F-18 by Kaemingk*

To approve the Transportation Advisory Committee Charge and Charter.

*Second: Molina*

*Vote: 4-0-3*

*Action: Passed*

*Yes:*

*No:*

*Abstaining: Brock,  
Ballard, Harren*

B. Alternative Transportation Fee Committee Charge and Charter

1. Handa asked if more At-Large students could be added to the ATF committee. Brock responded that this would be possible if the Charge and Charter could be edited before passing.
2. Alexander noted that adding a student to the membership would change the quorum amount. With an even numbered quorum, there could be a tie in a voting scenario.

*MOTION ASB-20-F-19 by Brock*

To pass the Alternative Transportation Fee Committee Charge and Charter contingent upon adding a Student At-Large position under voting members.

*Second: Harren*

*Vote: 5-0-2*

*Action: Passed*

*Yes:*

*No:*

*Abstaining: Ballard,  
Harren*

**IX. Information Items - Board**

A. Transportation Advisory Committee Charge and Charter- Brock

1. Brock stated that the TAC has not been active for five years, but the purpose was to set up an alternative transportation plan for the university, working with the WTA (Whatcom Transportation Authority) to promote alternate vehicles such as bikes.
2. Brock stated that the main changes were to update the job titles of members and to switch certain wordings to be more accessible and applicable to the goal of the committee.

*MOTION ASB-20-F-20 by Handa*

To move the Transportation Advisory Committee Charge and Charter to an Action Item.

*Second: Ford*

*Vote: 7-0-0*

*Action: Passed*

*Yes:*

*No:*

*Abstaining:*

- B. Alternative Transportation Fee Committee Charge and Charter- Ballard, Brock, and Harren
1. Brock stated that the issue at hand is to figure out who should officially chair the committee as the Transportation Office is no longer under sustainability, but under the parking office. Presently Harren, AS VP for Sustainability, is chairing the committee, but himself and Ballard are also voting members. In the future the student alternative transportation fee may be increased, so it is important to have students in the room.

*MOTION ASB-20-F-21 by Handa*

To move the Alternative Transportation Fee Committee Charge and Charter to an Action Item.

*Second: Brock*

*Vote: 7-0-0*

*Action: **Passed***

*Yes:*

*No:*

*Abstaining:*

- C. Western Washington University Board of Trustees Resolution- Handa
1. Handa stated that she is considering three titles for the resolution. The purpose is to request that the BOT (Board of Trustees) and Sabah Randhawa (President of WWU) recognize that the Student Senate and the Executive Board are equal in power, meaning that the Senate Pro-Tempore and AS President have equal power. The language on the website refers to the Executive Board as the Board of Directors still, which is outdated. The BOT has also not yet approved the senate's constitution and bylaws which may mean that the senate is operating under an illegal constitution. The resolution requests that the BOT allow the Senate Pro-Tempore to attend their meetings.
  2. Stuehm, AS Communications Director, stated that he would send Handa the Executive Board special letter head for formatting.
  3. Brock asked if Handa was still reaching out to other schools for input or support on the resolution. Handa responded that she is only asking for the Executive Board and Student Senate to sign the resolution.
  4. Ballard asked if it is possible to have the resolution pass through the Student Senate. Handa responded that the first senate meeting may be later than it needs to pass in order to be submitted to the BOT before their meeting. Handa asked to board for feedback on the resolution.
  5. The board agreed that the third title "Equal Representation for the ASWWU" would be the best fit for the resolution.

**X. Consent Items** (*subject to immediate action*)

A. Personnel Committee

a. Renee Witherspoon

1. Kaemingk stated that Witherspoon was interested and well-suited to be appointed to the committee.

B. Student Enhancement Fund Committee

a. Brandon Lane

1. Ford stated that he has not reviewed the applicant and will address the consent item at the next meeting.

2. Handa stated that Raquel Vigil sits on the Student Enhancement Fund Committee and may be someone to reach out to on the appointment process for the committee.

C. Senate Election Results- Alem and Handa

1. Alem stated that his role in the elections is the elections coordinator and it is his job to deal with election related issues, finances, and reporting upon the elections to the board.
2. Alem reported that there were 747 votes in the AS WWU senate election, an increase of 307 votes from last year's election. He worked on making the ballots more accessible this year with primarily online learning.
3. Alem reported that the Referendum for Spring Senate Elections passed. Jasleen Kaur, Jasmine Fast, Sameer Shorab, and Alex Park were elected as At-Large Senators. Selam Swier and Connor Johnson were elected as Senators from the College of Business and Economics. Aidyn Stevens and Kharma Stambaugh were elected as senators for the College of Fine and Performing Arts. Yessica Perez and Althea Frye were elected as senators for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Ankur Handa and Olivia Chatters were elected as senators from the College of Science and Engineering. Kendrick Jackson and Elizabeth Rosales were elected as senators for the Woodring College of Education. Laura Wagler and Francis Neff were elected as senators for Huxley College. Samia Quidwai and AP Wang were elected as senators for the Graduate School. Finally, Kara Henry and Marissa McGinnis were elected as senators for Fairhaven College.
4. Alem stated that there was one tie in the election which was resolved through coin flip as guided by the current by-laws. In the future clarification on the procedure of a tie in the elections process may be something for the Elections Advisory Committee to look into.
5. Alem stated that 70% of senators elected identify as BIPOC whereas last year the number was 60%, showing an increase in representation among newly elected senators.
6. Alem presented the list of senators who had submitted the mandatory financial disclosure statement that was due the previous Monday, November 2nd. The documents were to be given to him, who would then submit them to the Viking Union Finance Office. Alem stated that the statement was sent out early in the election process, and Alem called all 60 senators to remind them to turn the statement in by the due date.
7. Alem then presented the list of students who had not submitted the statement or submitted it incomplete or incorrect. These students could've faced a grievance, which were due November 3<sup>rd</sup>, but as Alem was only informed of the need to compile the list on the day of the grievance due date, there may be some contention. Alem added that most students running for senate did not use any campaign funds as the campaign was held online. In the future Alem would like to work with the Elections Advisory Committee to make sure there is more communication and fairer deadlines for submitting financial documents and grievances.
8. Handa asked if Alem knows how much money was spent in total by candidates. Alem answered that each candidate this year received 35\$ for campaigning, and this year only around five students used their allotted money, so very little was spent.

9. Handa stated that she believed that the fact that some senators did not follow the financial deadline was negligible as most if not all did not use campaign funds, and all would be contacted about the matter.

## **XI. Discussion Items**

### **A. Committee Reformation**

1. Ford stated that there is very little time left in the meeting, Brock added that the item could be kept to discuss next week.

## **XII. Board Reports**

**Abdul Malik Ford, AS President** did not have anything to report.

**Keenan Kaemingk, VP for Activities** stated that he has been working on how to better support clubs, creating a video introduction for clubs on how to access their pages on WIN (the Western Involvement Network.) He has been discussing the committee reformation with pro-staff and is looking forward to discussing it with the rest of the board in the following meeting. He is also planning a first-generation student celebration and invited other VPs for their input on the event.

**Ranulfo Molina, VP for Diversity** did not have anything to report.

**Nicole Ballard, VP for Governmental Affairs** stated that The Hub was open on Tuesday to encourage voter turnout. The LAC started up and the year's lobbying agenda is in the process of creation. Ballard invited VPs to reach out to her with any input on the Lobby Day agenda.

**Carson Brock, VP for Student Services** stated that he has been working on the Charge and Charters he presented today as well as looking into advocating for mental health on campus, meeting with Melynda Huskey about it.

**Nora Harren, VP for Sustainability** did not have anything to report.

**Sargun Handa, Senate Pro-Tempore** stated that one of the Huxley senators, Laura Wagler, had an interview with The Planet. The first training should be on November 12<sup>th</sup> and continue from there. Handa invited board members to attend briefly to introduce themselves to the new senators.

## **XIII. Senate Reports**

### **A. None**

## **XIV. Other Business**

- A. Byers stated that the following Wednesday is a holiday so the document submission deadline for next week's meeting is extended to Thursday.

*Abdul Malik Ford, AS President, adjourned this meeting at 4:26 p.m.*