

Western Washington University

Legislative Affairs Council

January 10th, 2020

VU 567

Board Members: *Present:* Grace Drechsel (VP for Governmental Affairs), Phoebe DeMeerler (Local Issues Coordinator), Nicole Ballard (Organizing and Outreach Coordinator), Bennett Massey-Helber (Director of Legislative Affairs), Kayl Gillihan (Outreach and Representation), Nora Harren (REP Director), Joselyn Chavez (ESC Representative), Grace LaMonte (Student At-Large), Collin Thrower (Student At-Large), and Kaitlyn Davidson (Student At-Large).

Secretary: Sierra Templeton

Guest(s): N/A

Advisor: Leti Romo

Motions:

LAC-20-W-1 To approve the meeting minutes from the date of November 25th, 2019. *Passed.*

LAC-20-W-2 To approve the meeting minutes from the date of December 2nd, 2019. *Passed.*

LAC-20-W-3 To pass the legislative priority of the student support package. *Passed.*

LAC-20-W-4 To move the LAC Proposal for K-12 civics education to an action item. *Passed.*

LAC-20-W-5 To approve the legislative priority for K-12 civics education. *Passed.*

I. Call to Order

Grace Drechsel, VP of Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

II. Additions and Changes to the Agenda

N/A

III. Approval of Minutes

A. November 25th, 2019

MOTION LAC-20-W-1 by Gillihan

To approve the meeting minutes from the date of November 25th, 2019.

Second: LaMonte

Action: Passed

B. December 2nd, 2019

MOTION LAC-20-W-2 by Gillihan

To approve the meeting minutes from the date of December 2nd, 2019.

Second: Thrower Action: Passed

IV. Action Items

A. LAC Proposal- Student Support Package

1. This legislative priority would devote \$200,000 per biennium for the Veteran Services Center, \$200,000 for a new CASAS employee, and \$200,000 for the Counseling Center.
2. In the past, the funding for the Counseling Center had been questioned because the LAC was under the impression that funding would go to creating a counseling alternative in the MCC that was student-run. Dreschel had a meeting with Sislana Ledbetter to clear this up, and there is no plan for this to happen, but instead set up a similar area with trained counselors or at the very least grad students, which does not have a defined space as of yet. Ledbetter is working on making wellness on campus a comprehensive system, collaborating with students, and AS Board members have also expressed interest in working on this.

MOTION LAC-20-W-3 by Lamonte

To pass the legislative priority of the student support package.

Second: Gillihan Action: Passed

V. Information Items

A. LAC Proposal- K-12 Civics Education

1. The AS has a history of advocating for K-12 issues. Currently there is testing for civics but no credit devoted to civics, and no curriculum in any social studies class set aside for civics either. Legislators cannot add more credits high school graduation requirements, because it would make it impossible for students to graduate on time if they failed even one class. However, this proposal does advocate for expanding programs that get high school students involved with the state legislative system.

MOTION LAC-20-W-4 by Massey-Helber

To move the LAC Proposal for K-12 civics education to an action item.

Second: Thrower Action: Passed

MOTION LAC-20-W-5 by Thrower

To approve the legislative priority for K-12 civics education.

Second: LaMonte Action: Passed

