

Western Washington University

Legislative Affairs Council

January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 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), Jasmine Balasas (GSAC), Joselyn Chavez (ESC Representative), Grace LaMonte (Student At-Large), Connor Farrand (Student At-Large), and Kaitlyn Davidson (Student At-Large).

**Secretary:** Sierra Templeton

**Guest(s):** N/A

**Advisor:** Leti Romo (Assistant Director of Student Representation and Governance)

**Motions:**

**LAC-20-W-6** To approve the meeting minutes from the date of January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. *Passed.*

**LAC-20-W-7** To move the funding request for speaker Erin Hunt to an action item. *Passed.*

**LAC-20-W-8** To approve the funding request for speaker Erin Hunt. *Passed.*

**I. Call to Order**

*Kayl Gillihan, Vice Chair of the LAC and SAIRC Outreach and Representation Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 1:04.*

**II. Additions and Changes to the Agenda**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

A. January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

*MOTION LAC-20-W-6 by Farrand*

To approve the meeting minutes from the date of January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

*Second: Gillihan Action: Passed*

**IV. Discussion Items**

A. WILD Agenda- (Gillihan)

1. Support for Undocumented Students
2. Funding for Ethnic Studies
3. Support for Survivors of Sexual Assault
4. Farm Worker Protections

- a. Farrand asks whether it would be useful to add an ask concerning Shred the Contract to the Farm Worker Protections, as this is a local movement that affects the issue. Gillihan notes this as a possibility.
  - b. Gillihan states that she needs to update the information of the 4<sup>th</sup> ask concerning HB 1815 and SB 5497. She also inquired about whether there is a companion bill for SB 6261, and Massey-Helber responded that there is not.
5. Other items that should be on the WILD agenda?
    - a. Chavez mentions adding the legislative priority of Support for Indigenous Students concerning the Western campus longhouse on to the agenda.
  6. Gillihan stated that there will be the WILD agenda draft as an information item at the next meeting as well as individual office agendas to look at.

#### IV. Information Items

- A. Funding Request- Black History Month Speaker (*Harren*)
  1. Romo set up Erin Hunt as a speaker for Black History Month. It will be a lunch event in the VU 567 on February 14<sup>th</sup> around noon. This time is held an hour before the LAC meeting in the same room so members are able to attend the speaker beforehand.
  2. The next step after this request is approved would be to advertise around campus. Ballard noted that she attended a staff meeting for the REP office in which they discussed contacting the sociology departments and other similar departments to ask professors to give extra credit to those who attended the event.

*MOTION LAC-20-W-7 by LaMonte*

To move the funding request for speaker Erin Hunt to an action item.

*Second: Balasas*

*Action: Passed*

#### IV. Action Items

- A. Funding Request- Black History Month Speaker (*Harren*)

*MOTION LAC-20-W-8 by Farrand*

To approve the funding request for speaker Erin Hunt.

*Second: LaMonte*

*Action: Passed*

#### V. Reports

**Phoebe, Local Issues Coordinator** stated that the city and council meetings were the previous week but were canceled due to snow. The mayor and other governmental officials were sworn in.

**Bennett, Director of Legislative Affairs,** stated that he has been lobbying mostly for the student support package, but also for funding for ethnic studies, comprehensive k-12 sex education, support for undocumented students, and student loan forgiveness as well as other LAC legislative priorities.

**Nicole, Organizing and Outreach Coordinator**, stated that she will be tabling Monday in the VU from 1:00-4:00 p.m. looking for testimonials from Western students concerning HB 2158, or the Washington College Grant. The census work is on its way and things for the next election are in the works as well.

**Grace, AS VP for Governmental Affairs**, stated that Western Lobby Day was held on Monday and went really well; lobbyists spoke to 66 legislators with a great turnout.

**VI. Other Business**

- A. Romo stated that everyone in LAC should tell their friends about signing up for WILD, and email the link. Gillihan will be making a promotional video for the event as well.

Farrand asked how long WILD has been going on, and Gillihan responded that it has been under the wing of the SAIRC for the last two years but before that was handled by different offices. He also voiced his concerns for lack of space on the buses and hotels for this event, but Gillihan assured him that this wouldn't be an issue.

*Kayl Gillihan, Vice Chair of the LAC and SAIRC Outreach and Representation Coordinator, adjourned this meeting at 1:26 p.m.*