

Western Washington University

Legislative Affairs Council

February 7th, 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), Joselyn Chavez (ESC Representative), Grace LaMonte (Student At-Large), Collin Thrower (Student At-Large), Connor Farrand (Student At-Large), and Jennifer Leveque (Student At-Large).

Secretary: Sierra Templeton

Advisor: Leti Romo

Motions:

LAC-19-W-12 To approve the meeting minutes from the date of January 31st, 2020. *Passed.*

LAC-19-W-13 To approve the WILD Agenda and each office's priorities. *Passed.*

I. Call to Order

Grace Drechsel, VP of Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

II. Additions and Changes to the Agenda

N/A

III. Approval of Minutes

A. January 31st, 2020

MOTION LAC-20-W-12 By Gillihan

To approve the meeting minutes from the date of January 31st, 2020.

Second: LaMonte

Action: Passed

IV. Action Items

A. WILD Agenda (Gillihan)

1. Main Agenda- Gillihan

a. Major changes were; one of the asks from Reproductive Justice was moved to Support for Survivors of Sexual Assault, cut down the minor works ask, and addition of the second insulin bill in the Public Accessibility section.

There were also some grammatical changes made to make the language more inclusive.

2. ESC Agenda- Chavez
 - a. Major changes were; expansion of the bills and of the summary of Expanded Rights for Incarcerated People, as well as expansion of the Support for Native American Students.
3. ESP Agenda- No representative
 - a. Drechsel commented that the third ask is on the main agenda, so this could probably be removed from the ESP agenda. The other asks are from the LAC Agenda Environmental Protections and Climate Justice section, cutting out two of the other asks.
 - b. Ballard noted her concern with focusing on the same matters that were already lobbied on when there are many more causes and bills to support. Drechsel responded that because of the lack of time, it would be difficult to add a list of things with such short notice, especially because of how the LAC thought critically about everything on the agenda, and this wouldn't get the same level of thought.
 - c. Gillihan noted that writing a new agenda for the ESP would be an undue burden on a lot of people. Whoever wrote it, plus the board if the agenda required an emergency e-vote. The LAC could just expand on the low-carbon fuel standard and the plastic bag ban.
 - d. Drechsel stated that there was no representative from the ESP present, and that she would be uncomfortable with changing their agenda without their permission or input. For now, the LAC could approve the agenda, try to get in contact with the ESP, and then revote on any changes that need to be made if needed.

MOTION LAC-20-W-13 by Gillihan

To approve the WILD Agenda and each office's priorities.

Second: Leveque

Action: Passed

V. Reports

Phoebe, Local Issues Coordinator stated that she had nothing to report.

Bennett, Director of Legislative Affairs, stated that he has been working on the same things as last week.

Nicole, Organizing and Outreach Coordinator, stated that she has been working on a National Democratic Debate watch party event that will be held on February 25th in AW 204 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Students will be able to register to vote, or to turn in their ballots at this time, and there will be snacks as well. She talked to someone about the 2020 Census, and how to get accurate counts for students as well as underrepresented communities. They're looking for students to work for the census to knock doors, and they would be paid \$20 an hour.

Grace, AS VP for Governmental Affairs, stated that the Coalition for Ethnic Studies on campus is running a email/letter writing campaign and that all LAC members should join

in the effort and urge others to do so as well. There is more information on their social media.

VI. Other Business

A. House Bill 2602

1. Thrower stated that someone brought to his attention HB 2606 which concerns hair discrimination in the workplace, and especially during the hiring process. The bill has bipartisan support and Washington would be the fourth state to pass a bill like this.
2. Ballard stated that it would be good to talk to Massey-Helber about this to see if he would want to make the bill a legislative priority

- B. Romo reminded the LAC that the next week there will be a speaker from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the VU 567 before the meeting and that everyone should attend and enjoy the food provided as well.

Grace Drechsel, AS VP of Governmental Affairs, adjourned this meeting at 1:47 p.m.