



the proposal to Olympia to show the financial needs of the University. Jo responded that this proposal was for the Services and Activities (S&A) Fee Committee of the University. Eckman clarified that the Student Senate is paid for on an unfunded mandate, which is not ideal for the S&A Fee Committee because it creates an unfair burden on the committee's budget. Jo added that the AS wages will also be changing soon. Courtney Yoshiyama asked which budget is used for a new Charge and Charter that asks for funding. Jo responded that AS grants are taken from the AS discretionary reserves, and some of the Charge and Charters are presented as pilot programs before they are funded. Makrakis asked if the salaries for the Student Senate and Executive Board would be changing. Jo stated that the Wage Task Force recommended the same hourly rate for Student Senators and AS Executive Board members. Adah Barenburg asked Maya Noesen responded that the Bookstore's profit goes to the AS, but, due to the relocation of the Bookstore, there is a lower projection for this year's profit. Barenburg then about funding for the REP office and phones in AS Productions, and Jo stated that they are recommended decreases in their budgets. Barenburg then asked why the Underground Coffeehouse budget increased, and Noesen responded that the Underground had been offering low compensation for bands performing there, and they were asking for more to compensate them.

## **V. ACTION ITEMS – Guests\***

## **VI. PERSONNEL ITEMS** *(subject to immediate action)*

## **VII. ACTION ITEMS – Senate\***

### **A. Title IX Resolution**

Nicole Wood discussed the changes that she and Barenburg made to the Title IX Resolution proposed at the last meeting. Wood stated that the following language had been added:

“Therefore, let it be further resolved that the WWU Student Senate respectfully requests that the Department of Education more comprehensively consider the wishes of affected university students when crafting the rule changes relevant to sexual assault prevention, investigation, and resolution.

Therefore, let it be further resolved that the data regarding reporting numbers cited both in this document and on the WWU website is both dated and unrepresentative of actual numbers associated with assault given the severity of underreporting.”

Wood asked the Senate if there was any feedback. Barenburg added that the WWU Equal Opportunity Office had a discussion about Betsy Devos' proposal, and WWU is trying to find a way to keep its current Title IX policy and not change it according to the Department of Education. Eckman added that the EOO currently operates off of preponderance of the evidence and the burden of proof, and offers both options to students. Barenburg added that the EOO can currently investigate concerns of students off campus, but, if DeVos' proposal passes, the University will not be able to represent students in concerns that

occur off campus. Leti Romo added that WWU currently covers students studying abroad, but the change would also mean that WWU could not cover anything occurring on a study abroad. Hensyel asked if the school can opt to provide more care than is defined as the bare minimum in DeVos' policy. Barenburg stated that the EOO is currently trying to determine how to do still provide this support. Noesen asked is WWU can abide by Washington State law rather than federal law. Barenburg responded that the EOO would likely know these answers. Romo added that federal laws must be followed in California, for example, so that may also be the case in Washington State. Wood reiterated that the Resolution would be a statement of expressing WWU's disapproval of DeVos' proposal along with other Universities across the country. Yokuda asked how the Resolution would be presented. Barenburg added that it would likely be seen by other student governments, and lobbyists may find this document useful in conjunction with the 43 other Universities that have passed similar resolutions. Yokuda then expressed concern for how much of an impact the document would make. Eckman stated that it may be a good idea to pass the Resolution separately from determining what will happen to it after to show support for this sentiment, while the dissemination of the information could come back as a new conversation. Koltiska motioned to pass the proposed Resolution. Hensyel seconded. Koltiska then added that this is an important stance for the Senate to take, even if the method of sharing the resolution is not entirely clear at this point.

*MOTION ASWWUSS-19-S-10* by Koltiska

To pass the proposed Title IX Resolution.

*Second:* Hensyel

*Vote:* 17 – 0 – 1

*Action:* Passed

## **VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS – Senate\***

### **A. AS Election Code Document and the AS Elections**

Eckman talked about the AS Election Code that was approved by the AS Executive Board before the Student Senate was active, and highlighted that it is important for the Senate to talk about what happened during the recent Executive Board election. McMillan stated that they decided to break the Election Code and un-endorse a candidate in the AS Elections following the first AS Elections forum. McMillan added that they had a disheartening discussion with the candidate and released a statement against the candidate before filing a grievance on themselves. Eckman stated that Section 3, subsection 4 of the [AS Election Code](#) states that, "Current AS employees, may not, as employees or individuals, endorse candidates." Eckman added that the wording here is somewhat vague, and it does not define the policy for elected officials. Eckman stated that he also shared the statement written by McMillan, and does not believe that he broke the Election Code. Yokuda stated that she also understood the importance of the Election Code, but that she was worried about how the Facebook posts and Google Documents affected the image of the AS to the broader campus. McMillan responded that it was some drama, but they believed that they were calling out more profound concerns more than

just drama, and it took a lot of courage and energy for them to speak out against the candidate. Koltiska expressed his appreciation for what McMillan did and stated that Senators have an important perspective because they do hold positions of power within the University. McMillan responded by saying that they thought a lot about the privileges and disadvantages that they could possibly face, but they felt that what they had to say was important for them to express. Nick Makrakis stated that it is important to dissect the language within the Election Code, and open dialogue on that code rather than the specific issue brought up. Nicole Ballard stated that she believed the intention of the document to even the playing field of candidates to lessen the influence of elected officials and AS employees whose friends might run for office when new students are not motivated to run. Romo added that the Elections Code is written by a committee of students At-Large. Yokuda then stated that she believes it is important to voice concerns with candidates, and that it would be good to find a way for elected officials to support candidates but not oppose candidates. Nina-Tuyen Tran stated that it would be ideal to have an election code that accounts for nuances and power dynamics that will always exist. Tran reiterated that these grievances serve as an opportunity for the AS to revisit the process and structure of the Election Code and consider restorative governance. Noesen asked why AS employees and elected officials are held to the same standard and why the Executive Board needs to approve the Election Code. Ballard responded that the target of that portion of the Election Code was likely the Representation and Engagement Programs (REP) Office because they work so closely with the election process. Romo added that there is an ethical aspect to being non-partisan, and anything related to the elections must be non-partisan. Anne Lee, AS VP for Student Life, stated that they are at the meeting to observe the Senate and to support McMillan and their stance. Lee reiterated that the concerns of Queer and Trans People of Color (QTPOC) are not very visible concerns on campus, and that speaking out on these concerns is difficult for QTPOC. Lee added that the Code is written by students, and it is important to think about these nuances and address them within the Code. Another member of the public reiterated that it is very important to address these issues, and the Code can be changed to help with this. Another member of the public stated that the personal interactions of public officials are still valid and that their position as an elected official should not overpower their concerns as individuals. Yokuda thanked members from the public for their perspective. Luke LeClair stated that many AS positions are occupied by leaders of disenfranchised communities, so their opinions are neglected when the election code prevents them from sharing their views as AS employees. Eckman clarified that the Code does not restrict AS employees from speaking about their experiences with individuals, only from endorsing candidates. Makrakis stated that, with only about 15% of the student population voting, it is important to increase student participation in elections because it would help the image of the AS and increase trust in the organization. Jona Akelipa stated that it is problematic that faculty members can use the N-word but elected officials and AS employees cannot endorse candidates. Yoshiyama stated that

it is important for elected officials to communicate their concerns, but that endorsing candidates may discourage some candidates from running because they know fewer people within the AS. Noesen added that voter participation may increase with more endorsements, and that students who are unsure of who to vote for would be able to judge the endorsements of public officials or AS employees, and suggested adding a clause to restrict the REP office from endorsing, but not all AS employees. Romo added that elected officials and AS employees can still share their experiences even if they cannot endorse candidates, and told the Senate that revisions to the Election Code can still be presented to the Executive Board.

## IX. CONSENT ITEMS *(subject to immediate action)*

### A. **Discrimination Complaint Procedure Committee Appointments**

Noesen appointed Senator Tran and Julia Smith to the Discrimination Complaint Procedure Committee and provided context on each appointment.

*MOTION ASWWUSS-19-S-11* by Noesen

To approve the appointments to the Discrimination Complaint Procedure Committee.

*Second:* Buss

*Vote:* 19 – 0 – 0

*Action:* Passed

## X. BOARD REPORTS

### **Levi Eckman, Interim Senate Pro-Tempore**

Eckman stated that Dr. Kristen Larson resigned from ACC, and the CSE may be considering not filling that position as a vote of no-confidence in academic shared governance. Eckman added that the Student Technology Fee committee passed a proposal to purchase graphing calculators for students to check out.

### **At-Large**

Ballard reported that the Academic Coordinating Commission (ACC) took a motion four weeks ago regarding a resolution condemning the use of the N-word in the classroom, which passed. However, Ballard mentioned that two weeks ago, the ACC Chair took a motion to rescind the resolution, which passed and nullified the resolution. Buss added that she is on the Budget Committee, which just finalized the budget. Barenburg stated that she attended the Food Systems Working Group meeting and met with the contractor trying to determine whether WWU should have a self-operated dining system. Yoshiyama shared that the Committee on Undergraduate Education has been working on reducing the GUR core competencies and that she has a resource center for undocumented students and students of mixed identities will be formed as a pilot program.

### **College of Business and Economics**

Akelipa reported that CBE also sits on ACC, and that the two votes taken were concerning. Akelipa then added that the ACC is considering adding a diversity, equity, and justice GUR requirement and invited Senators to become involved in the discussion surrounding this.

### **College of Fine and Performing Arts**

Koltiska reported that he has been sitting on the AS Wage Taskforce with Jo. Koltiska added that voter turnout for elections has been very low, and the WIN page through

which the students vote is should be more heavily publicized so that students are more aware.

#### **College of Humanities and Social Sciences**

LeClair reported that the Senators had their CHSS forum last week, and that there should be more reach out with the campus about what the Board and Senate do.

#### **College of Science and Engineering**

Tran reported that she joined DCP, which meets on Fridays, and is trying to delineate the Title IX policy at WWU compared to other Universities. Yokuda stated that she and Tran sit on the Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity committee, which will be discussing the ACC meeting in which a CSE faculty member resigned.

#### **Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies**

Soulliere reported that she and McMillan are working on rewriting the by-laws for some Fairhaven committees to include Senators as voting members, and that McMillan sat on the search committee for Michael Casteñeda.

#### **Graduate School**

Schorr reported that the Scholars Week Committee will be holding its largest event in Carver Gym on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, and invited Senators to attend and represent the Senate. Schorr then added that graduate students feel it is a barrier to run for the AS Executive Board because they would be paid less than they would be as a GA or TA, and Schorr and Hensyel are asking the Graduate School to pay for the difference in the hourly wage. Hensyel added that he and Schorr had been working on DEI concerns within the Graduate School, and encouraged other Senators to ask questions if they had any.

#### **Huxley College of the Environment**

Emby reported that he had met with the Community and Equity Committee of Huxley and received feedback on the course they designed on diversity, equity, and inclusion in environmental issues to bridge Environmental Studies and Environmental Science. Noesen added that the DCP meets from 10:00-11:00 AM in CF 229 every Friday and invited all students to come.

#### **Woodring College of Education**

Woodring had nothing to report.

### **IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Romo stated that there will be space for Queer and Trans Students of Color on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM, in VU 462. Romo added that on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, there will be space for the Black community on campus.

*The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:55 PM.*

<b>VOTING ATTENDEES</b>				<b>Senate Pro-Tempore</b>		
<b>Student Senators</b>				21	Levi Eckman, <i>AS VP for Academic Affairs</i>	P
1	Nicole Ballard	<i>At-Large</i>	P	<b>NON-VOTING ATTENDEES</b>		
2	Adah Barenburg	<i>At-Large</i>	P	<b>Advisory</b>		
3	Tatum Buss	<i>At-Large</i>	P	22	Leti Romo, <i>AS Assistant Director for Student Representation and Governance</i>	P
4	Courtney Yoshiyama	<i>At-Large</i>	P	<b>Recorder</b>		
5	Jona Akelipa	<i>College of Business and Economics</i>	P	23	Juliet Knowles, <i>AS Board Assistant for Academic Shared Governance</i>	P
6	Nicholas Makrakis	<i>College of Business and Economics</i>	P	<b>Guests</b>		
7	Ruth Ewald	<i>College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>	--	24	Sue Sharpe, <i>WWU Board of Trustees</i>	
8	Paden Koltiska	<i>College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>	P	25	Mia Steben, <i>AS Communications</i>	
9	Luke LeClair	<i>College of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	P	26	Grace Drechsel, <i>AS Board Assistant</i>	
10	Laura Meerdink	<i>College of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	--	27	Mabel Miller, <i>OS Employee</i>	
11	Nina-Tuyen Tran	<i>College of Science and Engineering</i>	P	28	Ally Finn, <i>Student Worker at Viking Commons</i>	
12	Kelly Yokuda	<i>College of Science and Engineering</i>	P	29	Anne Lee, <i>AS VP for Student Life</i>	
13	Dayjha McMillan	<i>Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	P	30	Jonathan Davidson, <i>Student</i>	
14	Sarah Soulliere	<i>Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	P	31	Brianna Heins, <i>Student</i>	
15	Phillip Hensyel	<i>Graduate School</i>	P	32	Lani Defiesta, <i>Student</i>	
16	Anna Schorr	<i>Graduate School</i>	P	33	Hailee Wickersham, <i>Western Front</i>	
17	Riley Embly	<i>Huxley College of the Environment</i>	P	34	Mo West, <i>WWU Board of Trustees</i>	
18	Maya Noesen	<i>Huxley College of the Environment</i>	P			
19	Natalie Chan	<i>Woodring College of Education</i>	P			<b>Voting attendees</b> 19
20	Nicole Wood	<i>Woodring College of Education</i>	P			<b>Non-voting attendees</b> 13
<b>Voting members in attendance</b>			19			<b>TOTAL ATTENDEES</b> 32

<b>MOTION ASWWUSS-19-S-10</b>		
Nicole Ballard	<i>At-Large</i>	Y
Adah Barenburg	<i>At-Large</i>	Y
Tatum Buss*	<i>At-Large</i>	--
Courtney Yoshiyama	<i>At-Large</i>	Y
Jona Akelipa	<i>College of Business and Economics</i>	Y
Nicholas Makrakis	<i>College of Business and Economics</i>	Y
Ruth Ewald	<i>College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>	--
Paden Koltiska	<i>College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>	Y
Luke LeClair	<i>College of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	Y
Laura Meerdink	<i>College of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	--
Nina-Tuyen Tran	<i>College of Science and Engineering</i>	Y
Kelly Yokuda	<i>College of Science and Engineering</i>	Y
Dayjha McMillan	<i>Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	Y

Sarah Soulliere	<i>Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	Y
Phillip Hensyel	<i>Graduate School</i>	Y
Anna Campbell Schorr	<i>Graduate School</i>	Y
Riley Embly	<i>Huxley College of the Environment</i>	Y
Maya Noesen	<i>Huxley College of the Environment</i>	Y
Natalie Chan	<i>Woodring College of Education</i>	Y
Nicole Wood	<i>Woodring College of Education</i>	Y
Levi Eckman	<i>AS Student Senate Interim Senate Pro-Tempore</i>	Abstain

\*Buss was not present for the vote of ASWWUSS-19-S-10