



would allow for an advantage for students who work closely with the AS. Ellermeier thinks that it extends the elections too long, she doesn't want to put any more stress on students' academic and personal life. Richards agrees, but thinks that if she saw a website for elections then she might look into it more. Duot thinks that having it earlier will give more chance for people to get to know candidates. Arvizu is in favor of this because changes to job descriptions aren't made until the filing period begins. There could be significant changes that might change the position a student would like to run for. Peters thinks that spending almost a full year on the process before getting into a position is a bit burdensome. He thinks that there are other ways to increase awareness. Maute-Gibson was concerned because when people announce that early, it may stop others from running for a position if the announced candidate is qualified. She thinks that a big flaw in the American electoral system is how long elections run and become a part of people's lives in a monotonous way. Levin thinks that it gives students who aren't in areas of power more chance to be known. He feels it will help level the playing field. Brockman knows someone who decided not to run because others had such a head start. He has run twice and was a transfer student, he feels that starting this early doesn't give time for people new to Western to find out about AS Elections.

Maute-Gibson Section 3.g.2 it makes sense to strike campaigning away from polling stations if they don't have stations anymore.

Maute-Gibson moves to strike section 3.g.2. Peters seconded 7-0-0

Maute-Gibson would like to add "and display" to Section 4.g.2 campaign because she used a lot her funding for tape to display her posters.

Maute-Gibson moves to add "and display" in section 4.g.2 Peters seconded. 7-0-0

*MOTION ASB-12-W-24 by Orallo-Molinario*

Approve the 2012-2013 AS Elections Code with stated changes.

Second: Richards Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

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

A. Work Study Request *(15 minutes)* Peters Doc. 3

Jason Austin, AS Environmental and Sustainability Resources Associate Director said that they originally had 3 extra work study positions from the Outback positions. They were unable to fill a position because they didn't have any qualified applicants. They have someone who just came to Western that is qualified for the position. Brockman supports this waiver. He thinks that it is hard to find qualified work study students half way through the year. Richards said that she didn't pass this last time because she didn't know there was a position unfilled. Austin clarified that they will be able to help out with the listed support areas. Arvizu thinks that work study provides additional support for ongoing projects, but they don't usually have a whole project underneath them. She is concerned about overburdening the student. Hillary McGowan said that the work study student needs to have some experience with environmental issues, and this student has experience. She feels that if they don't come in with communication and administrative skills then she would have spent a large portion of her time on training instead of doing her job duties. Maute-Gibson supports this. Work Study is different because each work study student has a different allocation of hours based on need. She understands that it is hard to find a qualified student mid quarter. Austin said that they are hoping to improve communication internally and externally. The job description has been approved, the request is for a waiver of the Employment Policies.

*MOTION ASB-12- W-25 by Duot*

Approve a waiver for the appointment of an Environmental and Sustainability Programs Work Study.

Second: Arvizu Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

**VII. ACTION ITEMS - Board\***

**VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board\*****A. AS Employment Responsibilities** (25 minutes) Peters Doc. 5

Brockman submitted changes to the AS Employment Responsibilities and has distinguished between hourly and salaried positions. Brockman said that there are some positions that attend training; they are looking at moving those positions to salaried positions. Arvizu said that the way training attendance is listed in the work study job descriptions is as requested, so that would be only as the Personnel Office deemed necessary. Majkut said that if positions are approved as salaried positions, he has concerns about having salaried description requirements in hourly positions. Brockman added this because he is not sure how the Board will vote on these individual positions. It is just there as supplemental information. Brockman would like input on these responsibilities because they will go in every job description.

**B. AS Board Job Descriptions** (25 minutes) Ellermeier Doc.3

Ellermeier created the style guide and she is not super committed to any of it excluding the removal of the periods in "A.S." she just feels it would be better to be uniform. This may not be implemented before the job descriptions go out for elections, but none of the suggestions change the content of the description. Arvizu said that VP for Academic Affairs is the same as the Provost's title, so she would like to leave AS in front of the Vice President titles. Orallo-Molinero said that for KVIK and KUGS he is just a liaison. Peters thinks these managerial changes will help his position be successful. He thinks that it does call to question what the Board's intentions are with the managing model. He has a close relationship with the administrative offices, but can see how offices like the Resource and Outreach Programs look towards the VP for Diversity in a lot of ways as well. Peters feels that this could tighten the focus of the Board. Richards would like to add First Year Interest Groups to her job description. Maute-Gibson is concerned, not with matching the offices to the Vice Presidents, but because she sees it as a larger shift for the Board. When each Board member is a manager it creates a different relationship and she is uncomfortable making that shift. She feels they should have a larger and longer conversation about this. Peters thinks management should be more collaborative because now he has less time to spend with each person. If he had more time he could work with that position instead of just telling them what to do top down. He feels it will create more integration. Maute-Gibson has a concern about the Board supervising at all, partially because of time and partially because the Director knows a lot about their own offices. Ellermeier will schedule a work session. She has been thinking about the difference between a manager and a liaison and which kind of support will make the AS the most effective. She would like to see a synthesized version of the Strategic Plan, assessments and budget requests to try to have a more cohesive organizational view of needs. Ellermeier suggests that the Vice President for Business and Operations could put all of this information together and lay out action plans for the Board. Majkut said that a manager may choose to manage in a supportive way or may be more directive. The manager has a responsibility to the student and to the larger organization. Duot is concerned that this will create a hierarchy because students are the same. Majkut said that there are many management systems, one is a distributed system or there is an executive vice president model which is the current model with a few exceptions. The Board decided not to go all the way in that direction, but they also didn't redistribute offices back to areas where they had been before. Majkut is hearing Peters say that he is not able to fulfill all of his management responsibilities to the level he feels is ideal. In the past the Board also looked at creating other executives with positions that already exist, but the Board decided not to do this as well. Majkut thinks that in the present model there is a lot of responsibility on Peters and not enough time to devote to managing this many people.

*The Board took a break and Duot left the meeting. The meeting reconvened at 4:20p.m.*

**C. AS Scholarships** (20 minutes) Ellermeier Doc.4

Ellermeier asked if the Board wanted to lower the credits to the new AS Employment credit

requirement. Richards would like to keep it at the full time credits, but have a two quarter requirement. Maute-Gibson thinks that they should change it to be full time for two quarters or not have the credit load. Richards said that on AS Childcare Voucher she is questioning why they are getting rid of financial need. Maute-Gibson would like to keep it more open-ended question because it is inherently asked that they have financial need, she didn't want to have them answer those specific questions. Arvizu thought the question was too broad and people might just tell them about their kids and not the areas that are listed in the overarching value. Maute-Gibson thinks that this is a simple way to find out information. Arvizu doesn't think it is necessary for a voucher. Ellermeier wondered why the community involvement question, she is curious why it was limited to just Bellingham. Richards took out "and other locations" because they wanted to focus on involvement in this community. Even if the applicant doesn't have enough experience, they can talk about what they are planning. Richards will add "and community members" in Question 2. Arvizu thinks that there are Western students who volunteer or work in Skagit Valley, etc. she suggests having it say "during your time at Western". Ellermeier said that the Childcare Voucher is more about the student than the children. The scholarship is not being awarded on the merits of the children. Maute-Gibson feels that it is more about a person's drive to still be a student while being a parent. She will work on some wording over the next week. Arvizu said that she would like to strike the question about the activities from the Academic scholarship. She feels that it is purely academic and the references should reflect this, so she would like only 2 references from academic sources. Arvizu thinks that the first question for Campus Activities is pretty broad and might not get the answers that will help them select a recipient. "Why do you feel that campus activities are an integral part of your education?" or "What do you see the value of Extracurricular involvement as a student?" Peters said that one of the letters was pretty restrictive and feels that an outside person would have trouble reflecting on how working in the AS has impacted academics. Orallo-Molinaro thought that "campus activities at Western" is redundant. Monger said based on the number of questions that she gets every year about scholarships, she doesn't think that redundancy is a bad idea. Maute-Gibson would like Duot to reexamine Question 1: "What does diversity mean to you?" She suggests: "Why is fostering diversity critical to the campus environment?" Majkut said that currently they distribute funds by quarter \$334, \$333, \$333. The issue becomes when people say that they are not going to be here spring quarter. He thinks it would be ok to just award all of the funding in the fall. Then the students could make a decision about how they use those funds, if they use it all in the fall or save some of it for other quarters. Monger said that it gets complicated to award in summer because it makes the award over two fiscal years, so it would be better to award in the fall.

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

### A Committee Appointments

#### Academic Honesty Board

Kasey Koenig                      Biology                      Sophomore (Activities Council)

#### Legislative Affairs Council

Kaylee Galloway                      Politics, Philosophy, and Economics

*MOTION ASB-12-W-26 by Richards*

Approve Consent Item A.

Second: Arvizu

Vote: 6 - 0 - 0

Action: Passed

## X. STUDENT SENATE REPORT

### Student Senate Meeting Information

Kendall Bull, Student Senate Chair reported that it was a slow week and he has nothing to report.

**XI. BOARD REPORTS****President**

Anna Ellermeier reported that the early morning work session on Tuesday and the conversation that will be happening on Thursday, she appreciated the conversation and really appreciated how thoughtful the Board is in considering this change and she is inspired by this. The Services & Activities Fee committee is meeting and Majkut has been training. The issue of transparency was brought up and they are working on transparency about how students understand the fees and what they get spent on. She thanked the Board for following the talk time format.

**VP for Academic Affairs**

Fabiola Arvizu reported that Committee for Undergraduate Education is done reviewing all GUR revisions, additions and cancelations. She heard that they were more efficient then they have been in years. There have been a lot of Academic Fee discussions and she will be working on projects, some with Ellermeier, some with the Tech Fee, etc. She is hoping to bring more information in the next couple of months.

**VP for Activities**

Mario Orallo-Molinero reported that he had first Department Related Activities Committee meeting. They wanted to have transparency from the Services & Activities Fee level. He has been talking to the Communications Office and working on a marketing plan.

**VP for Business & Operations**

Travis Peters reported that there will potentially be an opening on Vendor's row so they are looking at applications from last year. Peters wanted to give a heads up that they will see a lot of things coming to the board in terms of job descriptions and 6 of the 7 Assessment reports passed last night. Budget Committee has excited students and some returners to the committee.

**VP for Governmental Affairs**

Iris Maute-Gibson reported that the February 16th revenue forecast was released and there was not a further decline in revenue. They have projected an additional 96 million. It is only .3% more and there is still a large budget deficit. The House will be using this forecast when they release their budget. The only change to the messaging they have is to change from hold the line and don't cut, to please hold the line and invest in higher education with these extra funds. The Governor's proposal is still looking at a 160 million cut to higher education and a 17% cut at Western. This would include a complete suspension of the work study which would save 8 million, but 7,600 would not have work study. The House budget will probably mirror the Governor's budget. February 14<sup>th</sup> is the last day for bills to get out of their house of origin. They lost a lot of bills that they were working hard on. She will email out the bills that are still in play. 1688 would put a sunset clause on all tax loopholes; this is a big win for them. Senator Frock's bill which requires financial aid offices to have loan counseling is still in play. They are getting momentum on the student trustee bill which passed through the Senate for the first time in four years. The President released his version of the Federal budget; he included maximum Pell grants, a one year measure to prevent student loan interest rates from doubling. They are also incentivizing states who keep tuition low, the budget makes permanent American Opportunity tax credit. They are going to need to support this because the budget was immediately rejected by republican. February 20<sup>th</sup> is the Washington Student Association Lobby Day, they only have 10 students signed up. Patrick Stickney is the student speaker for afternoon. Tomorrow many legislators will be in district. There were 5,000 signatures on a petition against cuts to higher education, this was presented at a press conference. Ellermeier and Maute-Gibson will be testifying on the House Budget next week.

**VP for Student Life**

Sara Richards reported that it is exciting that the President is about an hour away. Green Energy Fee Committee has passed guidelines and applications will go out soon. They also passed funding for a permanent position for GEF. AS Transportation Advisory Committee got some great feedback from students during an event. She has had 15 email responses. February 27<sup>th</sup> to March 2<sup>nd</sup> is Transportation week that the Alt Transportation Coordinator is putting on. The fee language will be an Information Item on February 29<sup>th</sup>. Aramark surveyed students about the food truck and 79% said they wanted a food truck 38% said they wanted it to be Mexican food. Western Women's Rugby Team won their game last weekend.

**XII. OTHER BUSINESS**

Majkut wanted to talk about student employment and work study. He is concerned as an organization that there were no qualified students for a work study position. The qualifications required for the job are student status and a 2.0 GPA. He is concerned that someone was so unqualified that an office wouldn't hire them, because these positions are learning positions and are how students get experience. The preferred qualifications are there to drive towards the most qualified student, but they are not required. He thinks they have lots of people who have no experience and still do a great job after training. Arvizu was trying to get at this during the earlier conversations. She feels that when they have too many qualifications then it creates a culture of only one type of person can work in a job.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 4:48 P.M.**