

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Board of Directors Meeting**

Friday, March 9, 2012

VU567

AS Board Officers: *Present:* Anna Ellermeier (President), Fabiola Arvizu (VP Academics), Mario Orallo-Molinero (VP Activities), Travis Peters (VP Bus Ops), Deng Duot (VP Diversity), Iris Maute-Gibson (VP Governmental Affairs) and Sara Richards (VP Student Life)

Student Senate Representative: Kendall Bull, Chair

Advisor!si: Kevin Majkut, Director of Student Activities

Guest!si: Students for Sustainable Water: Anna Amundson, Carolyn Bonie, David Burgesser (Western Student Transportation), Ethan W. Glemaker, Bill Campbell, Eric Messerschmidt, Robert Graham

MOTIONS

- ASB-12-W-42** Concurrence for the 3% proposed increase of the Housing and Dining Rates for 2012-2013. *Passed*
- ASB-12-W-43** Approve the ballot language for the Students for Sustainable Water with the stipulation that Western Washington University replace WWU in the language. *Passed*
- ASB-12-W-44** Approve the Alternative Transportation Fee Ballot Language as a referendum. *Passed*
- ASB-12-W-45** Approve the WOOT Job Description and the addition of “knowledge of the Western Community and Campus Services” to the preferred qualifications. *Passed*

Anna Ellermeier, AS President, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA- add Personnel Item B. Waiver for WOOT Hiring

III. PUBLIC FORUM (*comments from students and the community*)

V. ACTION ITEMS - Guests*

- A. Housing & Dining Rates *(10 minutes)* Richards Doc.1
Willis presented the rates at the Residence Hall Association and the Residential Advisory Council and received concurrence from both. Maute-Gibson thanked Willis and Richards for providing information from the RHA meetings. She is pleased with the process and the outreach to students. A student asked if there had been any progress on the requirement of a written request for the remaining Viking Dollars on a Western Card when a student graduates. Willis said that the contract has changes since this time and his recollection is that this did not change with the new contract. They have moved most of the Viking Dollars out of the university structure, so dining sells, collects and retains these funds. He thinks that there might be room to talk to Aramark about returning funds and what the process will be for that. Willis will make a note of this and discuss it with Aramark.

MOTION ASB-12-W-42 by Maute-Gibson

Concurrence for the 3% proposed increase of the Housing and Dining Rates for 2012-2013.

Second: Peters Vote: 6 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

Orallo-Molinero joined the meeting.

- B. Water Bottle Initiative Language *(15 minutes)* Richards Doc. 2
Richards said that the changes requested by the Board have been made to the wording. They changed it to be a yes or no question and added “on campus” at the end. Maute-Gibson asked what they think the next step will be after the initiative is passed. The representatives feel strongly about this and the club will act upon it. They are looking to show that there is student support for this. They have had discussions with Aramark representatives. They would like to

know that this is something that the student body really wants. Majkut said that he is not sure that it is a good general process to have a value judgment statement as part of the question being posed to the students. Bill Campbell thinks that this falls within the initiative process because it is predominately a statement. He thinks that they can have statements of value and of purpose. He understands what Majkut is saying but thinks that they should look at how they define initiatives.

MOTION ASB-12-W-43 by Maute-Gibson

Approve the ballot language for the Students for Sustainable Water with the stipulation that Western Washington University replace WWU in the language.

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

C. Alternative Transportation Fee Ballot Language *(15 minutes)* Richards Doc. 3

This request is for a referendum. Richards said there should be no bolded parts of the statement. Ellermeier said that this has been a long process going all the way back to 2006 and she really appreciates all of the work that has gone into it.

MOTION ASB-12-W-44 by Orallo-Molinario

Approve the Alternative Transportation Fee Ballot Language as a referendum.

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

D. WOOT Job Description *(15 minutes)* Peters Doc.4

Erik Messerschmidt said that they eliminated the junior or senior status. They also made it more apparent that the dates for training will change each year. At the last meeting Marli Williams said that it was fairly important that students have some experience on campus at Western. Ellermeier asked if they should have quarter requirements in order to apply. Messerschmidt did not feel that was necessary but knowledge of Western could be added to preferred qualifications. Fred Collins said that they didn't feel the need to have junior or senior status because there are exceptions to the rule and there some freshman who are very knowledgeable. Majkut asked if normal trip leaders are required to have first aid training. Messerschmidt said that they are required to have certification at different levels. Majkut said that this is the WOOT Trip Leader Job Description, but there will be three different levels of this based on their experience. There will be a leader, assistant, and apprentice level. Messerschmidt said that they kept it under one job description so that they did not have people applying outside of their experience. They wanted to have the discretion to decide what level applicants should be offered.

MOTION ASB-12-W-45 by Orallo-Molinario

Approve the WOOT Job Description and the addition of "knowledge of the Western Community and campus services" to the preferred qualifications.

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

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests*

A. University Transparency Initiative Language *(15 minutes)* ArvizuDoc. 5

Bill Campbell and about 6 or 7 students have been working together on this initiative. He apologized for not getting this to the Board earlier, but they did not know the entire process. After discussions with several Board Members, he would like to change the wording to "Should the Associated Students of Western Washington University highly encourage the continued evaluation of Western's contract with Higher One and the continued move to improve university transparency, university/student communication, and university/student interaction in the decision making process." Arvizu appreciated the elimination of the impact statement. Ellermeier said that there was a task force created about this and they have been in conversations with Higher One. Ellermeier has sent out the results of the negotiations to students. Campbell said that there is a difference between having a committee and having a committee that communicates with the student body. Communication could be letting the

students know and interaction could be having students serve on a committee. Campbell said that the decision to work with Higher One affected every single student at Western and this was not brought before the students to have input on this decisions. They want to make sure that the students are more involved and informed. Campbell said that the students he is working with are confident that there is support for this but students may not be as passionate or know how to address this. They have done polls and estimate that about 85% of Western Students would support this. Campbell said that if they did not pass this in time to get signatures, they would be disappointed. They understand that there is a process, but hope that the student interest will help move the process along. Maute-Gibson said that in the sentence that they are keeping said “improve university transparency”. She suggests “transparency within the university”, she thinks that this expands it to include all areas that share governance. Shared governance is not created by just one group. She is wondering if the students have looked at the model of shared governance within the university and with the AS. She wondered if they have any suggestions about how specifically to improve transparency. Campbell thinks that wording could be made clearer. He will take it back to the group of students that he is working with. They have been researching into the shared governance model. They would like to make sure that a statement is made to the university. They are not asking for sweeping changes because they feel that Western is a great college, but occasionally the student voice is lost. They would like to bring it to the forefront and then they are confident in the university and the AS to work on this item.

B. Print Quota Initiative Tanguage

(15 minutes) Arvizu Doc. 6

Arvizu came up with this title because it didn't have one, but she thinks that they could rename it. Campbell and the students he is working with polled 4 to 5 different issues to students and these two came back as the most prominent concerns. The changes that they are suggesting are changing the “we” at the beginning to “shall”. He realizes that there are some value statements in this initiative language. Campbell would like to keep this in. They would like to see the print quota reinstated and they would like to have the students voices really heard on this issue and feel that a good way to do that is to take it to a vote. Arvizu has a concern about using the word reinstate because they do still technically have a print quota this year at 25 prints. She is unsure what they would like to have the print quota level at. Campbell said that they didn't want to be specific on the number of pages because they were worried it would lock in the decisions. They are hoping to have somewhere around 150-200 pages. He would accept any help with the wording to help make this more clear but not lock in the process. Ellermeier said that when this item is brought to the ballot then the students do have a quota of 25, so using the word reinstate wouldn't work. Arvizu said that a number might not be the best solution, but they should work with the wording here to make it clearer. Maute-Gibson wondered if this is a statement the students are making that would be directed at a certain group. Are they asking to have this with the Tech Fee renewal or something else? There was concurrence on behalf of students made by the AS Board last year for the changes to the print quota. She wondered if this is asking for a reversal of this decision. Campbell said that he probably would have supported the decision as it was presented to the Board. If it was between classroom technology or doing print quota and there was no way to increase the fee at that point. Campbell said that if the initiative passes he is sure that the AS Board will work to support the interest of the students and their interest in increasing the print quota. Majkut appreciates them making a statement about the process and then letting that work, instead of coming up with an exact number. Campbell said that technically the print quota is gone, but the Board asked for 25 pages as part of the transition. They understand that this might be a process that takes an entire year to complete. Arvizu asked Campbell to stay for the next initiative because she feels that they might be in conflict with each other.

C. Print Quota Addendum Initiative Tanguage

(15 minutes) Arvizu Doc. 7

Arvizu said that Robert Graham requested this initiative. He presented a proposal in the

summer of last year after the AS had sent out a synopsis of the changes to the print quota. He asked for a \$3 increase to cover the print quota to help get rid of the inequalities on campus. There are some majors that require more printing than others. For example, he is an English major and has spent about \$25 on printing this quarter. He presented this to John Lawson and was told that people who are printing a lot are riding on the back of the students who aren't printing. He feels that all of the fees are set up this way. Not everyone uses the Ree Center or the bus system with the Alternative Transportation Fee but they still all pay the fee. He got some numbers that say that only 26% of students actually use the Ree Center. He feels that \$3 is a lot easier for students to digest than the large amount of money that it is costing some students to print out information from their classes. Arvizu thought about the language a lot and she thinks that it is more appropriate to just call this an increase to the Student Tech Fee. Calling it an interim alludes to the fact that this change is automatically going to happen. They are at the end of the Student Tech Fee cycle. She thinks that if they request this increase then it keeps it separate from the Tech Fee renewal. Robert said that he is unsure of the process. Ellermeier said if it is approved by a majority of students then it would be forwarded to the President and the Trustees. He is fine with taking out "temporary". Maute-Gibson thinks that asking to increase a fee is very different than a value statement such as the Water Bottle Initiative. She thinks that this is similar to saying that the Green Fee should use funds to create solar panels. Maute-Gibson feels that this is directing the committee on how to spend the Tech Fee funding and will bind the committee. She is not sure if this is appropriate. She is glad that there is not anything in the language about other fee disparities. Ellermeier asked how they got the \$3 number. Robert said that he used the numbers sent out about the Tech Fee. He looked at it and said that most students use about \$7.95 per year. He rounded it off to \$3 which would give \$9 per year. Campbell said that it might be crazy to have two similar initiatives coming to the students. He thinks that maybe they can combine them. Campbell said that they didn't include an increase because he didn't think that the AS actually has the authority to impose this increase over the Student Technology Fee. Ellermeier said that all fees have to be approved by the Board of Trustees. The fee process is that fees go to the ballot and then are forwarded on to the Trustees. Majkut appreciates Arvizu's analysis of the increase of the fee. Majkut said that when he first read it he thought it would just be a separate temporary fee. The increase would be through the end of the fee term. This would then allow for the committee to review the needs for the fee as a whole. Arvizu said that if both of these initiatives pass, then the Board is left with conflicting recommendations. One is to increase the fee and the other is to not increase the fee, but to reinstate the print quota.

Arvizu said that there are students who have fees for classes to account for printing. She is concerned that these students would be charged twice for printing. Peters said that he pays \$12 per credit for lab fees, which includes printing fees because it is outside of the university system. Maute-Gibson said that when the students pass a fee they are supporting the creation of a fee and the concepts of what it will pay for and charge a committee with deciding exactly how to use those funds. She thinks that this says they would like to have a fee that operates differently than the process for all other fees. She thinks that part of shared governance is not just about talking back and forth, but having engagement in the process. She thinks that this is making a decision without context about part of this fee. Ellermeier said that there are some concerns about the language, but the Board is not allowed to look at content. She encouraged Campbell and Graham to talk because if they were both passed it would be conflicting.

THE MEETING WAS SUSPENDED BY ACCLAMATION AT 4:20 P.M.

The meeting will continue Monday, March 12th at 6 p.m.