



**Western Washington University Associated Students
Ethnic Student Center Presidents Council Meeting**
Monday, February 6, 2012

Voting Members Present:

BSU - Hayley Penor, CSA - Shirley So, FASA - Marie Serica, HOH - Kelly Tanga, KhSA - Anthony Sokha,
LSU - Ariezna Muniz, MEChA - Alyne Sanchez, NASU - Ashley Alvarez, QPOC - Manuel Hernandez,
SASA - Mahin Khadeer, VSA - Connie Ownes

Voting Members Absent:

ACC, MISO

Non-Voting Members:

Secretary: Erin Curran-Tileston

Advisor: None

Chair: Deng Duot

Guests: Asha Joby, SASA; Micheli Vendiola

Motions

ESCPC-12-W-03	Approve the ESC-Presidents Council meeting minutes from Monday, January 23, 2012, as written. - PASSED
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Deng Duot, AS Vice President for Diversity, called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION ESCPC-12-W-03 by

Approve the ESC-Presidents Council meeting minutes from Monday, January 23, 2011, as written.

Second:

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: **Passed**

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

III. DISCUSSION ITEM

A. SOS Academic Support Coordinator

Duot and Fabiola Mora are working together to make an Academic Achievement Award for leaders in the ESC who excel in academics and are also involved in the ESC. Duot posed the question, what are the academic challenges each club faces? There was no definitive answer.

Duot said that this award would hopefully encourage ESC members to excel in academics. The council decided to return to this subject if there is time.

B. Micheli Vendiola

Micheli Vendiola said that she was one of the founding members of the ESC. She stated that one of the projects she's working on in her grad program is finding out how the ESC has impacted students. She is working on a video documentary that will tell the story of the students. She needs to get interviews from current students. She is focusing on how the ESC has impacted students' experience on campus and if and how has ESC helped you through challenging experiences. She passed out a sheet explaining the project and asked for people to sign up to be in focus groups and taped for the documentary. Shirley So asked how the focus groups would be created.

Vendiola stated that it would be divided up by who wants to be involved. She said it might be

based on class ranking or campus experience. She added that the interviews would take place between February 20th and March 2nd and they will be held at Western but the location to be determined. She said that she is looking for approximately three groups of twelve people. Vendiola said that she is trying to tell the story of the ESC from the students' perspective and be culturally relevant. She said that she will be giving a copy to the President of the University, her Student Affairs Advisor, the Admins of the VU, and there will be viewings across campus. Vendiola added that if people were nervous about being in the film that there are protections for students who are worried about that, so there are ways of being involved without being identified. She said that the ESC was made from a vision and she wants to see what the vision has become 20 years later. The sign-up sheet will be in the ESC and people who are interested should sign-up by the Friday, February 17th.

C. Cleaning ESC Office

Duot said it is important that the ESC space is cleaned so everything that needs to happen in the office can happen, and so that people in the administration know that they respect the space. So asked when the new computers will be in. Duot said probably four weeks; they will be there after Spring Break.

D. Russian Student Club

Duot said that there is a request form the Russian Student Association to join the ESC. He asked the council what they thought. Mahin Khadeer asked why they wanted to be a part of the ESC. Duot said that they had told him that it was because of the resources that the ESC had, specifically the amount of money that they could receive. He brought this to the council because he cannot turn groups away and also it does represent an ethnicity. He said that he believes the club needs to work on their mission statement so it would line up with the ESC's because the center specifically represents under-represented minorities. Manuel Hernandez said that from what he has heard the club just wants money for events. He said that it is important for the center that the club understands that they must represent a marginalized, under represented community to be part of the ESC and not just want to show movies. Hayley Penor said that if the club had other reasons for joining the ESC then they should be allowed to join, but just joining to use the ESC's resources is not okay. Their intentions are wrong in that case. So said that the ESC is there to represent diversity and embrace cultures, this club should not be able to take the ESC's money and not participate in other ways. She said that seems unreasonable. Khadeer said that the Steering Committee approves budgets and if the club is added to the ESC that committee will only pass budgets that are reasonable. Penor said she wanted more information. Duot said he would bring representatives from the club to a meeting to get the council's opinion. The council agreed this was a good idea. Duot said that money solely was not a good reason to join and that the ESC does not have any left over money if that is their only reason for being interested in joining. He said that this situation must be handled carefully so the ESC is not seen differently.

E. Tribal Dance

Ashley Alvarez said that there was an event that happened a month ago and the advertising was offensive. The poster had a disco ball with two tribal spears behind it. At the dance there was face painting. The pictures from the dance were in front of a sign and the people had on indigenous style or African style face paint, with some attendees even wearing African style masks. Duot asked how the council could address these issues. Alvarez said that on the website there was a definition of the world tribal and while they weren't necessarily meaning African or American tribal that was the connotation attendees took from it and that is where the problem stems from. She pointed out that it was supported by the AS. Duot once again asked how the council could address the issues. He added that everything could be sponsored by the AS, but it is their responsibility to deal with a program that might seem offensive. It was also pointed out that the Publicity Center is responsible for the design but also the group putting it on must approve it. It was also never figured out who put on the event definitively. Duot suggested talking to community members to make sure people know that the event was considered offensive, because

it could continue in the future. Hernandez suggested sending them a letter explaining why they found it offensive so people can be educated. Duot agreed with Hernandez along with the rest of the Presidents' Council.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Academic Achievement Award

Duot talked about this earlier in the meeting. The Council agreed it is a good idea. Duot said that there would be five awards per quarter.

V. CUIR REPORT

A. ACC

None

B. BSU

Penor said that BSU's dinner is Saturday and if someone can't afford a ticket there are sponsored tickets available. The club is also collaborating with the SIRC for Activism Week. Together they are bringing Erica Huggins, a woman who led the Black Panthers in LA when she was 16, to campus. The club is having discussion on the "N word" and skin complexions at their meetings for Black History Month.

C. CSA

So said the club's Lunar New Year event was successful and the officers talked about what can be improved for next year's event. The club is also helping with a bone marrow drive which will be held February 27th through 29th from 9am to 3pm on the 6th floor of the VU. She said that it is not a painful process and the chance of finding a marrow match is very slim. They are also looking for volunteers to help collect the samples.

D. FASA

Marie Serica said the club raised \$84 from their Dining to Donate event. They had communication errors while setting up their bake sale so it will be held next week.

E. HOH

Kelly Tanga said the club has started their hula practices.

F. KhSA

Anthony Sokha said the club held a bake sale last week and raised just under \$200. They are now working on planning their dinner.

G. LSU

Ariezna Muniz said that they are going to start fund raising and have started working on their dinner.

H. MF.ChA

Alyne Sanchez said the club has a number of different committees going on right now. Their dance is coming up and will be \$15 for singles and \$20 for couples, all proceeds will go to their scholarship. Their scholarship committee has put out the scholarship application and are just waiting for applications to be submitted. The Low Rider Show will be in May. The ESC Move Committee will be meeting February 12th at 3pm in the ESC.

I. MISO

None

J. NASU

Alvarez said that they are going to start fund raising with fry bread sales soon and are starting to plan for their Powwow.

K. OPOC

Hernandez said the club will be holding a bake sale Wednesday and Thursday and will also have representatives performing in the Drag Show.

L. SASA

Khadeer said their event on Saturday ended up going very well.

M. VSA

Connie Owens said the club is having a dance on February 25th and they are looking for collaborators. They are also planning for their dinner.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Friday, the Board of Directors will be passing a resolution on the banning of Mexican Cultural Studies books in Tucson, AZ. Duot said he wants people from the ESC there to see what decision is made.

- B. The Hiring committees for AS employees will involve ESC students this year. They need six students from the ESC to be on these committees.

THE OFFICIAL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 5:56 P.M.