



Western Washington University Associated Students Ethnic Student Center Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Voting Members Present:

ACC - Hintset Tekiu, BSU - Leroy Mwangi, FASA - Traci Watanabe, HOH - Sarah Kim,
KhSA - Routhea Doung, LSU - Victor Celis, MEChA - Tania Quijada, MISO - Timothy O'Connor,
NASU - Kylie Gemmell, QPOC - Alejandro Llamas, SASA - Meghna Jaradi, VSA -- Tien Nguyen

Late Voting Members:

CSA - Howard Kwon, MEChA - Tania Quijada

Voting Members Absent:

Non-Voting Members:

Erin Curran-Tileston (Secretary)

Chair: Deng Duot

Advisor: Fabiola Mora

Co-Chair:

Guest(s): Jenet Habtemariam, ACC; Binta Dibba, ACC

Motions

SC-12-W-04	Approve the ESC-Steering Committee meeting minutes from January 25, 2012, as written. - <i>Passed</i>
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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 ESC-12-W-04 by Meghna Jaradi

Approve the ESC-Steering Committee meeting minutes from Wednesday, January 25, 2012, as written.

Second: Leroy Mwangi

Vote: 10-0-1

Action: *Passed*

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA -

Duot added Aramark Catering as an Info Item.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Fabiola Mora stated there were a few problems with the accounts. For instance, CSA was given money from last year's budget but those were closed. They were given \$2,950 and this money will have to come out of this year's budget. There are still a number of clubs asking for funding that will total about \$16,150. If all this money is distributed, the committee will be almost \$3,000 short even with all returns if all dinners sell out. Steering has \$3702.55 remaining with \$2,000 remaining for travel. Mwangi said the previous VP for Diversity said there would still be money left over from other places that they might be able to use, and asked if this was still true. Mora said that it was not something that is guaranteed and we should not rely on it, especially with the budget cuts. Duot said the clubs would still be able to do events. He said there would be no problem and that the committee would be able to get more money from somewhere. Mora said she wanted the committee to see this so the funds could be distributed fairly and think about how distribution could be improved. Mwangi clarified that some clubs won't be returning the amount they asked for but only as much as they can. Mora said that while everyone can still get money everyone might not be able to get everything they ask for. Kylie Gemmell asked about HOH and KhSA returns and Mora said she doesn't have estimates for those yet. Jaradi asked the council how to be fair to the clubs that haven't had their events yet. Duot said that clubs must be strict about what they are asking for and dinners must be planned well in advance so the budgets are as accurate as possible. Jaradi suggested an extra budget training so that the committee could understand better how it would work within the council and the system in general. Mora said that we can't change any past decisions but we can change what we're doing from now on. Mwangi suggested possibly moving some of the travel budget to the general budget to cover any deficit that may occur. There was general consensus about this idea.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM -

None

V. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests/Other Business**A. Aramark Catering**

Duot said that when he looked into what clubs are proposing, the food clubs are asking for is coming out to be more expensive than what was being charged last year with Sodexo. He brought up the possibility of going outside of University Dining as long as it is proposed early and a contract is signed. He said that there is a committee being put together to discuss this issue with Aramark. Duot said that while the company is providing the services, they are not affordable at this point. Mora said the administration wants student feedback. Mwangi said that a lot of the food budgets are coming out to be double what they were last year. He reiterated that it is a possibility to go to an outside source for catering. Mora said that to go through an outside source you have to fill out an exemption through catering, and if catering can make the food they won't approve it. This must be done well in advance just to make sure there is enough time to get through all the processes. Mwangi and Jaradi said that it was hard to get a hold of anyone in catering. Mora said that she can help any club to fill out the exemption, and if they are denied a club can appeal and make a presentation why they want to go outside. Tien Nguyen said that the process is very long and it is hard to get a hold of anyone even when they started working on food months in advance. Jaradi asked if there was an ESC committee for catering. Mora said that there wasn't, but they were looking at creating a focus group to talk about how catering is affecting people and groups on campus. Many people agreed that it might be a good idea to go to outside vendors in order to save money. Jaradi suggested figuring out more details about the forum so this discussion could continue. Duot said he might try to get an Aramak representative to come into the meeting to discuss these issues.

VI. ACTION ITEMS-

None

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Steering Representatives**A. ACC Funding Request**

Jenet Habtemariam said this will be the 15th Annual ACC Heritage Dinner. Their budget consists of: a speaker, \$500; five outside performers, \$80 per act; VU event services, \$520; publicity and advertising, currently \$200; catering, \$5000 but looking at an outside vendor or cutting menu [could go down by \$2500]; decorations, \$500; total cost, \$7220. The club has been sponsored by the Diversity Fund and Willy Hart for \$2,000. They are asking Steering for \$3,500. Habtemariam added that their dinner has a history of selling out. Jaradi asked if they had gone to RHA. Habtemariam said they are on the agenda for February 2nd. Jaradi said SASA requested \$1,000 and only got \$400. Mwangi had a similar experience. Duot said that there are other sources for funding including alumni and Board of Trustee members. He added that the Western Foundation, President Shepherd, and SOS are also places to go if funding is still needed. Habtemariam added that everything on their budget was on the high side to make sure they had enough money to cover everything.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS -

None

IX. ROP REPORT

None

X. CLUB REPORTS -**A. African Caribbean Club**

None

B. Black Student Union

None

C. Chinese Student Association

None

D. Filipino-American Student Association
None

E. Hui O' Hawaii
None

F. Khmer Student Association
None

G. Latino Student Union
None

H. El Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlán
None

I. Mixed Identity Student Organization
None

J. Native American Student Union
None

K. Queer People of Color
None

L. South Asian Student Association
Jaradi said SASA's Heritage Dinner will be this Saturday at 6pm in the MPR. It is selling out fast. There will be a number of great speakers and performers at the event. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$15 for general admission. The event is semi-formal. Tickets are available online but there is a transaction fee.

M. Vietnamese Student Association
None

XI. OTHER BUSINESS -

- A. Duot talked about an outdoor excursion targeted towards freshmen. There are openings to be a trip leader. This document will be emailed to the council members. If there are any questions go to SOS.
- B. The Russian Student Club and Russian Movies Club are looking at joining the ESC. Duot said that the mission of the ESC is to represent underrepresented groups. Duot did not support the movie club joining the ESC because that does not support their mission statement. Duot said the Russian Student Club told him that they want to join the ESC because there is more money available. Mwangi said that while they might not agree with the club's original reasoning, the council should hear them and make a decision based on that. Duot said the club will present to both Steering and Presidents' Council. Jaradi said they must say why they want to be a part of the ESC, what they are going to bring to the ESC, and what they will do as a club. Jaradi added that this must be documented carefully so it does not become an issue based on race or skin color so people don't come back and say that they were denied because they are not students of color.

THE OFFICIAL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 6:05 P.M.