



**Western Washington University Associated Students
Ethnic Student Center Steering Committee Meeting**
Tuesday, May 22, 2012

Voting Members Present:

ACC—Niya Bordley, BSU - Leroy Mwangi, CSA - Howard Kwon, FASA - Traci Watanabe, HOH - Sarah Kim,
KhSA—Dale Lay, MISO - Timothy O'Connor, QPOC - Alejandro Llamas, SASA - Meghna Jaradi,
VSA -- Tien Nguyen

Late Voting Members:

Voting Members Absent:

LSU - Victor Celis, MEChA - Tania Quijada, NASU

Non-Voting Members:

Erin Curran-Tileston (Secretary)

Chair: Deng Duot

Advisor: Nathan Panelo

Co-Chair:

Guest(s): Hung Le, Student-At-Large; Binta Dibba, ACC Representative; Divina Ramolete, FASA Representative

Motions

SC-12-S-10 Approve the ESC-Steering Committee meeting minutes from Tuesday, May 15, 2012, with changes. - <i>Passed</i>
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Deng Duot, AS Vice President for Diversity, called the meeting to order at 4:06 P.M.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

Meghna Jaradi and Leroy Mwangi corrected two grammatical errors.

MOTION ESC-12-S-10 by Leroy Mwangi

Approve the ESC-Steering Committee meeting minutes from Tuesday, May 15, 2012, with changes.

Second: Traci Watanabe

Vote: 8-0-2

Action: *Passed*

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA -

None

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Nathan Panelo said that there is still a positive balance in the Steering account for this fiscal year. This is because ESC clubs asked different organizations, like RHA and different Hall Councils, for funds, and they said that if the ESC clubs came back, and they had the funds, they would put the money into the club's account after the fact. ESC clubs are trained to work with the money they know they have and not assume other funds will come later. RHA and the Hall Councils recently transferred funds over to the ESC account which poses a problem to the committee. Panelo said they need to decide how to spend the money this fiscal year but still be fiscally responsible, because if there is a positive balance left in the account Steering might receive less funding next year because it appears that they don't need all the money they were given. He said that one of the suggestions was to cover deficits from other clubs, and that was possible. He also said that a ESC get together was discussed as well. Panelo said that they need to look at what the funding is meant for: clubs and organizations and their needs and programs. Sarah Kim asked about funding events for next year. Panelo said that doing that is very difficult and there were policies discouraging that. Duot said that there were some events from this year that were given funding last year and there were issues with that. Duot and Panelo said that the money that they have right now needs to be looked at as if it is use it or lose it. Watanabe said that she talked to Fabiola Mora a while ago and Mora said that why the CSA funding didn't work out because paperwork wasn't turned in properly. Watanabe had mentioned to Mora about wanting to get money from this years budget to cover the FASA dinner next year. Panelo said that they cannot carry over any money from the

previous year. Kim asked if the committee could approve the money and move it over to the club account this year to avoid having the money be taken away and so the clubs could use it for their events early on next year. Panelo said that at the end of the fiscal year the unused money from this year will go away and be reallocated. Watanabe clarified that if they use the money that they just received responsibly then they stand a better chance of maintaining or increasing their budget for the next fiscal year. Duot said it wouldn't be definite, but using the money would help to make the argument for getting more money. Panelo said that if they do have a proposal then the committee can suspend the rules of operations in order to hear them next week. Tien Nguyen asked what would happen if there was not enough time to plan an event. Panelo said it would make Duot's job harder. Nguyen also asked if VSA could use the funds to pay for their conference over the summer and pay for all their expenses before the end of the fiscal year but just go to the conference later. Panelo said that it might be possible, but it is a grey area and they would have to start doing the paperwork now. Nguyen asked if the committee could simply move the funds into their club account, because those funds aren't reallocated, and then they could pay for their conference fees from there. Panelo said that doing that could be seen as unethical. Nguyen clarified that if she wanted to put in a proposal she would have to get everything done before next Tuesday. Binta Dibba asked if there was a way to have ESC clubs to work together to create an event in order to use the funds. Duot said that is definitely possible and what he would recommend. Watanabe asked if they could use the Steering Budget to supplement the cost of the ESC Banquet so admission is free. Mwangi said that they are probably charging admission because the cost of food has gone up and noted that they had charged admission before this year as well. Panelo said that Watanabe raised a good question. He said that charging admission was based on how much the ESC administration had available to put on the event, and this year they have fewer funds because of the added positions and other expenses. He said that the funding could potentially go towards subsidizing tickets or maybe covering food. He said that they had also already budgeted out so the admin budget would be in the same place the Steering budget is in now. Watanabe clarified that tickets for the banquet are already on sale at the PAC Box Office as well. Kim suggested, instead of making an event, they could invest in things that would help fundraising or help publicize the ESC in the future. They could buy things that could be used collectively by the clubs. Panelo suggested creating a subcommittee over the next week to come up with a proposal. Nguyen, Kim, Watanabe, Jaradi, Dale Lay, Dibba, and Howard Kwon volunteered to serve on that committee.

IV. **PUBLIC FORUM** -

None

V. **INFORMATION ITEMS** - **Guests/Other Business**

None

VI. **ACTION ITEMS** -

None

VII. **INFORMATION ITEMS** - **Steering Representatives**

A. **Red Square Info Fair Registration**

Duot said that Info Fair Registration is going on now. The deadline to register is before the end of the school year.

B. **AS Club of the Year Reward**

Duot said that this award will be handed out tomorrow at 4:30pm in the MPR.

VIII. **DISCUSSION ITEMS** -

A. **Last Meeting**

Duot said it sounds like it is necessary to have a meeting next week. Mwangi said that he would be unable to attend next week because of class obligations. Panelo said that it would be fine to have another representative come as long as they are well informed.

IX. **ROP REPORT**

None

X. CLUB REPORTS -**A. ACC**

Dibba apologized that they did not have a representative at the meetings this year. She said that next year's board is willing to attend all meetings and remain accountable. They want to be a part of ESC and work and get to know the other clubs better.

B. BSU

Mwangi said that they had a conversation about June Teenth when the Emancipation Proclamation was enacted in the entire US. The next meeting will be set up and run by next year's board. They are also planning their BBQ for June 2nd.

C. CSA

Kwon said that they went to Relay for Life and are holding a Bake Sale this week.

D. FASA

Traci Watanabe said that they held their elections. Their last meeting will be tomorrow which will be a potluck.

E. HOH

Sarah Kim said they had their luau. She said it went very well. They are preparing for next year by having their last meeting that will be a potluck, pool party, and elections. They will be selling leis at graduation as well.

F. KhSA

Dale Lay said that they played games at their last meeting. Today is their last meeting where they will be going to a buffet.

G. LSTL

None

H. MRChA

None

I. MISO

Timothy O'Connor said they had their last meeting yesterday which the new board ran.

J. NASH

None

K. OPOC

Alejandro Llamas said they talked about the intersection of queer identities and undocumented immigrants. They are currently working on a joint meeting with LSU for next week.

L. SASA

Jaradi said they are having elections tomorrow. They are also having chai night.

M. VSA

Nguyen said that they played photo tag at the last meeting. Tomorrow is their last meeting of the year and they will be playing Jeopardy.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS -

- A. Duot said that Building Unity will be on June 2nd. Panelo added that the agenda is based on the feedback they have been getting. The big focus will be the transition between old officers and new officers. Another will be budget management.
- B. Duot said the ESC End of the Year Banquet is May 30th.
- C. Panelo brought up accountability. He said it is important to make sure that expectations are clear and to communicate absences to Duot before the meeting. He said that the steering position has a great deal of power and it is important to have a representative at the meeting. They want to make sure that all the clubs know what is going on as well. Panelo explained that they need to make sure everything is

equitable between the clubs, especially between the clubs who have earlier and later events during the year. Need to start talking about equally distributing Steering funds. He said that the most important step towards that is for everyone to be present. He also suggested a reward system which would consist of allocating startup funds to each club at the beginning of the year and if they miss a certain number of meetings then the club could lose that funding for next year. Erin Curran-Tileston suggested having people contact both Duot and the Assistant to make sure that the absence is well documented. Panelo said that he can only advise, but he thinks that this might be a good direction to go in. Mwangi said that it was difficult to create schedules around the meeting, especially when the times of the meeting changed. Curran-Tileston pointed out that she and Duot attempted to keep the times as consistent as possible, but the Board of Directors meeting made it extremely difficult to have the continuity in the time people desired. Duot said that scheduling was hard this year because of meeting and class schedules. He said that sometimes groups will be affected by this and unfortunately it was Steering Committee this year. He said he hopes this isn't the case next year, but it really depends on the board schedule. Panelo said that Mwangi raised a good point because it is hard to hold people accountable when they have classes conflicting with meeting schedules. Nguyen said that she thinks the ESC needs to be a priority. She said that she thought it was unacceptable that the meeting time for the ESC Steering meeting wasn't set until the first week of school. She said that because of this clubs were inconvenienced. She added that it was hard to fill her position because she was unable to go to club meetings and relay the information. She said that she believes that the day of Steering meetings need to be set and the Board of Directors meeting needs to work around that. Panelo clarified that the issue was about the fact that ESC Steering meetings conflict with club meetings. He suggested bringing this back to the clubs and said that there will be a calendar at the Building Unity event where clubs can pick time slots to hold their meetings which will hopefully help with scheduling next year. He said that might mean that Steering meetings might be at strange times to have consistency. Nguyen said that she believes it was unacceptable to inform people of when the Steering meeting would happen a week before school started. She said that she wanted to be notified about the meeting time over the summer. Curran-Tileston said that scheduling wasn't done over the summer because the Board schedules were still in flux and the assistants were not working over the summer. Nguyen said that this made every club wait and figure out a meeting time at the beginning of the year instead of over the summer. Duot apologized for the scheduling issues. Nguyen said to schedule the meeting before the week before school starts. Duot told the committee members to give him the contact information of the new Steering Representatives so he can contact them earlier. Watanabe said that she noticed that some clubs met earlier than all the other clubs. She suggested that those clubs wait to meet until everyone else starts so Steering Committee times and club meeting times can be moved around and be worked to fit people's schedules. Kim said that what they can agree on is that someone needs to represent the club at the meeting and if the steering rep elect can't make the meeting they can appoint a proxy. She said no matter what there will be a Steering meeting and scheduling conflicts will happen. Panelo said that it is important to look at issues but make sure there is no hostility or anger and make sure all criticism is constructive and comes from a place of caring.

THE OFFICIAL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 5:16 P.M.