

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Legislative Affairs Council Meeting**

Monday, December 5, 2011

VU567

Present: Uis Maute-Gibson (AS VP Governmental Affairs, Chair) Patrick Stickney (Vice Chair), Joe Meyer (Legislative Liaison), Fiona Yau-Luu, Ben Crowther, Ean Olsen (Student Senate Representative), Katherine Barnard, Kevin Majkut (advisor)

Absent: Jared McCardle, Chris Savage, Carmen Winkvist, Chris Brown, Julia Kelley,

Secretary: Cindy Monger

MOTIONS

L-II-F-06 Approve the dues to the Washington Student Association. *Passed*

L-II-F-07 Approve the 2012 AS Legislative Agenda. *Passed*

Iris Maute-Gibson, AS VP for Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 4:00p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. REVISIONS TO AGENDA

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IV. REPORTS

There were no reports given because this meeting was during finals week.

VI. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. WSA Funding Request

MOTION L-II-F-06 by Stickney

Approve the dues to the Washington Student Association.

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

B. Associated Students Legislative Agenda 2012

Maute-Gibson thanked the committee for their input on this document. There was a work session with the Board and she got positive feedback. They are still waiting on the facts from the admissions office and are working on wording for the environment and quality student experience. The Residence Hall Association would like to be involved in the quality student experience section and she will work on this section with them at their next meeting. She sent out messages to the Child Development Center, Disability Outreach Center and Equal Opportunity Office to try to get more specific feedback. Maute-Gibson added the language from the resolution opposing the Coal Terminal that passed at the Board meeting last week. She is going work with the Publicity Center to put this in a more presentable format. She asked the committee if they would feel comfortable passing this document with the knowledge that there might be more wordsmithing after it passes. Barnard asked what the benefit was of approving the document before it's finished. Maute-Gibson said that it will go to the Board tomorrow if it is approved tonight. She feels that the committee will have a lot more stake in interpreting this document and when the Board approves it the committee will have more ability to interpret it. Maute-Gibson is working with someone on the graphics and so there is currently a placeholder ad that looks similar on the second page. Majkut feels that there is a discontinuity in the accountability section inconsistency between the value and restricting student fee autonomy. Maute-Gibson has emailed the state auditor to try to get better wording. Majkut was thinking about the shared governance model where everyone's voice is heard in the system, but there is also clarity about who makes decisions. For example, faculty and staff should have input, but the decisions are ultimately up to

the students. Majkut is not sure if mandatory course fees are a student decision or an academic decision. He wonders if student participation in the review process of those fees would be a better way to say this. Maute-Gibson said that bullet number three is really for universities that don't have a strong shared governance like Western. Stickney asked if the autonomy doesn't correlate with shared governance. Maute-Gibson talked to Karen Stout from faculty senate and she liked the wording Barnard created. Stickney clarified that if this is approved and then they add more wording, it could be voted on again. There may only be one meeting before this would need to be passed. Maute-Gibson was hoping to approve it today, make changes over break and email it out to the committee to see if they are comfortable with the changes. Most of it will be getting the additional facts and cleaning up the wording. Duot will be bringing the diversity section to the Ethnic Student Center committees. Arvizu wanted to bring the faculty section to Faculty Senate. She will continue emailing as progress is made on the formatting.

MOTION L-II-F-07 by Olsen

Approve the 2012 AS Legislative Agenda.

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

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Survey

Maute-Gibson has created a survey about their experience this far. The winter quarter staff development will be a student engagement work shop on grass roots organizing. It will be skills based, but will also look at how the AS can best serve students. They will also be looking at how they are doing with advocating from higher education. She requested that Legislative Affairs Council be able to participate as well. The training is Saturday, January 7th from 9:30 am - 6:30 p.m. She encourages people to attend, please RSVP to Maute-Gibson.

B. Stickney expressed his condolences to the 5 Western Students who lost their home and possessions in a fire. Starbucks will be taking donations for them. He hopes that community members can work together to help prevent house fires in rentals in the future.

XI. OUTSIDE OF COMMITTEE WORK

X. NEXT MEETING DATE: *Submit your winter schedules by December 10, 2011 to determine the meeting*

Maute-Gibson thanked the committee for their hard work this quarter and for attending a meeting during finals week.

XI. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 4:33 P.M.