



**Western Washington University Associated Students
Ethnic Student Center Presidents Council Meeting**
Monday, October 29, 2012

Voting Members Present:

ACC - Elesá Yihclego, BSU - Chris Craft and Raven Richardson, CSA - Erica Huang, FASA - Marie Serica, HOH - Sarah Kim, KhSA - Phackdey Sok, MEChA - Alyne Sanchez, LSU - Bernardo Serna, MISO - Tiffany Law, NASU - Ashley Alvarez,, QPOC - Kashmir Reier, SASA - Taranjit Johal, VSA - Shaun Ly

Non-Voting Members:

Secretary: Mayra Guizar

Advisor: Nate Panelo

Chair: Deng Duot

Guests: Mohammed Cato

Motions

<u>ESCPC</u> Approve the Japanese Student Association to join the Ethnic Student Center. -	<u>PASSED</u>
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Deng Duot, AS Vice President for Diversity, called the meeting to order at 5:23 P.M.

I. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Guest presenter from catering is going to be next week on November 5th.

II. OPEN FORUM

III. GUEST PRESENTERS

A. University Catering - moved to next week

IV. INFORMATION ITEM

A. RHA and ESC Collaboration

Mohammed Cato is the Beta/Gamma Resident Director. He said he advises The Resident Hall Association (RHA) and what RHA does is represents all resident halls at Western Washington University. It's a voice for all halls and it also has access to money for funding as well. He said he and Nate Panelo have concerns that when RHA and the Ethnic Student Center (ESC) meet up, that it's just for funding and there is no communication after that. RHA is perceived as a bank. The money RHA receives from funding comes from the residents, and if the residents are spending money for particular programs, they should be utilizing them. He said that he wants the ESC to advertise who they are to the residents on campus so they can become familiar with what the center does. He said that most of the residents don't know about ESC, and they should. RHA is about being diverse and making meaningful relationships with others. He said he doesn't know how much of that goes on at Western. He wants to build and strengthen communication links between RHA and ESC so that RHA isn't perceived as just a bank. He said that the whole idea is to make the connection. Next he wants to talk about the position of the resident advisors and mentions that he doesn't know what the image of the RA is, but he doesn't see very many under represented students applying for those positions. He said it's a wonderful way to build on communication skills and a wonderful way to network. He said the ESC should take advantage of all the resources available, and being an RA fulfills that. He said Nate has his contact and that this RA position is open to all of ESC and anyone else interested is more than welcome to apply. He said the applications go out in the spring, but it's always good to start thinking about it now. He said if you are a junior or senior you can pass this information down to underclassmen. He stressed that RA's don't take this job for the pay. The free room and board comes in handy, and all you can eat at the dining hall is also nice. You don't have to worry about paying for

an apartment, and you can also benefit by picking up skills that you can use outside the confines of the academic and lecture halls. He said he is more than willing to sit and talk to anyone interested in the position and even speak about grad school in general. His email Mohammed.Cato@wwu.edu. Duot said that some people may not know how beneficial this is, and also said that our AS president Ethan Glemaker was an RA for 2 years before becoming president. He said the people he advised helped him campaign. Duot told everyone to encourage those who are freshmen and sophomores to apply for these positions if you cannot. He said that everyone in this committee has skills to do this. Cato said the type of collaboration he wants to see is for all 4, OOO students, and 74 RA's to get involved and educated on what is going on event and organization wise with the ESC. Felipe Espinoza said that NASU counted that they only had 74 people from the dorms to show up to one of their events when they expected 200. He said they passed out information to all the RA's but it wasn't effective and with this he added that this process of communication is a two way thing. Mohammed answered by saying there are 9 halls and a resident director for each. He said if you want the word out, you should go to the resident directors instead of the RA's because they are the ones who facilitate information. He then said that one event doesn't reflect on how the rest of the events will run in the future. He admitted that RHA has also not done their part in better communication. Espinoza said it's a matter of building a relationship. He said Casino night didn't happen last year because it's promoting and advocating gambling and that is why they did not do casino night last year, but that RHA is trying to incorporate some elements from casino night into this year. Cato then said that if you're looking for funding from RHA, you should submit it four weeks prior to the event. He said last year it was an easier process, but this year in terms of providing funding, they will be seeing if it will benefit for the residents before approving funds to determine how much a club will receive. He also said that fundings are less this year. Panelo said this year the priority question to ask is how do we do more with less money. Hall council and RHA is a great way to advertise and get the word out. Duot said that he hopes this year is different than last year and that we can utilize all our resources by taking steps to better communication between RHA and the ESC.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Japanese Student Association ESC Club Recognition Request

Mizue Aoki said that the Japanese Student Association will be bringing students together, to have a good time, and to promote a better understanding of the Japanese culture. She said that basically they have been a club for 4+ years now but they haven't been part of the ESC. Joshua Ho said he wants JSA to join the ESC because it would be important for them to represent those who are from Japan in the Ethnic Student Center. He said they have weekly meetings that are culture related and academic focus. Last year JSA helped the Tsunami Relief Effort and they are trying to do this again this year. Aoki said it would be a great opportunity to work with other clubs this year as well. Ho said the ESC they want to reach out and be open to anyone who is willing to learn about the Japan Culture. He said there are few non-Japanese members and that they try to incorporate them as much as they can as a club, too. Duot goes over the questions that the Japanese club has answered prior to wanting to become a club. He said that they all are from different areas, and that it's difficult to sometimes get a hold of students. Duot asked if they did elections for officers every year. Aoki said in the spring they did it elect officers, and JSA only had two officers but hope to do a more structured way of electing them this year. Duot asked if they see their club surviving in the years to come. Aoki said he's not sure, but they are taking steps to make sure it does and also mentions that they have charismatic students attending their meetings so with this he is confident that they can continue to carry the club after they are gone. They want it to last a long time, not just for a short while. Aoki said it's more organized than they ever have been before. She said they have rolls, task, and documents that state the expectations for future officers and members, because a lot of the officers are graduating this year.

MOTIONESCPC-12-F-01 by: Ling Shulman

Approve the Japanese Student Association to join the Ethnic Student Center.

Second: Shawn Lee

Vote: 11-1-1

Action: **PASSED**

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Duot said for club events, set up a meeting with Nate or Daniel two months prior to the event date.

B. Panelo tell Presidents Council that for the rest of the quarter they will only meet three more times which will be November 5th and 19th, and December 3rd.

THE OFFICIAL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 5:59 P.M.