

Western Washington University Associated Students Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, May 2, 2013

VU 567

AS Board Officers: *Present:* Ethan Glemaker (President), Victor Celis (VP Academics), Carly C Roberts (VP Activities), Hung Le (VP Bus Ops), Deng de Duot (VP Diversity), Patrick Stickney (VP Governmental Affairs) and Katie Savinski (VP Student Life)

Student Senate Representative: Christian Correa, AS Student Senate Chair

Advisor(s): Kevin Majkut, Director of Student Activities

Guest(s): Students for Sustainable Water: Carolyn Bowie, Sara Purington; Vicki Hamblin, Center for International Studies; Neil Christenson, Mayra Guizar, Kaylee Galloway

MOTIONS

ASB-13-S-22 Approve the minutes of Thursday, April 18, 2013. *Passed*

ASB-13-S-23 Approve the 2012-2013 AS Lederai Agenda. *Passed*

ASB-13-S-24 Suspend the Rules of Operation to move the Divestment Charge and Charter to an action item as it has been reviewed by the Dean of Students and the group would like to meet right away. *Passed*

ASB-13-S-25 Approve the Divestment Study Group Charge & Charter adding “the objective of the group is to provide background information and estimated impacts from different aspects of divestment and provide a list of considerations for the Associated Students and appropriate university administrators by the end of Winter Quarter 2014” to the end of the charge; the position of a non-voting secretary; and “to meet twice a month during the academic year, with summer meetings to be at the discretion of the committee.” *Passed*

ASB-13-S-26 Approve the ROP Director Job Description. *Passed*

Ethan Glemaker, AS President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION ASB-13-S-22 by Stickney

Approve the minutes of Thursday, April 18, 2013.

Second: Celis Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: 7-0-0

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

III. PUBLIC FORUM (*comments from students and the community*)

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests*

- A. International Student & Scholar Services Grant (15 minutes) Glemaker Doc. 1
Savinski appreciated this grant and felt it is important for the AS to fund. Savinski felt that by funding this it would give more incentive to participate and support the international students. Roberts dittoed. Duot said that Western's numbers are increasing; this would only help it increase and support the international students. Celis felt that this would be a good, strong partnership with the offices involved. Savinski and Stickney dittoed. Le asked what the plans are after the third year and going through assessment. Vicki Hamblin, Center for International Studies, responded that the hope is there will be large enough international student population the costs would be covered by enrollment fees. There is a hope that more students will come just to study English. Hamblin said that if this portion was not funded by the AS it would limit the number of co-curricular services the center could provide. Hamblin said there are currently 141 international students on campus. Le asked if the total expenditures was going to be consistent throughout the program. Hamblin said that there would be a 2% increase because of salary increases. Duot asked about professional staff. Hamblin said that candidates are required to have a BA, but an MA is preferred. Only 42% is covered by University Residences, the

Associated Students, and the Enrollment Fee, the rest comes from the state. Glemaker said that the Enrollment Fee Committee would contribute a higher percentage because the enrollment fee is the most relevant. Hamblin thanked the AS for their support in a partnership.

B. Water Bottle Letter

(15 minutes) Savinski Doc. 2

Savinski explained that this letter was initially written by Students for Sustainable Water (SSW). Later Glemaker, Savinski and the SSW discussed where the letter should go and who should send it. It was decided that it should come from the AS and would be sent to President Bruce Shepard and Senior Vice President and Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services, Dr. Eileen Coughlin. Stickney is pleased with the letter and hopes that it is received well. Celis asked the SSW to explain their work on the letter. Carolyn Bowie explained that this campaign has come a long way since it started and appreciated the active role the AS has taken in the campaign. She felt that the administration needed pressure from the students to make a change. Roberts had some wording that she felt should be changed, but she is going to work with Savinski or Glemaker to change it. Glemaker said that he has spoken with Bruce Shepard and Eileen Coughlin about the letter. Shepard suggested that the campaign look at other universities of a similar size that have done this. So far there are no other universities addressing this issue. Glemaker thinks this is even more empowering because it shows Western as a forerunner in environmental sustainability. Savinski and Stickney dittoed. Duot suggested citing "the fundamental human right to water."

C. Viking Union Building Fee Update

(15 minutes) Glemaker

Jim Schuster said the VU Building Fee helps pay off the bonds the university had taken out for renovations. VU Facilities is made up of different areas. The services the VU provides are event, technical services, custodial services, and information. Stickney dittoed Schuster's comment that the custodians are the unsung heroes. Schuster prides himself on having the best kept building on campus. VU Facilities Revenue comes from S&A Fees, Building Fees, and use of services: vendor's row, space usage, etc. Money is mostly spent on bond payment, salaries, utilities, and repairs. \$2.8 million is spent every year from facilities. VU Facilities has a capital reserve of \$1.4 million. 5% of all outstanding debt has to be kept in reserves as required by their bond contracts. The rest of the money goes towards projects such as the dock replacement at Lakewood. The VU is also working on sustainability projects that save money and energy. A projected project is to "humanize" the 5th floor plaza to make it more welcoming and green. The plants would help soften the noise and wind. Grounds' keeping has agreed to take care of the plants. Another summer project is to re-carpet the floors in the VU. They will be using carpet tiles, which are easier and more cost effective to replace if there is a stain or other damage. Long term goals are to make improvements, use what they have more efficiently, and get more space. VU Facilities is not requesting an increase this year for the Building Fee. Le asked more about the 5% of reserve money that can't be spent. Schuster explained that all reserve dollars in the university are invested. Stickney asked about the remaining \$300,000 in reserves and how the money is replenished. Schuster said there is a surplus of money from the building fee. Schuster clarified for Duot that it would be nice if a garage could be built, but there are potential uses for the space on the 4th floor of the VU, such as partnering with local native groups to build a long house. Glemaker wished he could be here when all these projects are completed.

V. ACTION ITEMS - Guests*

VI. PERSONNEL ITEMS *(subject to immediate action)*

VII. ACTION ITEMS - Board*

A. AS Federal Agenda

(15 minutes) Stickney Doc. 3

Stickney explained that the changes are mostly editorial changes and formatting changes. Stickney said that he is working with Ben Crowther to gather more background information. Roberts noted that the margins are not in line. Celis thanked Stickney for getting these changes

made after the last meeting. He is very impressed and appreciative of Cindy Monger for being so darn super. Stickney is very excited to bring this with Glemaker to Washington D.C.

MOTION ASB-13-S-23 by Celis

Approve the 2012-2013 AS Federal Agenda.

Second: Savinski Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board*

A. Divestment Study Group Charge & Charter *(15 minutes)* Glemaker Doc. 4

The committee is scheduled to meet on Monday, May 6, 2013. Glemaker said that there needs to be some additions to the voting membership, mainly adding a non-voting secretary which will be Madeline Espeseth for the remainder of the year. Celis said that the initial charge is not in the correct format that was set up at the beginning of the year. Glemaker said that this is not really a committee but rather a study group and an information gathering group; they wanted to include why this group was meeting as well as an expected outcome. Stickney thinks that it is very important for there to be a date for when a recommendation is made so the group knows when they need to be done as well as when the administration can expect something from this group. Duot asked why the VP for Business and Operations is the person chairing this rather than Student Life. Glemaker said the reasons for this are because the Student Life is a voting member, and to keep consistency since Le will be on the AS Board another year. The ASVP for Business and Operations is also the chair because there needs to be a background in funding, finance, and where dollars are spent. Savinski, Stickney, and Celis dittoed. Le said that he really likes studying things like this. Duot said that this is not about money but about student life; Glemaker said the purpose of the group is to improve student life, but it has to be done through dollars. Stickney dittoed. Le said that he wanted to add more direction to the charge such as when a proposal is due and what it should look like. In Le's conversations with the co-chair, Mark Bagley from the Western Loundation, he said that it is meant to be an objective group and this should be reflected in the document. Le said he would like a proposal submitted by the end of winter quarter at the latest. Stickney said that he was concerned with including "objective" because it sounded more like a synonym for "goal" rather than "to remain unbiased." Stickney moved to amend the motion "at the end of Winter Quarter 2014" after the word "considerations." Celis seconded, motion failed 2-4-0.

Le and Mark Bagley wanted to start the committee without any goal in order to keep the members objective. Roberts thought that the language people were looking for should denote that there was an end goal, but also that the committee should have no opinions to color their participation in the committee; the end result should be dictated by the information presented. Celis thinks it is really good to build this type of relationship with the membership. Le asked for more clarity of summer expectations because of the students on the committee; some would not be allowed to be on the committee because they would not be students. Glemaker said that the language should be changed to "meet twice a month during the academic year, with summer meetings to be set at the discretion of the committee." Duot was concerned that meeting twice a month would be too many meetings. Le said that it would not be an additional burden.

MOTION ASB-13-S-24 by Stickney

Suspend the Rules of Operation to move the Divestment Charge and Charter to an action item as it has been reviewed by the Dean of Students and the group would like to meet right away.

Second: Duot Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

MOTION ASB-13-S-25 by Celis

Approve the Divestment Study Group Charge & Charter adding "the objective of the group is to provide background information and estimated impacts from different aspects of divestment and provide a list of considerations for the Associated Students and appropriate university administrators by the end of Winter Quarter 2014" to the end of the charge; the position of a non-voting secretary;

and “to meet twice a month during the academic year, with summer meetings to be set at the discretion of the committee.”

Second: Stickney Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

IX. CONSENT ITEMS *(subject to immediate action)*

A. ROP Director Job Description (5 minutes) Le Doc. 5

Le explained that the Personnel Committee approved this last week. Savinski explained that some responsibilities were removed from the description because they were no longer relevant.

MOTION ASB-13-S-26 by Roberts

Approve the ROP Director Job Description

Second: Celis Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

X. STUDENT SENATE REPORT

Christian Correa, AS Student Senate Chair, was not at the last Senate meetings.

Neil Christenson, a student senator, reported that the Student Senate is considering adjourning itself for the rest of the year and they will be voting on that recommendation at the upcoming meeting. There was concern among senators as to whether or not they have to power to adjourn themselves. Celis shared some strong feelings against doing this because he felt it was shady because all the advisors were not present nor was Christian.

XI. BOARD REPORTS

President

Ethan Glemaker reported that most everything he has been working on this week was on this agenda. He has had a lot of students coming in to his office to raise concerns. Glemaker shared a story about the Western Foundation. There was a student speaker from the Bellingham who so impressed the President of Microsoft that she offered the Western student a job then and there. The Washington Student Association General Meeting is this weekend.

VP for Academic Affairs

Victor Celis reported that the Academic Honesty Policy will hopefully be finished by the end of the year. University Planning and Resource Council is looking at a 6 year plan for the colleges and divisions; there are some interesting ideas that have come before the committee. Tonight Celis volunteered with the Western Foundation Senior Giving event, which encourages graduating seniors to donate money in honor of a professor that has impacted their time at Western. Celis wanted to encourage all students to think about how Western has inspired them and how they want to give back. A donor is matching up to \$5,000 during Senior Giving Week.

VP for Activities

Carly C Roberts reported that she advised Student Senate this week and it was a new experience. There was a document brought about not having exams during Dead Week according to the university policy. Traditionally this has not been enforced in Fairhaven because they don't usually have exams, but have final papers and projects, which are not included in the term “exams.” There are issues with faculty fairness and work load. Christenson said that almost all Senators thought that the policy needed to be enforced. Roberts said that students wanted people to enforce no exams during dead week because students lose a week's worth of class otherwise. Activities Council is finally spending down grants/loans/underwrites. More groups from the College of Business and Economics (CBE) are requesting funds to start clubs. FivFest is being funded, which happens during Back to Bellingham weekend. Kudos to the Change Makers club, specifically Danica, for this event and all the hard work they have done to help raise funds for charity. Roberts appreciates the student leadership that comes from all parts of campus. Roberts said that Activities Council opened up the opportunity to the Men's Rugby Team to request funding for around \$2,000 for their travel funds. They would normally not be eligible for funding.

VP for Business & Operations

Hung Le reported that he is working mostly on budgets and hiring committees. Management Council will be seeing budget proposal in two weeks, and then will be brought to the AS Board. The Men's Rugby Team, the Warthogs, made it to nationals but they could not afford the cost, so the Services and Activities Fee is helping fund their travels with an allocation of \$10,000 from reserves.

VP for Diversity

Deng de Duot reported that Steering Committee went well and he invites everyone to attend a meeting to see how it is run. There is an immigration event tonight. The Women of Color Empowerment dinner is coming up and they are still accepting nominations for students, faculty, and staff. Duot appreciated how much the AS is supporting the Rugby Team.

VP for Governmental Affairs

Patrick Stickney reported that the Western hockey team was congratulated Monday for defending their championship. Stickney said the event with Congressman Tarsen went well, but they will have to do a little more work to convince him to support the Student Toan Torgiveness Act. The Secretary of State will be coming on Thursday to talk about voter registration. May 13th starts special session in Olympia to finish budget hearings. Tuition may very well not be decided until June. Stickney is excited to train his successor.

VP for Student Life

Katie Savinski reported that she finished her last hiring meeting. Earlier this week she fleshed out the thing that she brought to the Board. They are still working on pro-con of moving forward on the water bottle issue. She has been working at the AS Voting Booth in Red Square. She and Glemaker presented the Water Bottle Initiative letter to Kurt Willis and he had some interesting comments.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 7:22 P.M.