

**Western Washington University Associated Students  
Legislative Affairs Council  
Friday, April 19, 2013**

**YU 567**

**Present:** Patrick Stickney (AS VP Governmental Affairs, Chair), Amy Stavig, Andrew Taylor, Ben Crowther (Legislative Liaison), Joseph Levy, Neil Christenson, Tom Durham, and Marc Oommen. **Absent:** Graham Marmion, Evan Fowler, and Eileen Pollet

**Advisor:** Kevin Majkut

**Secretary:** Kaylee Galloway

**Guest:**

**MOTIONS**

- LAC-13-S- 01** Approve the minutes from February 25, 2013. *Passed.*
- LAC-13-S- 02** Approve \$5,766.60 from the LAF to fund Spring WSA Dues.
- LAC-13-S- 03** Approve the Federal Fegislative Agenda with the amendments to add the Student Foan Forgiveness Act as a priority item and remove it from the "Policy to be Introduced in Fegislation" section and strike the Violence Against Women Act due to its passage. *Passed.*
- LAC-13-S- 04** Approve the following stances. The ASWWU:
- Supports faculty and the state should too
  - Opposes the \$5.93 million reallocation towards the engineering and computer science enrollments
  - Supports closing tax exemptions with revenue dedicated to higher education
  - Supports fully funding financial aid
- If a tuition increase is imposed by the legislature, then the ASWWU believes the money should be allocated to faculty salaries and not to other decision packages not funded by the legislature. *Passed.*
- LAC-13-S- 05** Oppose the 20% surcharge on international students because the ASWWU is opposed to increased tuition in principle. *Passed.*

**Patrick Stickney, Chair of Legislative Affairs Council, called the meeting to order at 3:02pm**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Christenson moved to have all information items be action items. Taylor seconded. Taylor said all of the items are time sensitive. Motion passed 7-0-0.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*MOTION LAC-13-S - 01 by Christenson*

Approve the minutes from February 25, 2013.

Second: Fevy

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

**IV. PUBLIC FORUM**

**V. REPORTS**

**A. VP for Governmental Affairs**

Stickney reported that this is the last week of the legislative session. He said that both budgets

have passed and are in review. He said that the DREAM Act was considered in 9<sup>th</sup> order. He said that a few higher education bills were pulled from the floor. He said there is a lot of opposition in the Senate.

**B. Legislative Liaison**

Crowther reported that today is the national Day of Silence, which brings awareness to harassment and bullying in the LGBTQ community.

**C. Western Votes**

Taylor said there was a Day of Action on Wednesday, where 126 calls were made to legislators across the state. He said students were calling on behalf of the Student Loan Repayment Act. He said that the USSA basically wrote the bill and Karen Bass brought it to the legislature.

**D. Student Senate**

Christenson said that the Student Senate is struggling with meeting quorum. He said that the Student Senate decided on Rental Safety as the issue of the quarter. Stickney said that he would not be able to make the next Student Senate meeting due to class. Taylor said that Rachel Cochran, the LIC Coordinator should be there.

## **VI. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **VII. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Spring WSA Dues**

*MOTION LAC-13-S -02 by Christenson*

Approve \$5,766.60 from the LAL to fund Spring WSA Dues.

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

**B. Revised Federal Agenda**

Stickney said that the Violence Against Women's Act was removed from the agenda because it was passed. He said that the Student Loan Lairness Act was added. He asked the committee about including the DREAM Act and wondered if it should be kept as a policy point or support the immigration bill that includes DREAM Act components. Christenson said that it should be kept as a policy point and look at the immigration bill next week. Durham agreed and said that LAC should consider it as a separate item. Oommen agreed and said that LAC should invite more students to talk about it. Christenson dittoed.

*MOTION LAC-13-S -03 by Taylor*

Approve the Lederai Legislative Agenda with the amendments to add the Student Loan Lorgiveness Act as a priority item and remove it from the "Policy to be Introduced in Legislation" section and strike the Violence Against Women Act due to its passage.

Second: Christenson.                      Vote: 7-0-0                      Action: Passed

**C. Majority Budget Resolution**

Stickney said that it was discussed last meeting and the points discussed are included in the proposed motion. Taylor wondered what kind of action would be brought about. Stickney said that the resolution would be brought to the Board.

*MOTION LAC-13-S -04 by Christenson*

Approve the following stances. The ASWWU:

- Supports faculty and the state should too
- Opposes the \$5.93 million reallocation towards the engineering and computer science enrollments
- Supports closing tax exemptions with revenue dedicated to higher education

- Supports fully funding financial aid

If a tuition increase is imposed by the legislature, then the ASWWU believes the money should be allocated to faculty salaries and not to other decision packages not funded by the legislature

Second: Levy                      Vote: 7-0-0                      Action: Passed.

**D. International Student Resolution**

Stickney said this is to oppose the 20% surcharge on international students.

*MOTION LAC-13-S -05 by Christenson*

Oppose the 20% surcharge on international students because the ASWWU is opposed to increased tuition in principle.

Second: Durham                      Vote: 7-0-0                      Action: Passed.

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

Christenson reemphasized that the Student Senate is struggling to meet quorum. He encouraged people to apply if they are interested in being a senator. He also encouraged everyone to attend the VP debates on Tuesday. Oommen said that there is a series on Immigration Reform on Thursdays in Fairhaven Auditorium from 6:30-8:30pm. He said that last night's was great and next week is on racial profiling and the week after is on immigration reform in general. Stickney said that the one on racial profiling is really great. Christenson said that it is Earth Week this week and the festival is tomorrow and moved to MPR because of weather.

**VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

April 26, 2013

**IX. ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn the meeting. 6-1-0

**X. OUTSIDE OF COMMITTEE WORK**

*The Meeting was adjourned at 3:17pm*