

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Legislative Affairs Council
Monday, December 2, 2013 VU 567**

Present: Kaylee Galloway (ASVP for Governmental Affairs), Matthew Bobbink (AS Legislative Liaison), Joseph Levy (AS Local Liaison), Heather Heffelmire (Western Votes! Representative), Eileen Pollet, Danny Edgel, Theo Bickel, Daniel Tollefsen

Absent: Oscar Aguirre, Sydney Kurie, Nic Doherty, Blake Bishop

Advisor: Kevin Majkut

Secretary: Amy Kleitsch

MOTIONS

LAC-13-F-12 Approve the minutes from November 18, 2013. *Passed.*

LAC-13-F-13 Move to approve the Funding Request Proposal for WSA Membership Dues. *Passed.*

LAC-13-F-14 Move to approve the Carbon Tax as an ASWWU State Policy Interest. *Passed.*

LAC-13-F-15 Move to approve Pay It Forward Pilot Program Work Group as an ASWWU State Policy Interest. *Passed.*

LAC-13-F-16 Move to approve Academic Support at Critical Transitions as an ASWWU State Policy Interest. *Passed.*

LAC-13-F-17 Move to approve Voter Access as an ASWWU State Policy Interest. *Passed.*

LAC-13-F-18 Move to approve In-State Tuition for Student Veterans as an ASWWU State Policy Interest. *Passed.*

Patrick Stickney, Chair of Legislative Affairs Council, called the meeting to order at 4:03pm

I. Call to Order

II. Additions and Changes to the Agenda

III. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION LAC-13-F-12 By: Edgel
Approve the minutes from November 18, 2013
Second: Levy Vote: 6-0-0 Action: Passed

IV. Public Forum

V. Reports

A. VP for Governmental Affairs

Galloway went to the final board work session on the Legislative Agenda priorities where she also introduced the Rental Safety proposal and resolution. She mentioned these items will be introduced to the board this Friday as information items. Galloway is finalizing the planning for the WSA Board Meeting December 14th. She wants everyone who is interested in attending to let her know by the end of the evening. She reminded everyone that the committee meeting time for next quarter is going to be on Mondays from 4-6pm in VU 567

with the first LAC Meeting being January 13th. She extended the deadline for Viking Lobby Day until December 9th and had an email sent out to the student body encouraging students to sign up.

B. Legislative Liaison

Bobbink is all set to start lobbying in Olympia this coming Winter Quarter.

C. Local Liaison

Levy went to County Council last week. He said a few people mentioned prevailing wages and how they are too high for elected officials. He explained that prevailing wages are essentially the minimum amount you can pay certain professionals. Levy is going to City Council tonight and hopes to talk to or schedule a meeting with Jack White. He wants to discuss with him what the committee has been doing this quarter.

D. Western Votes!

Heffelmire said since Western Votes! last meeting there hasn't been much to report. She said Western Votes! meetings plan to pick back up the first week of school. Heffelmire said as of now the meetings are on Wednesdays at 5pm. She has been helping Kaylee Galloway with Viking Lobby Day and has been preparing for WSA Board Meeting on December 14th.

VI. Presentations

VII. Information Items

VIII. Action Items

A. Funding Request Proposal for WSA Membership Dues (Doc. 1-2)

MOTION LAC-13-F-13 By: Levy

Move to approve the Funding Request Proposal for WSA Membership Dues

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

B. ASWWU State Policy Interests

Carbon Tax

MOTION LAC-13-F-14 by Edgel

Move to approve the Carbon Tax as an ASWWU State Policy Interest

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

Pay It Forward Pilot Program Work Group

Galloway said even though this proposal doesn't align with WSA's proposal doesn't mean they are going against WSA. Heffelmire suggests it would look better if they are unified with WSA since they are talking about the same issue. She thinks they should keep this because of the mention of a Pay It Forward Work Group, but doesn't want it to be problematic with WSA. Heffelmire said Washington State University's Vancouver Campus administration supports the Pay It Forward Program on their campus. Galloway suggests moving to approve this with the stipulation this proposal could adjust as the session furthers or table this as proposal until they have a better idea of what WSA is doing. Heffelmire asked if there would be an opportunity to talk about this at the Board meeting. Galloway doesn't know what role the Board would play in the Policy Interest section of the Agenda, and this might be something that LAC solely focuses on. Pollet said passing this as a Policy Interest would give Bobbink the opportunity to talk about Pay It Forward to legislatures. Bickel

suggested taking a stance saying they support the whole Pay It Forward program rather than having a separate proposal of a work group. Galloway mentioned there has been a lot of questions from students and administration about Pay It Forward, which is why the work group was created. Heffelmire mentioned that a problem they could run into is having legislatures ask why they support work group while WSA supports the idea of a pilot program. Bobbink said he feels comfortable answering this question if brought up by legislatures. Heffelmire said even though it is unlikely for legislatures to know their policy stances, she think it would look better if they are unified with WSA.

MOTION LAC-13-F-15 By: Pollet

Move to approve Pay It Forward Pilot Program Work Group as an ASWWU State Policy Interest

Second: Edgel Vote: 3-1-2 Action: Passed

Academic Support at Critical Transitions

Galloway mentioned that passing this as a Policy Interest doesn't make them limited to what is currently in the proposal. She said if the administration comes out with a plan, they can implement it into the broader theme of academic support for students.

MOTION LAC-13-F-16 By: Heffelmire

Move to approve Academic Support at Critical Transitions as an ASWWU State Policy Interest

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

Voter Access

Edgel asked if there had been any concern with Voter Access in Washington. Galloway said if it doesn't place undue financial burden on the auditor's office, then she doesn't see any reason why people would be against increasing voter accessibility. Pollet suggests republicans might be against increasing voter access. She said republicans around the country are preventing young people and minorities from voting because they wouldn't vote for them, so they might have a problem with this. Pollet said she hasn't heard this be said by Washington state republicans, but this is still a serious concern for young voters. Galloway said the way this proposal is structured this doesn't have to be limited to 2 bills that have been noted in this proposal.

MOTION LAC-13-F-17 By: Bickel

Move to approve Voter Access as an ASWWU State Policy Interest

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

In-State Tuition for Student Veterans

Galloway mentioned In-state Tuition for Student Veterans and Voter Access are priorities for WSA.

MOTION LAC-13-F-18 By: Edgel

Move to approve In-State Tuition for Student Veterans as an ASWWU State Policy Interest

Second: levy

Vote: 6-0-0

Action:

IX. Other Business

Galloway said they are going to focus more on local issues next quarter. She said Sydney Kurie is about done with her proposal on Campus and Community Public Health and Safety.

Galloway fully anticipates Rental Safety being passed by the end of this quarter, so they can start focusing on this issue at the start of Winter Quarter. Galloway said the Living Wage and Water Front Proposal are also going to be the forefront of discussion next quarter.

X. Next Meeting Date

- January 13, 2014, 4pm, VU 567

XI. Adjourn

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:34pm