

# Western Washington University Associated Students Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, May 15, 2014

VU567

**AS Board Officers:** *Present:* Carly Roberts (President), Josie Ellison (VP Academics), Jarred Tyson (VP Activities), Morgan Burke (VP BusOps), Kaylee Galloway (VP Governmental Affairs), and Robby Eckroth (VP Student Life) *Absent:* Mayra Guizar (VP Diversity)

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

**Guest(s):** Campus Recreation Services: Adam Leonard, Marie Sather; Health Fee: Kunle Ojikutu, Theresa Williams; Representation & Engagement Programs: Patrick Eckroth, Joseph Levy; AS Board Elect: Sarah Kohout; Giselle Alcántar Soto; Katrina Haffner

## MOTIONS

**ASB-14-S-33** Approve the minutes of April 25, 2014. *Passed*

**ASB-14-S-34** Approve the minutes of May 1, 2014. *Passed*

**ASB-14-S-35** Move the Viqueen Lodge Transition to immediate action. *Passed*

**ASB-14-S-36** Whereas, Viking Union Facilities has managed Viqueen Lodge for the Associated Students for the past 35+ year; and Viking Union Facilities is the appropriate funding body for future development of this property; the Associated Students Board of Directors officially transfers responsibility for the management, operation and development of Viqueen Lodge to Viking Union Facilities. *Passed*

**ASB-14-S-37** Certification of 2014 Election Results. *Passed*

*Carly Roberts, AS President, called the meeting to order at 6:05p.m.*

## I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*MOTION ASB-14-S-33 by Galloway*

Approve the minutes of April 25, 2014.

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

*MOTION ASB-14-S-34 by Tyson*

Approve the minutes of May 1, 2014.

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

## II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

## IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests\*

### A. Ree Center Fee Increase Request

(15 minutes) Doc. 1 Roberts

Marie Sather, Director of Campus Recreation reported that the Campus Ree Advisory Committee is recommending a \$4 per quarter fee increase. This is the first increase they have requested in 6 years. Adam Leonard, Associate Director of Campus Recreation reported that the main driving factors behind the request for an increase are: the mandatory staff salary increase of 2%, the need for more student custodial staff for the new multipurpose field, and repair and replacement of equipment which has fallen behind schedule. Their goal is to stay with the newest fitness trends. This year the ree center is going to spend less than \$40,000 on repairs. In order to catch back up on the replacements it would be about \$115,000 for the next year. A \$3 per quarter increase would cover these expenses. This year the Ree Center Advisory Committee decided to commit funds to the new multipurpose field out of their reserves. The total commitment for this is 3,350,000 this will make up 57-60% of the cost of the field. Their bond payment next year should be \$1,610,000. They are required to put funding into the maintenance reserves. Other revenue equals \$500,000-\$550,000 which is from other

memberships, lockers, retail, facility rentals and sports camps in the summer. 49% of the student recreational fee goes to the bond payment and the requirement for the maintenance reserve. The building replacement plan replaces: carpets, air handling system, etc. Of the \$1.4 million spent in personnel expenses, 42% is in student employment opportunities. They are one of largest student employer on campus. The extra \$1 they are requesting is to begin reestablishing a better reserves after the depletion from the field expenses. Roberts is curious why the revenue went down \$10,000 this year. Teonard was concerned about enrollment numbers and wanted to keep a realistic number. Roberts asked if there were any additional services being offered with the increase. Teonard said that new equipment will be a visible benefit. They are spending too much funding on reactive maintenance and he would rather purchase new equipment that has a longer life. Sather said that weight machines should be traded out every seven years, and the current machines are eleven years old. New equipment purchases are decided with trends in services discussed at conferences, advisement groups, and by student feedback. Campus Ree has been operating without an increase for six years. Tyson asked them to share the fee rate at other colleges in Washington. Teonard said Central is at about \$105 a quarter and doesn't have the quality that Western does, they also don't have a pool which is a large expense. Burke asked what would happen if the increase wasn't authorized. Teonard said that they would have to use the reserves for the very necessary repairs and the rest would stay the same. Ellison said that there would be about \$40,000 left over at the end of the year and she wondered if this funding would be to build up reserves. Teonard said it is a 4.3 million dollar operating budget, and a healthy reserve is anywhere from 10-25%. There is about \$700,000 in reserves now. Majkut said that 10% seems very low to him. Ojikutu said that based on bonding requirement they are responsible for keeping a healthy reserve. The Ree Center is fully responsible for their facility and Teonard thinks the reserves should be at about 25%. Sather the reserve level was at 25% before paying for the Multipurpose Tieid. Burke asked if they have a plan for making smaller increases over time so that it is not such a large increase at once for the students. Sather said they had not increased the fee to try to keep costs down for students, but it was necessary now. She thinks that they have been good stewards and wants them to have a sustainable model. Galloway asked about student use. Teonard said that he is very proud of the number that 96.8% have been into the Ree Center at least once. They get about 450,000 turns at the ree center they have about 3,600 a day after new year's resolution time. Roberts felt that this is a well-reasoned fee increase.

B. Health Services Tee Increase Request

(15 minutes) Doc. 2 Roberts

Dr. Kunle Ojikutu is responsible for the Health Services and Theresa Williams is a student member of the advisory committee that unanimously approved this increase. Ojikutu said they are asking for this increase because for the past 5-6 years they received increases only to cover the salary increases and nothing more. They are asking for \$18 because they have had to cut budgets but they are seeing an increase in the amount of student usage, particularly in the mental health area. This has become almost a crisis situation for them. They need a Master's level mental health provider and they will also have interns that will serve that are doctoral level students. It is very cost effective in terms of it being \$24,000 per year instead of \$65,000 for a full psychologist. They also need additional staff in the Health Center. At this point they have been maintaining services by not replacing people if they find new work or retire. Washington State University \$276 for Health fees (5% increase approved or \$29 per quarter) and Central is \$297 per year. The University of Washington Health Center is very different because they only serve people with insurance. This fee would be \$255 per quarter after the increase. Ojikutu said sometimes he wishes that he was a student because they have better healthcare than he does. To see a physician would be an average of \$60 per visit, a psychologist would be about \$100 per visit out in the community. He thinks that what they are asking for is reasonable. They have some serious issues in regards to mental health on campus and he knows that Western's staff is overworked. They are trying to find a full time psychologist and

typically it would cost \$105,000-200,000 to hire. They try to be the most cost effective with student funds. Williams is a student representative on the committee and felt that it is a good idea to make sure that they maintain good health & wellness and mental health services. She considered the impact on her as a student, but feels that it is important. Tyson said that what troubles him is that everyone pays in to the fees but not everyone uses it. The Counseling Center typically has about 1,337 clients, which is about 9.22% of students. For him, he would like to see a greater use of the Counseling Center or means of advertising the services that are provided by the fee. Galloway dittoed. Roberts said the Counseling Center is only one area of several supported by the fee. It is at capacity and could not serve any more students. Ojikutu said that the Counseling Center is a very labor intensive area. Campus violence issues are a serious concern. When dealing with one student with mental health issues, it can effect a lot of other students. These services are in place to help prevent incidents that have happened, like the Virginia Tech incident. Ellison said that she has seen increase requests from the state Operational Budget from the administration, so this will be a joint funding. Ojikutu said that he works with the administration of this part of the budget as well. Roberts is involved with the suicide prevention grant advisory committee and she is very familiar with the numbers for use and demand. She thinks that this fee increase is reasonable especially within the context of fees on campuses in Washington. Eckroth and Burke dittoed. Roberts said that the reality is the people behind these numbers are suffering and this funding is critical for keeping them in school and helping them to function. The Affordable Care Act also recently redefined mental health at the same level as physical ailments such as diabetes. There is also more acceptance of mental health issues and therefore people are seeking services. Roberts said that this is one of the most thorough documents that they have seen this year.

D. Student Senate

(15 minutes) Doc. 4 Galloway

Galloway and Kohout, VP for Gov Elect, collaborated on this proposal. Galloway said the Student Senate had a series of issues, which is why it went on hiatus. The results on May 2<sup>nd</sup> reflected a student vote of 72% to 38% in favor of keeping the student senate. This proposal is asking the Board to authorize another one year hiatus of the Student Senate, with the expectation that Kohout as the VP for Governmental Affairs for 2014-2015 will be working on this project. Galloway said that Kohout feels she can take on this project and make sure whatever comes out of this project would be best for the students. Ellison would like to include the hours for the Board Member who is the liaison to Senate in the personnel hours. Roberts said that she did not find anywhere in the Bylaws where rules were laid out to suspend the Bylaws. She does not know if the board has the authority to suspend the Bylaws and feels the Board should just suspend the Senate. Kohout said that it would not be a suspension but rather a hiatus. Galloway said that it was not her intention to have the board suspend the Bylaws, she thought that she was following the process. Roberts is also concerned about the wholesale suspension of the Senate for two years in a row. She feels that students voted to keep student senate in the Bylaws, they should at least have something in existence called the Student Senate. Roberts would like to see more structure and a timeline of the Senate. She feels that the Board owes it to students to give them a thorough process. Roberts suggested having an interim group which would have meet quarterly with all students who serve on committees to discuss items. She has already talked about this idea with the Representation & Engagement Programs Office and other people. Ellison suggested to have an interim for Senate be under the Academic Affairs position because she has at least two years' worth of legacy documents prepared. Kohout said that she could get a timeline for next week's meeting. She feels that it will be difficult to get a group of all the committee members together. Levy feels that it is a waste of time if they are just creating a group to call Student Senate. He said that even though the student voted on keeping the student senate, it was a low population of votes with only around 600 people voting. If they are appealing to those 600 students, he feels that they do not want a committee. Eckroth agrees with Kohout and Levy. He said that the Senate did not get

the analysis that it deserved and it should be analyzed again. 1 ditto. There should be alternatives presented to the Board. There could be a possibility that the item be brought back to the AS board again during elections with more information presented to the students. Majkut is concerned about adding another task to the responsibilities of the VP for Governmental Affairs or the VP for Academic Affairs. He is not concerned about the project task, but he is concerned about the ongoing commitment of this. He suggests the Senate be put on hiatus until the end of fall quarter and to have a report be developed at the end of fall quarter, which would allow for a decision to be made about this. He said this would be a compromise, so they wouldn't have to take a full year because it seems like a long time to try and respond to student concerns without a check in. Roberts said for her to feel comfortable passing this second year suspension, she would like to see a timeline and a clear assessment plan established. She would offer her assistance in the development of this because she has a lot of information from last year when she was working on this project the first time around. Roberts cautioned against people are casually delegitimizing the election results. What they are discussing passed with a much wider margin than the majority of the incoming the Board members were elected on. She doesn't want to see the leaders causally dismiss election results. She doesn't think the number of students who voted for this should be a legitimate point of discussion. Kohout would want this to come down to a student vote because she wants students to have a say in this and be educated. Galloway feels it would be better to give this project due diligence. Galloway feels that they were not trying to delegitimize the election results, but she feels that students didn't understand what they were voting for because no explanation was given. Galloway suggested a one year maximum, but she doesn't want to limit it. She wants to leave it in the hands of someone who is an expert and she doesn't feel that they should rush this. Eckroth liked the idea of an assessment process happening in fall and the referenda in winter quarter. Galloway said that winter quarter is hard during legislative session. Roberts thinks that there are a lot of different ideas about this and she feels that they might need a second information week on this. Roberts would like to see this be successful and thorough. Eckroth is comfortable with seeing it as an action item next week.

#### C. Viqueen Lodge Transition

(25 minutes) Doc. 3Burke

Burke said that currently the Viqueen Lodge is partially funded by the AS and fees for usage. Presentation on Viqueen Lodge established in 1928. The AS has funded at least \$175,000 for improvements on the facility. The main future goal is to make Viqueen increasingly accessible. To do this the AS helped fund a new well to allow for composting toilets, kitchen sink, and showers from a 1,000 gallon tank. This process is close to complete and will help increase winter month usage. It has been around \$400,000 to put in this system. All of the maintenance work for Viqueen is done by volunteers who are provided meals while doing the work. They recently put in photo cells on the roof and are seeing a good amount of energy collected from this. Jim Shuster, Director of VU Facilities is proposing moving the Viqueen lodge to be moved to the VU Facilities. The reason he wants to do this is to gain access the fiscal structure of the VU. This could help fund further development of the property such as a retreat center. This can be accomplished by selling bonds, etc. Eckroth thinks that this makes a lot of sense. Roberts thinks that the Viqueen lodge is unique for students. She would like to see it more accessible and available. She feels that with this move and the financial options available it will increase knowledge of the resource. Roberts said that the Women's Physical Education Club purchased the property and that is why it is called Viqueen (instead of Viking). With this move the AS Board of Directors can still give guidance on the property development, it just allows for more fiscal opportunities. Jim Schuster said that it will continue to fall under Facilities & Services Council and the more student input into Viqueen the better. Roberts gave Kudos for Jim Schuster without him the Viqueen lodge wouldn't be in the state it is today. Unanimous dittos. It is very clear to the Board how much of his heart has gone into this

facility. She thinks that this move will be putting Viqueen in a good position as Schuster transitions into retirement. The Board applauded Schuster and his efforts.

*MOTION ASB-14-S-35 by Galloway*

Move the Viqueen Lodge Transition to immediate action.

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

*MOTION ASB-14-S-36 by Ellison*

Whereas, Viking Union Facilities has managed Viqueen Lodge for the Associated Students for the past 35+ year; and Viking Union Facilities is the appropriate funding body for future development of this property; the Associated Students Board of Directors officially transfers responsibility for the management, operation and development of Viqueen Lodge to Viking Union Facilities.

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

*The Board took a break and reconvened at 7:30 p.m.*

- E. Direct Membership with the United States Student Association (30 minutes) Doc. 5 Galloway
- Galloway said this is a topic of conversation that is not new and has been discussed at the Legislative Affairs Council for multiple meetings. The documents about direct membership with the United States Student Association are very detailed and include the vote from Legislative Affairs Council which was passed with due diligence and robust conversations to back it up. This decision was not made lightly, they really put in hours, time, effort and attention to detail that they would hope for from their committees that specialize in areas. Roberts said that while the direct membership is \$6,000 per year, there are additional implications including travel for a potential board member and increased attendance at conferences. She wants them to be aware that the financial commitment is much greater than \$6,000. Secondly she was curious if Galloway had discussed with the VP of USSA about the membership rate. Galloway said that the conference expenses have already been factored into the Legislative Action Lund budget and has been happening for a few years, although sometimes the size of delegation has varied, but this proposal is just for dues. Galloway spoke with Majkut and they moved forward with negotiations with the Vice President of the USSA and this is an incredible deal. Given the current membership dues structure for the USSA it is \$.50 per student which would put their fee at \$7,500. So the \$6,000 is an incredible deal and is about \$.40 per student. Galloway noted in the summary document that there is a possibility of this offer changing because they might be creating the fee structure to avoid deals with certain campuses. If this fee structure passes at congress, it may decrease the amount for Western's dues, but she doesn't see the dues being more than \$6,000 per year. Roberts has some concerns about student knowledge of USSA, as far as passing this resolution. One of her main concerns is that she is not sure a resolution is the best way to approve direct membership. In looking at conference attendance, she sees a very nuclear group of people who have gone to the USSA repeatedly, who are really involved in the AS and are within the same group. She thinks they need to be upfront and honest throughout this process that there is not wide buy-in to the USSA on this campus. Galloway felt that this was misleading because indirectly there is wide buy-in. Roberts said that the fact is there is not wide direct buy in to USSA. It has been very limited involvement so far and she is not sure that direct membership through this avenue is the best way to represent students. In looking at the names of participants, four of the seven people voting on this proposal have attended USSA conferences, this means that they have a good base of knowledge and familiarity with the organization. But it also means that they are having four people vote on this who have had trips to the east coast paid for to go see the USSA, she doesn't think this is an ethical thing because of the small number of people who have been flown over for USSA conferences. She feels this does not represent wide student experience with USSA. She also thinks that another reason why they need to send this to a larger student vote, in the form of a referendum rather than passing it as a resolution, is because the Washington Student Association recently withdrew membership from the USSA over concerns that it was not an inclusive organization and did not serve as a good representative of the student movement on

the national scale. She thinks that these concerns are worth discussion and she personally has concerns about Western becoming direct members of USSA, she thinks that many things that they do are good, but is not sure that it is the best use of Western student funds. It has been widely acknowledged that USSA is in a big transition period and it is needing to make some really big changes to survive and continue to represent the student voice at the national level. She thinks this needs to be discussed here at this level, as far as if this is going to be a good investment for Western students. Kohout said that there is the option to have a western student attend a few meetings, within their budget, and call into other meetings. Kohout wanted to touch on it the comment that only directly impacts people that have actually attended the conference, she doesn't think that this is fair because there are a lot of things that have been here on campus because of what the student leaders have taken back to Western from USSA. The recent "Diversity Is" rally was very much inspired by USSA members and from the leadership that people got from the conference. The issue choosing process came from congress. This is the way they now choose legislative agenda items and made it a lot quicker, easier and more accessible for students to understand. Kohout said that she wants to expand students involved, this is why they have opened applications to attend conferences and the new policy that opens it to all students. Galloway said that there has been a vast increase in WWU involvement the USSA. Just since last year they have consistently sent larger delegations, they have had more students engaged on campus in days of action or teach ins, etc. They are seeing an upward trajectory of student involvement and awareness of USSA. She believes that given the status on campus or in relationship to the WS A dropping the state student association membership, she does believe this is a step in the correct and the right direction to continue the increased trajectory of federal student representation. In terms of inclusivity, as someone who has attended a few of the conferences, has interacted with staff directly, has benefited from a lot of the resources, and has interacted with the students across the nation, she does believe that the USSA does represent the students at Western. She does believe that the students at Western will benefit from this organization and she doesn't believe that they have the same inclusivity concerns that Central Washington University or Washington State University-Pullman campuses would have, just by nature of the political culture on campus as well as their general and on average ideology on campus, she is not concerned about that. In terms of use of student dollars, she has some language changes, but in the "be it also resolved" this decision would be pending the Board of Trustee approval and administrative implementation to an account that if restructured would have an increased stabilization of revenue, revenue enough to sustain a direct membership. Because they saw that student supported restructuring the fee to increase and enhance these sorts of student representational needs. She does believe that it would be a good use of student dollars and being direct members will only continue to allow them to further increase their federal representation. Furthermore, as someone who has participated in multiple USSA events and conferences, Galloway has seen vast improvement with this organization, they have already seen increased member recruitment in states that have otherwise not been involved and engaged with USSA, and they are seeing stronger delegations from campuses. They are already seeing more diverse workshops, resources being provided, availability of staff members to have phone calls to provide resources and advice. She sees that there is a vast improvement and the USSA is moving in the right direction. She echoes what Kohout said. Guizar wanted to send her apologies for not being able to be at the meeting to speak about her experiences and perspective on this topic. Guizar was an attendee at both conferences and was a key student organizer of the Diversity Is rally. Galloway thinks that this was a perfect example of utilizing their resources, foundations and grassroots organizing where they were able to benefit over 700 students, community members, faculty, staff, administration, etc. and were able to essentially make history this year because of the foundations being built from USSA. She does not have the same concerns as Roberts and she thinks this is evident. She is not concerned that four Board members have been to conferences, it was intentional because she thinks that the student leaders that are making these decisions should have a level of expertise and knowledge about the organization in which they are making decision

about. For her this was her biggest goal: to build awareness and knowledge of those who were involved. This next year if the fee is implemented this is a good way to increase their involvement. With the fee restructure they could send up to eight students to national student congress through an application process that would allow broader involvement from students within the Associated Students. This could look like including students from the Resource & Outreach Programs, the Ethnic Student Center, more Tegislative Affairs members or Western Votes members to build the wide participation and continue to increase the number of students that directly benefit from this organization. She hopes that touched on all of the points and provided everyone with an additional perspective. Eckroth said that, as someone who is a little unfamiliar with the USSA, he asked for elaboration on Roberts's concerns because just saying that the organization was changing wasn't enough to make him have concerns as well. Roberts said that her experience in the summer was that for an organization of organizers, it was very poorly organized. Sometimes it would take a long time to hear back, but this year they have had a lot of attention from the field organizer. But, her experience at the conference she attended was that it was not well organized and it was an openly hostile environment at times during discussions. At the Washington Student Association level there was an example of letter that was put out that people were expected to sign onto that had grammar errors and was very aggressive in its tone. Part of her concerns are about the tactics that USSA uses to go about advocating for students. USSA has received a lot of critical feedback and has lost membership such as the WSA because of these tactics. Galloway made a Point of clarification because she felt that Roberts was misrepresenting the situation again and urged her to be careful. Roberts said that Eckroth asked for her take on it. Galloway said that Roberts just referenced WSA in a way that was not really what happened. Roberts restated that she was representing what her take on the situation was and Galloway will have an opportunity to represent her take and they will reconcile it at the end of the day. Roberts just wants to make sure that everyone has their time respected and she will not interrupt other's while they are speaking, if people want to be added to the speakers list then everyone will have a fair shake at making sure their voice is heard. Roberts said her experience with USSA has been that sometimes the tactics are not the most effective for the current legislative climate. They tend to be overly antagonistic and not super professional. She feels it has been a mixed bag, sometimes what comes from USSA has been very professional and she has been impressed with and that she has been able to work with. But there has also been shortcomings. Everyone has been open and honest about this and she is not trying to talk poorly about the people who are in the USSA. She thinks that Maxwell Love is one of the hardest working people she has met, he is working really hard to make changes in the USSA. This is the current Vice President for the USSA that Galloway has been working with and Roberts met with in person a lot. Roberts said that there are efforts being made to bring these changes about, but she is being a good steward of student funds and lending the voice of all Western Students to the USSA. By becoming a member, USSA will have the right to speak on behalf of Western Students at the federal level. If they are using a voice and tactics that are not professional and not up to the standards that they expect from their AS and state student association, that is what her concerns come in. Eckroth clarified that they would still have the chance to be represented on the federal level as a university without the USSA. Roberts said that they would still be planning the Federal Lobby Trip that happens every spring, and with an increase in the LAF fee money it might be possible to look at other ways to represent Western on the federal level without USSA. She said one of the benefits of USSA membership is that there is an existing presence and structure over there in DC. Roberts said there are a lot of things that the USSA does and does well, they have those connections, and she got to attend a hearing at the Department of Education while she was at DC that she wouldn't have been able to without the connections through USSA. She wants to give credit where credit is due and isn't trying to slam the USSA. She is just trying to raise some critical issues that they do need to discuss and they owe it to students to discuss at this level if they are looking at membership. Galloway wanted to clarify one of the points that Roberts mentioned with regards to the reasons why the WSA pulled out of USSA, there were some

concerns over grammar mistakes in a letter, but in fact it was WSU who had been mandated by their governing body to pull out of USSA, or else they had to pull out of WSA, this was the most recent reason that she had heard. If it was not that reason then it was a budgetary one or ideological one, but they were a little confused about which campus was saying what for what reasons. She does not believe that this all was because of a poor grammar letter, she just wanted to make this clear. Galloway said with regards to federal representation she thinks it is important to acknowledge that yes they in fact do have the federal lobby trip but it is really only for the AS President and the AS Vice President for Governmental Affairs. She was able to plan in for the original cost of two, a third person- their AS Legislative Liaison. However, that has been something that they have been moving away from and focusing more on the two individuals. She does think that the two elected representatives do have an opportunity to lobby on behalf of the administration to represent students at the federal level, but she does believe that the USSA does that and more. Galloway wanted to speak to the fact that USSA not only has a lobbying component at LegCon, but they do have a full time lobbyist called the Legislative Director that is in meetings all the time. They also have the President and Vice President who are in negotiations all of the time, whether this be with the department of education or whether that be with Higher One- in negotiation of the card that some of them put in their wallet and never use. On the lobbying side that is a huge component of the USSA as well as the organizing side. For example they directly assist with voter registration, they directly assist with grassroots organizing training & electoral action training- which are both trainings that they can offer on campus as well as providing resources there, and so what it does is provide an infrastructure for organizing on campus. The benefits they receive from USSA are far greater than sending two people for a few days to Washington DC to lobby one time a year. In the future there will provide be an opportunity for more students at-large to participate in these sorts of events. It is a completely different benefit and nothing rivals it. There are no other student run, student led organizations that are dedicated to students. There may be other organizations, but they don't offer the level of resources or the benefits they offer, there really are no alternatives to this organization. Kohout said Galloway discussed most of it, but most of the discussions at the WSA meeting didn't really want talk about the ideological issues, they were mostly financial reasons, both WSU campuses are struggling financially and that was the reason for their withdrawal. She believes one of the Student Senators specifically said that it had nothing to do with ideological differences. Patrick Eckroth wanted to address a different concern which was whether to Resolution or Referendum, and he heard this a lot at LAC as well, His question is would that not be redundant given the language of the referendum that was just passed by a very large margin? It was "change the Legislative Action Fund to a \$1 per quarter opt-out fee structure in order to increase student representation and advocacy efforts at the campus, local, state, and federal level?" Patrick Eckroth said that if they want to do a referendum anytime they want to do a change like this, he feels like it would not only be redundant but time consuming to do a referendum that frequently. Such as referendums or initiatives like the water bottles initiative, would they have to do a different referendum or initiative just to get a different type of water bottle out of there, or is it just plastic water bottles. He feels that it is a redundant system and the students already spoke saying they want increased representation on those levels, and USSA exists to do that. Roberts said that the reason this is different in her mind than something like the water bottle initiative is that when someone joins an organization like this, they are joining with the intention of indefinite, perpetual membership. This is not a onetime thing, if they sign this Western could be a member of the USSA for over a hundred years or something like that. To her this is a very long term commitment and she thinks that if they are giving another organization the authority to speak on behalf of western students, then western students should have the opportunity to vote on this. Western did join the WSA through a resolution type process. The difference with that to her is that Western has a directly elected student individual sitting on the Board of Directors. So students who Western students have elected are influencing the decisions made at the WSA level. Whereas included in this, there is no process that Western students will to have continued direct



influence over the USSA, especially because of the cost of being west coast school, it will cost a lot more to send people to these different meetings. Roberts said this is why she has the concern. As far as the distinction about being redundant, she thinks that they did vote to increase federal representation, She thinks there are many ways to do that and saying that USSA is the only way to do that is limiting, they could have a discussion about whether USSA is the best way to do this and this is the curve that they should go through not jumping straight to USSA and taking it as a given. Patrick Eckroth wanted to get that point out there and thinks it can be taken both ways and most people have been very quiet on the issue, but he feels like the students have already spoken. It is something to increase federal representation for this organization and he doesn't think they can do this on their own without putting a vast amount of money and time into creating their own lobbying efforts. Galloway dittoed. Ellison wanted to address some of the concerns stated at the beginning, she believes that even though four people voting on this have attended USSA conferences, this allows for an inside perspective of what the USSA can potentially do for Western. They know what the organization is, they have interacted with the people they have been working with and the people who will be representing them, this allows them to have an informed decision about what they are getting involved with. Galloway dittoed. She thinks that all students benefit from federal representation, even if they don't get to go to the conference, all students benefit from increased work study money, increased Pell Grant money, and increased federal funding for higher education. Ellison agrees with Galloway that USSA in their ideology for the most part does represent Western, that being said they are working on changing after receiving some of the feedback from the WSA. This leads a little into the concept of the organization going through change, they have been around a long time. Ellison said that the USSA is the oldest student movement, they have obviously overcome change, they have overcome a lot of things before. They have been an organization long enough that she is comfortable that they will come through the other end and be just as strong. The third bullet point in the resolution is language from USSA. Ellison thinks that the spirit of the LAF referendum is to increase federal representation. Ellison felt that USSA improved things since Roberts's summer experience. She felt LegCon was highly organized as a conference it was very well done and well put together. For her it was a very safe space, which is something that she does not always get on this campus, so it was very important to promote that level of inclusivity. Ellison wanted to highlight something that was talked about by UW and WSU when pulling out of USSA. They said that they may not have student representation at the federal level, but those student groups are then going to use their university representation at the federal level. Ellison thinks that this is problematic because students and their administration will not always agree and they need to make sure that they can speak for themselves at the federal level. She doesn't think that a one week trip is really enough to do that, especially because a lot of their successes this year have been because of constant pressure on their legislators to keep students at the forefront of their decisions. Ellison would like to say also that they do have a direct voice if they become members of USSA. They have votes at congress they will have about two to four, the entirety of WSA had 8 votes, so Western as a campus has almost as much input in the legislative agenda at the national level as the WSA did, if they were to become direct members. This does allow them to have a direct voice in what is being lobbied on next year. Roberts realizes that she has raised the most critical concerns about this document, but she wants to restate her commitment to being a team player and if the Board votes to pass this, she will support it because she supports the democratic process they have set up. She appreciates that they were able to have respectful discourse about something that many people feel passionately about. Burke dittoed.

#### F. Student Tech Fee Report

(5 minutes)

Doc. 6 Roberts

Ellison has spoken with John Lawson who is the VP of Information and Technology about this. She said because to the nature of the way things are funded over at the university, it is a little difficult to provide full detail of the Student Tech Fee money right now. She said more specific allocations could be available at the end of the year, and she could bring this to the

Board if they would like this information. Ellison thinks this document is in-depth enough and she will feel comfortable answering any questions regarding this document. Burke wondered what the intention of the reserve is for the carry forward fund. Ellison said they spent a bit out of the reserves, and they allow the funding of large projects if they come through. She said the STF Proposal Fund specifically allocates money to proposals. Roberts said that carry forward funds are added to the proposal funds. Ellison is going to double check on this because it is larger than the reserves requested in the proposal fund. Roberts said the Student Tech Fee was passed on last year's ballot. She said students are really engrained in allocating this fee, and she is in full support of passing this fee through. She said students have passed this for 5 years, and the purpose of it coming to the Board is to look at the fees who are wanting increases within the context of all fees. She said specific questions regarding the workings of the fee, then they should work with Ellison on it as a part of their think-tank duties.

**G. Alternative Transportation Fee Report** (5 minutes) Doc. 7 Roberts

Roberts said this is the continuation of the fee that was approved by students in the Spring of 2012. Burke wondered if the 80x issue was resolved. Eckroth said there was a letter of understanding between Western and WTA to say that the change to the 80x wouldn't be implemented until about 2017 for Western students. Majkut said the 80X is provided by the Whatcom and Skagit buses, and Western has a contract with the WTA buses. He said students will have access to the 80x if provided by Whatcom. He said if they are riding on the Skagit buses they have to pay a fare. He said their discussion is mainly with Whatcom buses because the university doesn't have a relationship with Skagit transportation.

**H. Green Energy Fee Report** (5 minutes) Doc. 8 Roberts

Roberts said this was a fee voted by students that is also continuing its cycle. Eckroth said this fee is up for renewal next year. He thinks the AS VP for Academic Affairs who is also the vice chair for the Green Energy Fee Committee should be prepared to discuss this next year.

**I. Non-Academic Building Fee Report** (5 minutes) Doc. 9 Roberts

Roberts said this fee pays for the Viking Union and other auxiliary buildings that are not academic. Majkut said the Non-Academic Building Fee changed about 3 years ago. He said it changed in the recent past because there were scheduled property replacement and costs associated with it that were part of the fee structure. Roberts said this fee is going to cover carpet replacement in the Viking Union this summer. Roberts gave kudos to the VU Custodial Staff because they have added years to the current carpets life. She said it was last replaced in 2002, so the maintenance staff has doubled the current carpets life span.

**V. ACTION ITEMS - Guests\***

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

**VII. ACTION ITEMS - Board\***

**VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board\***

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

**A. AS 2014 Election Results** (5 minutes) Doc. 10 Galloway

Galloway congratulates the newly elected Board of Directors and looks forward to interning with them and getting next year started. Tyson congratulated those who did not win as well. He said it was a hard campaign and encourages those who lost to continue to be involved in the Associated Students. He thinks it would be awesome to see them help the student body through representation.

*MOTION ASB-14-S-37 by Roberts*

Certification of 2014 Election Results.

Second: Ellison

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

**X. BOARD REPORTS****President**

Carly Roberts reported that she is still working on the new Assistant Dean Search Committee. She said the committee had their first telephone interviews today. She is planning on candidates coming to campus in late May or early June. She thinks it is very important for incoming board members and students to get involved during these campus visits in order for students to get as much face time with these candidates as possible. She is going to make these opportunities well known as soon as she knows when they will be. She mentioned that a lot of work is being done on divestment this week. She gave a shout out to Robby Eckroth for helping her put together the presentation for the foundation board. She also gave a shout out to the Students for Renewable Energy for being consistent and corporative partners in this project. She will be delivering this presentation to the Board of Trustees tomorrow and officially making the request that was passed by the board in March.

**VP for Academic Affairs**

Josie Ellison reported that Academic Coordinating Commission discussed the English 101 wavier and ways they could make the way to test out of English 101 less expensive and more accessible to students. She said they are having the English Department investigate a \$120 option for English 101 housed inside the English Department would look like. She thinks it looks like a viable option and would decrease the cost from \$515 to \$120. She mentioned no one has taken it in 5-10 years due to the cost and lack of advertising. She said their proposal and what they are working on would be a lot more accessible for students. She said the Student Technology Fee was approved this morning and as soon as Carly Roberts and Bruce Shepard sign off on them, she will announce what level each item was funded at and why.

**VP for Activities**

Jarred Tyson reported that the Club Hub set a record. He said the record was to beat the amount of AS club nominations they had received last year. He said they received about 50 last year, and this year they are in the triple digits. He gives kudos to those who encouraged club members to vote. He said that AS Productions are showing the film Life Aquatic in Frasier Hall. He mentioned that today is the final day of the event in the AS Gallery. He said the Activities Council meet for their final meeting last week. He thought they had a great year and their funds were depleted right on the trend line. He is meeting with RCAC next week to discuss and finalize some alternatives for clubs reserving space in the Recreation Center.

*Morgan Burke left the meeting at 8:15.*

**VP for Diversity**

Mayra Guizar was absent at this meeting.

**VP for Governmental Affairs**

Kaylee Galloway reported that LAC is working on a Legislative Action Fund budget proposal and policy along with a committee Legacy Document. She is working on the Legislative Action Fund presentation that should will be giving to the Board of Trustees on June 13<sup>th</sup>. She said Western Votes! is winding down. She said they will be having their elections on Monday at 3pm. She is excited to see who is going to be on the new executive board. Galloway and Sarah Kohout have started their internship, which is going awesome so far.

**VP for Student Life**

Robby Eckroth reported that the Green Energy Fee has their Annual Expo this week to display their projects. He said there was a great turn out and they were able to see the results of project that have already been implemented.

**XIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

*The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:20p.m.*