

# Western Washington University Associated Students Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

VU567

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

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

**Guest(s):** Mason Luvera, AS Communications Director; Taylor Franks, AS Business Director; Board Elect: Chelsea Ghant, Annika Wolters, Giselle Alcántar Soto, Cristina Rodríguez, Alysa Kipersztok

## MOTIONS

- ASB-14-S-65** Approve the International Divestment, Boycott, & Sanctions Resolution as amended. *Passed*
- ASB-14-S-66** Approve the 2014-2015 AS Budget allocation. *Passed*
- ASB-14-S-67** Approve the AS Branding Guide. *Passed*
- ASB-14-S-68** Non-substantive changes to the AS Branding Guide may be made under the discretion of the AS Communications Office Staff and the document be reviewed by the AS Board on a yearly basis by the second meeting of spring quarter. *Passed*
- ASB-14-S-69** Approve the changes to the Mission Statement and Targeted Programming sections of the AS Program Standards as amended. *Passed*
- ASB-14-S-70** Recommend to the Board of Trustees approval of a mandatory fee of \$1 per quarter to the Legislative Action Fund to begin collection Fall 2014. *Passed*
- ASB-14-S-71** Earmark \$50,000 from the AS Rainy Day Reserves for expansion and remodeling of the AS Ethnic Student Center. *Passed*
- ASB-14-S-72** Approve Consent Item A- Committee Appointments.
- ASB-14-S-73** Approve the Resolution Honoring Kevin Majkut. *Passed*
- ASB-14-S-74** Approve \$2,550 from the AS Foundation Account to pay for the bench in honor of both Kevin Majkut and Jim Schuster's 38 years of service (each) to Western from the Associated Students at Viqueen Lodge and refreshments for a reception. *Passed*

*Carly Roberts, AS President, called the meeting to order at 3:05p.m.*

## I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA-** Move Action Item C first until Burke is able to join.

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

In regards to the discussions about the Publicity Center Assessment on the May 8, 2014 AS Board Meeting, Mason Luvera, wanted to speak about the proposal involving moving AS Communications Office (CO) down into the Publicity Center (PC). He doesn't remember having conversations with the PC about this. Luvera feels very strongly about this office existing as a separate entity because the CO is a strategic office and the PC is a service oriented office. The CO has been hindered as an office because there are so many different ideas of what the CO should be doing. The Branding Guide is a great example of what they can accomplish strategically. The PC is also chronically overloaded as an office, they don't want CO to fall through the cracks because there isn't capacity to handle this. He wanted to make sure that the Board knows the CO is against this move. The CO has worked hard with the Board and administrators to create a strong sense of brand. Roberts asked what his recommendations are moving forward. Luvera said that the relationship with the PC is tumultuous because the PC and CO have had issues with communications. Luvera said that the office's biggest goal moving forward is to flesh out the roles of the two different offices. There is some overlap in what they do, and they need to continue to work together on their branding. But they think that the PC should take back things that they feel strongly about, such as the calendar. The CO also wants to make sure that they have strong support from the Board that they are a strategic advisor and a

resource. Luvera thinks that moving forward it would be good for the next Board to look at what each office provides to the organization, what their real purpose is, and establishing firm guidelines to make sure that this happens in the best way possible. Ellison clarified that they didn't pass the PC SPAC Recommendations. The purpose of this conversation was to have these objections recorded. Majkut thinks that Luvera accurately depicted what some of the issues that the CO has dealt with. The CO shouldn't really be doing tasks, they are strategic and working with managers, etc. Sometimes it is easy to take on a task when asked, but it takes away from the need of the strategic work. Majkut just had a conversation with Jamie Hoover, advisor about where they are going in the future. Luvera said that the office has changed with each personality that has been in this position. But they need to have a consistent message. They are hoping that this conversation can be had and that the CO's place within the organization can be solidified.

#### IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests\*

#### Y. ACTION ITEMS - Guests\*

C. International Divestment, Boycott, & Sanctions Resolution (*20 minutes*) Doc. 3 Roberts & Guizar  
 Roberts and Alysa Kipersztok worked on the resolution this weekend. Roberts feels that it is a clear document including the concepts and values that were discussed at the last meeting. Eckroth said that it looks good and all of the issues last week were addressed. Roberts feels that this is a big step for a student government to take in terms of the national climate. Tyson appreciates that the values of the AS are reflected in this document. Galloway and Guizar dittoed. Guizar appreciates all of the work that they did as she was ill and unable to participate in the editing. Ellison likes this and thinks that if a situation comes up where they very obviously wanted to take a stance and if the people within a nation group also agree with the stance, future Boards could take that into account. Ellison likes that this provides a safe space for students. Galloway said that in the fourth clause they only mentioned inclusion and she feels they could add a few more items from the AS Strategic Plan in terms of student representation, etc. Galloway would like to add all of the priorities within this clause. She also noticed that inclusion is repeated several times and wondered if that was intentional. Guizar thinks that it is ok that they repeat inclusion throughout the document because it emphasizes this as the main reason for the resolution. Ellison thinks that all of the priorities might be too far, but feels they could pick one or two more, such as community. Guizar feels they could add all of them because this does fall in this area. The Board decided to include all of the priorities from the Strategic Plan. Kohout wondered if this would prevent AS Clubs from boycotting. Roberts said that individuals can do whatever they wish and clubs have a greater autonomy from the AS. Roberts said that the only body that can take a position on behalf of all Western Students is the AS Board. Roberts said that the Board could still boycott companies but only if there are specifically identified issues with that company and not because they are from a specific nation. Ellison asked if they would also not take positions in support of countries, she can see this being an issue if there was a conflict between two countries. Roberts thinks this is an interesting question, but she doesn't know that it is the position of the student government to support a specific nation. Eckroth dittoed. Ellison said that this is a soft policy to not be involved in international issues. Roberts does think that the first clause establishes this. The Board thanked Alysa Kipersztok for being engaged and bringing this to the AS Board.

#### ***Burke joined the meeting.***

*MOTION ASB-14-S-65 by Eckroth*

Approve the International Divestment, Boycott, & Sanctions Resolution as amended.

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

A. AS Budget *(5 minutes)* Doc. 1 Burke

Burke thinks that this is a great budget that has improved with edits and recommendations.

Unanimous dittoes. Roberts said that in the face of exceptional challenges the AS Budget

Committee and AS Business Committee rallied and has produced an excellent result that meets the



## E. AS Program Standards Revisions

*(15 minutes)* Doc. 5 Burke

Burke said that they are still working on the Gender Neutral Restrooms part of this document and she thinks it would be important for the Board to work on over the summer. That section was not passed by the Personnel Committee and doesn't appear in the documents. There were changes to some Mission Statements as part of SPAC and other offices were given the option to change if needed. The Outdoor Center has an overarching statement and then each department has been creating their own statement. They combined the equipment and bike shop. The Challenge Course Mission Statement was not able to be finished. The Environmental & Sustainability Programs (ESP) added in activism and lobbying because this is the direction they are moving. Galloway and Guizar dittoed. They also added clarification to targeted and semi-targeted programs. They wanted to make the distinction between the types and how they are approved. Targeted Programs must be approved by the Board every year, but there was no explanation as to why for historical purposes. Matt Smith was incredible in his assistance with this area of the document. All of these changes were approved by Management Council. Ellison is checking in with the Equal Opportunity Office to ensure that the language is clear and good. Guizar believes it will be acceptable, but it is good to check with them. Ellison feels that if there is a problem they can go back and change it. Roberts said that under D.I. there was talk about tying the specific offices to the specific VP that provides oversight. Burke said that the group spent a lot of time talking about this and felt that it was convoluted because sometimes there are two Board Members working on something. They felt it was better to have it go through the VP for BusOps because they chair Management Council. Guizar thinks that consistent communication will happen due to check-ins with the offices. Roberts feels that they should strike the VP for BusOps and just say "appropriate AS Board Member for review." Roberts likes that ESP added student activism but she has a concern about who has authority to take positions on behalf of the students of Western. She just wants to ensure that these lines aren't blurred. Eckroth feels that the ESP would be mostly facilitating students being active themselves instead of the office being active. 4 dittoed. He also feels that it is clear they cannot take stances. They remained neutral even when they put on an event about the Coal Terminal. Majkut has a comment on the AS Review Mission Statement he thinks they should reword it to focus on student government and clubs. The AS Review is really a way to communicate what the AS is doing. Roberts has been reading a lot on Viking Village and feels there is not wide buy-in to the AS as evidenced by the election turnout. The AS Review needs to be a tool for getting information out about AS. One thing she has observed is a trend towards articles that don't have to do directly with campus life. This has actually caused them legal problems this year because the AS Review is not a news publication and therefore not under the protections of a news publication. Therefore it is not under the protections of a news publication, things like libel and journalistic ethics are much stricter for the AS Review. Burke said that switching around the language will prioritize. They could make it more direct if necessary. This will all be in consultation with the VP for BusOps as the Board member providing oversight for the office.

*MOTION ASB-14-S-70 by Burke*

Approve the changes to the Mission Statement and Targeted Programming sections of the AS Program Standards as amended.

Second: Guizar

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0

Action: Passed

## F. Legislative Action Fund Restructure

*(25 minutes)* Doc. 6 Galloway

Galloway made a few changes to this document and the intent behind the additions was to limit her talking during this section of the Agenda. Kohout thinks that Galloway did a good job of laying out concerns and what may happen next if this doesn't pass. Roberts really appreciates the work that Galloway has put in throughout the entire year. It is clear that Galloway has well supported ideas, has worked very hard and she is sorry that there has been a twist in the direction of this at the end of her time on the Board. Roberts said that any criticisms or disagreement for how to proceed is in no way a commentary on the hard work that Galloway has put in nor on the validity of the ideals

expressed in this project. That being said that due to circumstances outside of their control the situation changed at the last moment. The recommendation that they have moving forward is to approve a mandatory fee of 1 dollar per quarter for students. They have a strong tradition and value of having mandatory fees voted upon by the students, and they need to stick to this. They need to take their values and processes seriously if they want the administration to take them seriously. Even though it is only a dollar it is still an increase and considering the climate on campus currently, she is not comfortable bringing this to the Board of Trustees without a student vote. She feels that if the Board have divided ideas then it is not as strong of a statement to the Trustees. Kohout doesn't think that it is necessary for it to pass unanimously, as that is not the process. She thinks that mandatory fees were increased this year at a high rate without a student vote approving those increases. Majkut said that the Alternative Transportation Fee has a provision for a 5% increase without having to return to the students for a vote. But not all fees have this provision. At the initiation and recertification of these fees they do go to a student vote. Kohout doesn't feel that this needs to go to the students if the other increases didn't go. She is concerned that without the fee they will not be able to accomplish their representation goals. She feels that student advocacy this year has been high because of the amount of representation that they have been able to fund. Ellison thinks that if this doesn't pass then they need to find another way to fund this. 3 dittoed. Roberts does think that higher education is very underfunded. The student representatives keep having to increase the fees because the university itself is not funded enough. Roberts feels that they would be instituting a new mandatory fee. This is a separate topic from the importance of having funding in that area. She recognizes the need for funding. However, she doesn't feel that there is education about what the current \$2 donation requested at registration is used for, at least during the four years she has been here. They have the option to speak with Summerstart Advisors to request that they talk about the fee and the AS President can discuss this in their Summerstart speech. She thinks that they have the opportunity to increase funding until they are able to come up with a permanent solution. Kohout thinks that students don't feel the urgency to support legislative efforts. She does want to work on education, but doesn't feel it will be as stable as if this passed. Roberts said that if they can get 50% of students to donate the \$2 fee they would have the same level of funding as they would achieve with the mandatory fee. She feels that they need to do a better job of representing back to students in order to help them understand what the AS Board is doing. Roberts said ideologically she feels that all students should be engaged, but the fact is they live in a culture of divided attention. People are working to pay for their educations and sometimes don't have the energy to engage. Burke said that a budget reflects on an organization and where they put their priorities. They are putting a lot towards professional development and increasing funding in this area shows that student representation would be important. She thinks that education would be important and that they need funding for help these education efforts. Roberts thinks that it is possible to bring this as a referendum early in the year. They have the option to run a referendum at any point throughout the year, but she understands that this adds stress to the AS Elections Coordinator. Kohout thinks that Nie Doherty worked a lot more than many other Elections Coordinators due to the special election and the stress was noticeable. Burke feels that if it is unrealistic then she feels that they should look at the policy for handling special elections. Roberts thinks that if they cannot run a referendum at any other part of the year then it should not be in the Bylaws. Majkut said that the Board must decide if importance of a topic overrides the other issues that might arise. This might mean additional staffing or funding, but that would be the decision that the Board would make if they prioritized this information. Guizar believes that the state should be funding higher education but they are not. Unanimous dittoed. Guizar thinks that a continued presence is critical. She feels that the one dollar fee per quarter could end up saving students thousands of dollars in the future. Whether students want to fund this or not, they would like to see a lower price on higher education. The voter turnout was low and this ties into there not being a lot of education on the AS which could cause people not to vote. She feels they can continue to educate on what is happening in the AS as well as the fee. Ellison asked if this could pass with a stipulation that it would begin in the fall and then the students could vote on the LAF in

the spring in order for it to continue. Kohout said that they would need to have a Student Senate Referendum and has concerns about the timing and volume of work. She thinks that if this doesn't pass the Board then they need to figure out how to support advocacy efforts. Roberts said that the main concerns are funding for advocacy efforts. Roberts feels that there are other ways to supplement funding such as Operating Enhancement and Discretionary Reserves. The same law that would allow this fee to exist, allows them to use operating dollars from Services & Activities for lobbying efforts. Kohout thinks that a way to increase education is to increase capacity such as having more people participate in lobby days etc. 3 dittoed. There are a lot of things that she would not feel comfortable taking from reserves. Roberts feels that when the need arises they would be able to fund out of reserves or operating enhancement. Guizar said that if a referendum is put off to the fall, the Elections Coordinator for next year could do this, but it would be pushing aside get out the vote efforts. She doesn't think they will be able to put as much into other areas, but it will get done. Kohout said that looking at the list of things that they won't be able to do it includes a lot of really important things and doesn't see much more for them to do in terms of lobbying, other than agendas. Ellison feels that they have been looking at the Rainy Day Reserve and this could fall in that area because of the unexpected loss of revenue because of the last minute issue. She also thinks even if they did it in the fall it would still not gain additional revenue until the Spring. Roberts feels that there is no decrease in revenue because of the lack of restructure. There could be a decrease in revenue if the \$2 donations to the LAF continue to decrease. Roberts feels that there is pressure and panic informing this discussion, but she thinks that there are other ways to fund this. Having to wait a little longer and uphold processes will serve students better in the future. She really feels that the education piece and the reserves for LAF should cover this. 3 dittoed. It is her understanding that the reserves have been spent down this year and that is why they cannot cover the additional costs. She would like to be clear that she would vote for this fee if it came as a referendum, but really wants all students to have the opportunity to vote on this. Burke doesn't think falling back on reserves is a sustainable approach and if they do this, then they need to project forward how to make this sustainable. Burke asked if they could use donations to the Foundation account to fund this. Roberts said that there could be a perception that an outside organization could be using students as puppets, if donated money was to be used for lobbying. Burke thinks that they could lobby people for donations if necessary and so this is one of many options. She thinks that there are people who will work towards these efforts, if it does not pass today. Majkut is not sure that donations can be used for lobbying purposes, this is different than mandatory fee collections which have specific rules. He would need to check with the Foundation. Galloway appreciates everyone eagerly trying to find alternatives to this, as they all value student representation. She did many funding requests this year, it is not easy and is not long term or stable. When they lobby in Olympia they speak about the difference between a one appropriation of funds, but what they are actually looking for is a dedicated revenue that will support sustainable budget as well as being able to accommodate growth and development. She really feels that this is the way they need to go about that, not inflating the budget by requesting from reserves or looking for a temporary fix. She is really trying to set this organization up for success in the long term, and feels that this proposal is a large step. Galloway fears a decline in revenue. In trying to promote sustainable budgeting, she worked with Hung Le to put together a proposal. In looking back to 2010 they felt that \$20,000 would be a realistic budget. However they came in \$2,500 lower than this and that is part of the reason that the fund balance was spent down. When LAC approved this budget they spoke about the importance of having a healthy reserve while also spending the funds that were donated by current students. They want to make sure students are seeing a return on their investment. Galloway said that the RCW empowers the Boards of Directors to pass mandatory fees, reading that they have to be passed by a majority vote of the student government or a by a referendum passed by the student body. She doesn't feel that passing it at the Board level is the ideal way, but it is what they are left with. They were not trying to be sneaky about this, they got information at the last minute. Ultimately Galloway doesn't feel that she was set up for success in this. She feels that she and Roberts did not get information from the administration early enough and they are now in

a pickle. The Board was not under the impression that a mandatory fee was an option from previous discussions, but then were told that opt-out wasn't an option. She believes that the spirit of the vote is still being honored and that it was to increase student representation. She believes that they do have the students blessing in this goal. This is Galloway's last board meeting, last document, and a project she has been working on since she began her job and she wanted to share her perspectives with the Board. Majkut said that he spoke directly with Galloway earlier in the year about spending down the fund balance of TAF. From his perspective the fund would be in great shape if the income had matched previous year, but that is not what happened. The AS reserves is the backup for this fund, there is not a set reserves within the structure. He feels that they are moving away from the actual item on the discussion there is some relation to how people might vote, but there is another Board starting soon and they will be responsible for implementation and strategizing how to fund this. This Board could do it, but they don't have to. Burke thinks that Galloway has done a good job, shared space, didn't limit passion, and represented herself well, unanimous dittoes.

*MOTION ASB-14-S-71 by Eckroth*

Recommend to the Board of Trustees approval of a mandatory fee of \$1 per quarter to the Tegislative Action Fund to begin collection Fall 2014.

Second: Guizar                      Vote: 4 - 3 - 0    Action: Passed

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

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

- A. Reserves Earmark for ESC Expansion *(15 minutes)* Doc. 7 Roberts & Guizar  
 Galloway believes in the spirit of this proposal but still emphasizes concerns about the lack of details. She thinks that they should wait until they have details on what will happen, the timeline, cost/benefit and how costs will be broken down with the stakeholders. She thinks that this would be better put off for summer or fall.

*MOTION ASB-14-S-72 by Eckroth*

Earmark \$50,000 from the AS Rainy Day Reserves for expansion and remodeling of the AS Ethnic Student Center.

Second: Tyson                      Vote: 6 - 1 - 0                      Action: Passed

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

- A. Committee Appointments

Legislative Affairs Council

James Mayther	MBA	Grad Student
Neil Christenson	Elementary Education	Senior
Katie Savinski	English & Secondary Education	Senior

Green Energy Fee Committee

Patrick Eckroth	Environmental Policy	Sophomore
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*MOTION ASB-14-S-73 by Ellison*

Approve Consent Item A- Committee Appointments.

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

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

- A. Executive Session to discuss items involving Personnel *(20 minutes)* Doc. 8 Burke  
*The Board went into Executive Session at 4:56 and reconvened at 5:10 p.m. Jim Schuster joined the meeting.*

The Board read this resolution to Kevin Majkut:

**A Resolution Recognizing the service of Kevin Majkut, Director of Student Activities**

June 2014

**WHEREAS**, Kevin Majkut began in Student Affairs October 12, 1969 when he swept up the gym after a Santana concert for free entry to the concert; and,

**WHEREAS**, Kevin began working for Western Washington University in 1976 as the Assistant Director of the Viking Union/Activities Advisor; and,

**WHEREAS**, Kevin became Director of Student Activities during the 2003-2004 academic year; and,

**WHEREAS**, he believes, and instills in staff members and AS student employees, that the AS is part of a community: they all work together for the benefit of the students of Western Washington university and for the benefit of each other- because everyone brings their gifts to the organization; and,

**WHEREAS**, Kevin has provided guidance, wisdom and support to 63 Board Members; and,

**WHEREAS**, he has supported and encouraged the AS being at the forefront of issues of diversity and human rights; and,

**WHEREAS**, Kevin has advised with infinite patience at 1,062 AS Board meetings that have varied in length between about 30 minutes and 5 hours; and,

**WHEREAS**, he always has “two things... no wait three, or maybe four...” pieces of advice or observations to enhance the meeting; and,

**WHEREAS**, his calming presence and soothing voice has diffused many a tense situation; and,

**WHEREAS**, Kevin was actively engaged in his job every day; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Associated Students honors Kevin Majkut as he retires after 38 years at Western Washington University for his commitment, excellence, service, and his positive impact on both students and staff.

*MOTION ASB-14-S-74 by Guizar*

Approve the Resolution Honoring Kevin Majkut.

Second: Ellison

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0

Action: Passed

The Foundation Account is separate from the Operating Budget. They are donations that were made to the AS and are stewarded by the AS Board of Directors. Roberts has been in talks with a chainsaw artist who they have commissioned to create a bench that will be installed out at Sinclair Island. This is to symbolize the support that they have given, the resting place for reflection and their rugged classic nature.

*MOTION ASB-14-S-75 by Burke*

Approve \$2,550 from the AS Foundation Account to pay for the bench in honor of both Kevin Majkut and Jim Schuster's 38 years of service (each) to Western from the Associated Students at Viqueen Fodge and refreshments for a reception.

Second: Tyson

Vote: 6 - 1 - 0

Action: Passed

X. **BOARD REPORTS-** were not given due to the length of the meeting.

### XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Carly Roberts facilitated the official passing of the gavel to Annika Wolters.

*The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 5:20p.m.*

*\*\*\*Minutes were approved by the chair*