

**Western Washington University Associated Students**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday,

May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015

VU 567

**AS Board Officers:** *Present:* Annika Wolters (President), Jaleesa Smiley (VP Academics), Giselle Alcántar Soto (VP Activities), Chelsea Ghant (VP BusOps), and Cristina Rodriguez (VP Diversity)

**Advisor(s):** Eric Alexander (Advisor)

**Guest(s):** Julianna Fischer (Students for Renewable Energy), Shelby Kremenich (SRE), Zach Bursell (SRE), Trisha Patterson (SRE), Israel Rios (Incoming Associated Students Board member), Emma Palumbo (Incoming ASB member), Chiara D'angelo (SRE), Casey Hayden (Coordinator of Student Activities), Jill MacIntyre Witt (Faculty), Zach Dove (Incoming ASB member), Hannah Brock (AS Personnel Director), Osman Olivera (AS Business Director), James Loucky (Faculty), Galen Herz (SRE)

**MOTIONS**

**ASB-15-S-27** Approve the AS Large Event Opportunity Fund Policy with the original name, to change AS Organization to AS Programming Office, to change the funding request form to be available on the AS Website, hosted by Orgsync and in the underwrite section add “as defined portion of” revenue. ***Passed.***

**ASB-15-S-28**

Approve the limit NTE \$725 from the Operating Enhancement Budget FXXENH to pay for expenses to cover 5 meals for about 30 People for the USSA Board of Directors meeting with the stipulation to be publicized to all students. ***Passed.***

**ASB-15-S-29**

Approve all consent items. ***Passed.***

***Annika Wolters, AS President, called the meeting to order at 7:05p.m.***

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Smiley requested to remove Info Item C.

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

James Loucky said their efforts have been going on for two years. Their efforts have gotten support of over 350 faculty and staff. The letter they put into the western front. The faculty and staff are overwhelmingly positive about it. (Reads from the Western Front names of numerous faculty and staff in support of this): Gene Meyers, James Loucky, John Riopelle, Jill MacIntyre Witt, Nicole Brown, Beth Hartsoch, Grace Wang, and Shirley Osterhaus. Loucky reads the Western Front Article: “San Francisco recently divested from fossil fuels, as did Oslo, Norway. These two international cities stand alongside hundreds of other cities, institutions and universities as testaments to making a bold choice to stop funding the primary cause of climate

change. The Western Washington University Foundation has also been presented with the opportunity to divest from fossil fuels, thanks to the leadership of Western's conscientious Associated Students Board and student body. While the Foundation decided to not take this positive action last fall, the issue remains as crucial as ever and students continue to advocate for divestment. Their university president has said that divestment is a diversion from the real issue at hand. Yes, divestment is a statement and primarily a symbolic act, but symbolism has profound effects. Such acts not only alter the conversation, they can serve as catalysts for essential and practical change. They also respectfully disagree that divestment from fossil fuels is at odds with the Foundation's mission of raising money. Western must be clear that their efforts, words and financial considerations align with their values. They would not invest in companies discriminating against part of their populace or trading in violence. Can they deny that investing in the fossil fuel industry is anything less than tacit concurrence with destroying the very environment that sustains life? They have faith in their colleagues at Western, including the Foundation to stop funding and aligning with the primary cause of climate change. They are confident in their ability to utilize this opportunity to link Western to directions and values that are intrinsic to a forward-thinking institution, an innovative state and a healthy society. As a university, they claim to prepare individuals for a life of purpose and positive change. By divesting from fossil fuels, Western can support students by choosing to support a sustainable future. What do they most hope to model? How can they best contribute to their future? In divesting from fossil fuels they will also be investing in hope". Jill MacIntyre Witt said she thanks the Board for the support. To piggyback, they have over 350 faculty in support in of divestment. Have not yet presented to the foundation. There are over 600 divestment campaigns nationally and internationally. Over 20 universities have divested already. When Western chooses, they can be considered to be a leader. Galen Herz asked is they said University of Washington (UW) divested from fossil fuel? Toucky said yes they voted to divested from coal.

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

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

##### **A. Funding AS Large Events from AS Reserves Policy**

Alcántar Soto said they have seen this document for two weeks now. They will notice it will look different from last week. It is not the content that changed, it is the format. Changes were made from last week and they took out the word "unforeseeable", and they said "attendees" instead of students. One of the changes was to approve the request at the same time they approve a targeted event to save time. There was a change to the name by Cindy Monger's suggestion and it was called AS Large Events Reserves. The main point Monger had said was it needed to say "Reserve" to differ from operational funds. Alcántar Soto said she sent out an email and got quite a back of the feedback. She got two responses from two committee members and they said they like the old name. Smiley asked about the suggested name changes and what they were. Alcántar Soto said the AS Large Event Reserve. They can say AS Large Opportunity Reserve. Ghant said she'd like the title to be more visible than in the little paragraph. She asked if the name somewhere more visible? She also thought that when they say reserve, it can off putting it and that might create some hesitant. She likes the old name. Long story short, it is a reserve account and it is coming out of the same account regardless of the name. The Linances office are the people that need to know it. It was a fund that was made to be more accessible and that name change may cause more hesitation. Wolters said anything with a new name will take some time to get used to. Casey Hayden asked if the policy name is fine. Or are they focusing on the fund name? Perhaps AS Large Opportunity Lund? Alcántar Soto said one person wants to change it. She's very comfortable with policy. The committee wants to call it the Large Opportunity Lund Policy.

Sounds like the Board likes the name that's already given. Hayden said he was thinking about the definition of AS Organization. He thinks they should change to programming office. He thinks AS Organization is too ambiguous. He thinks of the AS as an umbrella. Clubs are organization. He wanted to address the past language they've used, the difference between AS Program and AS Programming Office. For example the Publicity Center is a programming office, it is not a program. The fund has been open to anybody in the past. He doesn't think having links in the policy would be good because links change a lot which would make the policy out of date more quickly. Wolters said she wants to push back saying clubs are not a program. Hayden agreed according to the definition as written right now. Alcántar Soto said she think that's what was meant in the first place. Alcántar Soto said she thinks all are really good ideas. As far as funding request forms, just say available on Orgsync or available to give some guidance. She thinks those are good changes. Defined portion is accurate and reflects what they do at Activities Council.

**MOTION ASB-15-S-27 by Alcántar Soto**

Approve the AS Large Event Opportunity Fund Policy with the original name, to change AS Organization to AS Programming Office, to change the funding request form to be available on the AS Website, hosted by Orgsync and in the underwrite section add "as defined portion of" revenue.

Second: Rodriguez Vote: 5-0-0 Action: Passed

**United States Student Association Board Meeting**

Ghant said they've seen this document last week. This request is to fund the USSA conference meeting. They are asking to not to exceed (NTE) \$725 to cover 5 meals for about 30 people for the United States Student Association (USSA) Board of Directors Meeting to be held May 28th through the 31<sup>st</sup> 2015. This year is the first Western is a direct member of USSA. They have the privilege of hosting this year's conference. This events is open to all students who attend Western. Nothing has changed since last week. She think it's a great use of student dollars. All students can attend. There is about \$8,000 left in Operating Enhancement Budget. Herz asked to clarify if only 5 people being fed. Ghant said it's for 30 people. Alcántar Soto suggested to maybe add something about publicity. A way to advertise to whole campus at student at large. Can they add a stipulation about opening it up to campus so they can see what USSA is about? It could be as simple as an email or a flier. Wolters said the wrong budget code is written. It was just spelled wrong.

**MOTION ASB-15-S-28 by Smiley**

Approve the limit NTE \$725 from the Operating Enhancement Budget FXXENH to pay for expenses to cover 5 meals for about 30 People for the USSA Board of Directors meeting with the stipulation to be publicized to all students.

x

Second: Alcántar Soto Vote: 5-0-0 Action: Passed

**Fossil Fuel Divestment Resolution**

Wolters asked Galen Herz to speak.

Herz said some time ago they all sent a request to meet with Bruce Shepard. Shepard said he would rather it go through the approved channels and go through the AS. This was to try to get a get a new resolution passed to say they are still wanting this to be pushed forward. Herz got some advice from Sadie Normoyle, Zach Dugovich, Patrick Eckroth and a small working group of the Students for Renewable Energy (SRE) members. None of them were familiar with

resolution language from the group. He feel like it makes more sense to open the floor for questions. Rodriguez said that last week Eckroth was the only can speak on it, asks if Herz can speak on it today. Alcántar Soto said yes that would be nice and she knows there are some changes

- B. so if he could point them out that would be good. Herz said the foundation for WWU is getting it's money out of fossil fuel companies which there is about 2.5 million dollars in fossil fuel companies, the fossil fuels have been blocking key pieces of climate change pieces which helps the continuation of searching for alternatives. A lot of companies have a lot of unethical extractive processes. They are continuing colonialism. This is part of an international, national movement. Wolters asked if there are any changes to the resolution. Herz said yes, they put in a "whereas" with University of Washington talking about how they have divested. They thought that may convince the foundation when there has already been activity in the region. He thinks they made a minor edit at the end. There wasn't very many changes there was some APA format changes and taking care of grammar. Julianna Fischer asked if they could add a "whereas" to this, "whereas the common fund is creating a climate friendly fund where they can move their assets." Wolters said she sees a "whereas" that already speaks to that. She went to the divestment meeting where divestment was voted down. She remembers thinking about what are they going to do now. She asked them because part of their reasoning behind saying no was that this wasn't the most effective way of doing this, so she asked them what was an effective way and they looked her right in the eye and said "You tell us". She thinks this is a good answer because this will tell them. She wants to thank them. She would like to add a "be it resolved" that The ASWWU will work with the Foundation to create more effective solutions. She just don't want to have this happen again. It shouldn't be on students shoulders to create all the solutions. Alcántar Soto said she think if it gives way for them to say no in the first place, lets wait and put it in there after. Alcántar Soto said they had a couple comments last week and she wanted to bring them up. On the second page it says "whereas a fossil fuel spends hundreds of millions of dollars". It may be true but it sounds very saturated. If they could get something more concrete it would be more effective. Smiley said she would like to see some mention of indigenous populations and how they are being affected. Alcántar Soto said would like to add all marginalized identities especially indigenous populations. She would suggests another "be it resolved" to strongly urge the foundation and board of trustees more inclusive of student's voices in their decisions. Witt asked about including students in general with the decisions because that seems like a different resolution in relation to this resolution. Alcántar Soto said it would be very specific to this because they haven't been transparent with their decisions so this would be specific to this resolution. Witt said so they can
- C. add that to the language. Wolters restated to be more inclusive in the decision making process. Witt asked if they make the changes now, or later. Wolters said they can do it after a vote. Chiara D'angelo suggested emphasizing communities of color. Alcántar Soto said she would like to keep just marginalized communities because there are people outside people of color who are affected by this. If they can get a solid number of hundreds of millions of dollars that would be good. Zach Bursell said are there citations to that number? Wolters said yes it is cited. Witt said it is variable and general because it shifts year to year or month to month. Herz said they could find a specific year. Hayden said he is wondering if they should say hey western foundation, where is the investigation or where is the numbers, are they looking at how it could be done. Who is doing that research? It could be a suggestion of a task force to get together. Witt said initially when the students voted on divestment they put together a committee for 6 months to do research and they gave it to the foundation and their response was, "Thank you for the response, they will create their own committee". They did Things have shifted since then with their portfolios. Whether they need to do any more investigating she doesn't know. Wolters said she feel confident that they have not looked at it this since September and how many schools have made this decision. Hannah said last time they gave them 5 years to figure it out. The idea was to have the university to commit to divest. They wanted to give them 5 years for the foundation to figure out what they are going to do. They could still say yes, and then take 5 years to transfer the funds. Witt asked if that was mentioned in this resolution. They would like to see that information in this resolution.

Ghant said thanked them for their hard work. Wolters said they will make these changes and see it again next week.

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

## VII. ACTION ITEMS - Board\*

## VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board\*

### A. AS Motorpool Policy

Doc. 4 Ghant

(15Minutes)

Ghant said as they know they have voted to purchase two new AS vehicles. They also need to change the MotorPool Policy. With more vehicle more polices come. This is outdated it hasn't had changes since 2005. She will go over my changes. The AS Motorpool exists to provide low cost vehicles that support AS Program and club travel needs. The A.S. Motorpool provides Associated Students' programs, support services, organizations, and Viking Union staff access to a motorpool fleet for outdoor recreation trips, cargo hauling, and passenger travel to meetings, conferences, and other events. This policy does not include departmentally owned vehicles within the AS and Viking Union. They added this line because this will exclude OC vehicles. Also for eligibility they have added as programs and clubs to be able to access the motorpool because any one can access the motor vehicle as right now. Drivers must complete online training. In person training does not exist anymore. In number 4 they've included state certified vehicle. She would like to make a change by saying instead of reservation desk, say the Administration. Desk and Instead of info desk say the reservation desk. They would also be changing the cancelation fee. Wolters asked why would they change the fee to cancel? Ghant said that's a good question. Its just going off what's been written historically. She is open to questions. And concerns. Alcántar Soto said where it says 'motorpool fleet'. She thinks it seems redundant. She thinks fleet refers to boats, not cars. Ghant said it will just say as motorpool, not fleet. Alcántar Soto said next week she would like to get more information on the fee. Is it enforced? Is it isn't she would like it to take it out. For number 4 they have behavior contracts. She wonders if they should add saying that contracts may happen, although it's only used for AS Clubs. Casey Hayden meets with club members and signs and initials and goes over expectations. He tells them just to have a heads up, this could be added to the charge if they cancel. The only office that did recreation was the Outdoor Center (OC) but clubs go do some travel. The OC now have their own vehicles. She wonders why they removed the safety checks from the document? Ghant said they felt like checking oil every time someone fill the gas up is a little bit excessive. They should say that if problems should be noted on the vehicle card. Wolters asked if there are any vehicles that use diesel. Ghant said she will have to ask. Wolters asked if there any other questions. Alexander said the last line talks about departmentally owned vehicles. The OC doesn't own them, the AS owns them. OC manages them. He wanted them to think about the language. Ghant said the goal was to exclude the OC from this policy and other university departments. There was a situation last week that LEADS wanted to use AS vehicles. Alcántar Soto asked, does that mean the OC can't use these vehicle? Ghant said that's the goal, but there flexibility can be there. They want to distinctly separate the motorpools. Wolters asked if there are any other questions.

### B. AS Supplemental Funding

Ghant said only really minor changes were made. The first one, if added, funds may not be allocated to the same project or expansion more than once. This language was taken from the operating and enhancement because after twice they are asking for something that should be budgeted for. It should be going into their operating budget. There will be cushion without asking for additional funding. If additional funding is needed it could go through the Large Event Opportunity Fund too. They ran into this problem, in winter quarter, Sam Goldblatt came to her to fund the Queer Resource Center (QRC) event and Management Council (MC) was done meeting so they were trying to figure out what to do. In this policy it refers that the funding can be under the discretion of the ESP (Environmental and Sustainability Programs) REP (Representation and Engagement Programs), ROP (Resource and Outreach Programs) directors, per these guidelines they had a meeting and they approved this request. It isn't the best way because it isn't transparent to the rest of the members. Because this fund had more money previously, it was okay to have this system but they went down to a reduced amount and now it doesn't work so they took that out. Was for a prior situation and it was dated They wanted to include the program offices that are needed in that decision, not just the three. She doesn't like where it says the directors can design the process of how they request money. She thinks it should be a set way. Alcántar Soto said she is thinking that language came from when the money is split throughout the offices and she doesn't think this is relevant anymore. Ghant said she is going to talk to Lisa Rosenberg too. Those were minor edits. Smiley said for number 3, it says the VP for Academics was never included in this process. Alcántar Soto said the Board Assistant used to be for both positions but it isn't anymore. So maybe say "Board Assistant". Ghant said yes, if they keep this, it might be dated. Alcántar Soto said in number 2, it may make more sense to start a new sentence and talking about a majority vote is needed. Ghant said so you would say period after director. So a majority vote is needed. Wolters said, Id, they see this in the Operating and Enhancement fund too where events can't be funded twice. Whenever she sees that, she thinks twice in a year or twice in total? Ghant said she thinks twice total. Wolters asked if they could make that more clear.

### **C. AS Budget Committee Recommendations**

Ghant said this will be going through double information item which is why they are sticking to 20 minutes for this discussion. There will be edits made to this by next week. They actually finished this proposal Tuesday morning. They had great help from Cindy, Raquel, Eric, and members on the Budget Committee as well. She think they'll be happy to know that everything they wanted to be funded was funded. The AS has a really complicated budget process. How do they engage student in this process? How do they start early? Eric helped, Cindy helped. Ghant names committee members names. Nathan is super involved, President of DECA, they gave him a thank you card. Ghant goes over introduction of budget document. Leadership affected the time. They met with the Business Committee early. That committee consists of herself, Raquel, business director, etc. Other stakeholders. What was going to happen with the S&A fee. Their goal is to be transparent. Cuts to the ROP were made. There were a lot of cuts made. About \$50,000 dollars. They want to build that transparency and relationship with them. There were a lot of resignations this year. They talked about philosophical structure. They only gave offices that didn't go SPAC a packet. What are their values in this process? What is their current operations process? They were able to look at the past three years. Any office that were cut or trimmed were sent back to their office before things have been finalized. She's going to let Osman talk about Ethnic Student (ESC) conference. With Fairhaven and the restructuring there, there may be changes that affect the Outback. Olivera said from day one they based their budget process by taking the best year of the three. They gave them to the opportunity to explain. This is how the new budget is going to look like. If you have any questions please let me know. They will go over the SPAC requests. Olivera talked about SPAC requests. These were approved. Smiley asked about the SIRC. Olivera

said it was based on the trend. In 2013, the SIRC left 248 dollars and 2014 they left 500 dollars. They just took the average of the two to make the reduction. He doesn't have the numbers for this year. Rodriguez said if that's the case, than why is it that the ROP offices can only afford a speaker and a half: one for out of state and one local. She guesses she is conflicted because she feel like they are limited. Ghant said as far as funding in the ROP and as far as speaker fees, that's kind of based on historical trends. Alcántar Soto said they are forced to find speakers to who are lower fees. She is hearing all these reasoning's, they talked with the SIRC, they came to them about going to conferences but there are cuts. They are forced to collaborate with other offices, it's good but not when it's forced. She guesses she is a little upset that cuts were made to these offices. Olivera said they didn't ask them to cut their budgets. They came back with their number. They're looking at year 2013 they left 10,500 dollars. They said a lot of their staff resigned so they couldn't programs that year though. Alcántar Soto said she thinks they need to ask themselves, why there are so many resignations? It's like Christina said they can only afford a speaker and a half. And then no one's shows up, it's a waste of money. Because they can only afford that speaker. She would like to have Sam come here. Rodriguez said she wonder if there was too much on Sam's plate, so much demand for someone who runs all of those offices, to really see how much money is really needed to. When it comes to programming, there's a lot of inconveniences when it comes to cosponsoring. But then their forced to keep a cushion or safety net. Ghant said she kind of want to touch on a few points. Just want to remind people that it is info. They used Raquel Wilson's historical knowledge when making these decisions. She would also say that it wasn't solely Sam creating this, she worked with the advisor Casey Hayden, a least that was her understanding. They looked at historical trends, Raquel, all of them, that was the decision that came up. They should keep in mind that at the Board level that this is where the final decision made. Alexander said that if they look at the second column it is their projected proposal. Every office was offered to increase budgets. He think the committee did a great job to work with all of the data in front of them. Ghant said echo to what Eric said. Alcántar Soto said she'd still like to Sam, or Casey to add to this discussion. It made sense from a budget only view. She'd like to keep in mind the purpose of these centers. They're overwhelmed. They should keep asking, why aren't they spending all of their more? She would like an open dialog.

#### **D. ASWWU Inauguration Event Proposal**

Ghant said that this document drafted by Sabrina Romano. Many schools do this to acknowledge outgoing and incoming board members and the transition between the outgoing and incoming AS Board of Directors and honor both parties. This would be a formal event for students at large, families, and community members to celebrate the great accomplishments of the outgoing Board and welcome the incoming Board. This event would hopefully increase student engagement and awareness of the AS Board of Directors and the AS and give acknowledgement of the leadership This proposal is to NTE \$200. It would cover any of the set up costs for this event to take place. The cost will approximately \$78 for set up and take down, \$78 for sound. The budget \$7,556 in it today. Any questions? Smiley said that it says MRP instead or MPR. Wolters said she would like to see actual budget codes leadership funds, etc. on the document.

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

#### **A. KUGS Funding Request**

**Doc. 9 Ghant**

**(2 Minutes)**

Ghant said it needs to go to the board twice. They're just voting again to approve the funding of \$8,000 from the Rainy Day Reserves for KUGS tower issues.

#### **Queer Resource Center Hourly Appointment**

**(2 Minutes)**

**B.**

Ghant said the person in this position resigned. They want to appoint their volunteer to hourly to pick up as the current hourly position. Rodriguez said this person has been heavily involved for two years. Brock said there will be no fiscal impact.

**ASB-15-S-29 by Ghant**

Approve all consent items.

Seconds: Alcántar Soto. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: Passed

**X. BOARD REPORTS**

**President**

Annika Wolters reported that she went to Women of Color (WOC) Empowerment Dinner. Says she was appalled by Trustee Karen Lee's speech. It wasn't just her speech, it was the whole dinner and her speech was just the cheery on top. She also went to the Compass 2 Campus benefit brunch, also disappointed. She talked to Bruce about this on Monday and she thinks this program is a white savory. They are giving students the false hope that anyone can go to college. She gave that honest feedback. Whoever is trying to scare her, she is not scared.

**VP for Academic Affairs**

Jaleesa Smiley reported that at the Faculty Senate meeting and the President's Task Force for Equity, Inclusion and Diversity presented their strategic plan around their commitment to equity, inclusion and diversity. Conversation the language of branding the university around those. There was some interesting conversation that came out of that.

**VP for Activities**

Alcántar Soto reported that last Monday she was able to attend Activities Council meeting. The clubs recognized were WWU Game Design Club and the Bellingham Hip Hop Collective. The taskforce met twice now, they have another meeting tomorrow. The way it's been working they've been providing documents they want to look at and go over. They have been looking at resolutions form other universities. She wanted to be transparent that it seems there is a clear divide between the groups but the members are willing to put their biases aside to try and come up with something. She is thinking that next week that they will override a formal document.

**VP for Diversity**

Rodriguez reported that she had another meeting with ESC, including the inclusion of the ESC. Restructuring Building Unity and what they want to get out of it. How can clubs do their homework and do the work in their own club around issue of inclusivity. She also went to the WOC dinner and it was very disappointing. She went to the Low Rider Show this weekend. Major props to MECHA. No President's Council or Steering. Otherwise it has been a really mellow week.

**VP for Bus Ops**

Ghant reported that they went to President Bruce Shepard's for dinner. She has been working on policies. She went to Back 2 Bellingham and went to the Low Rider Show as well. She is still in the process of getting the minivan. The contract is pretty much done. She is going to China in three weeks.



**XIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

*The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 9:14 ~~p.~~*