



Western Washington University Associated Students  
Activities Council

Meeting minutes for Monday, February 2nd 2015

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**Present:** Giselle Alcantar Soto (VP for Activities), Ashlyn Doltar (AS Club Coordinator), Kaleb Ode (Assistant Business Director), Mason Thaut (Club Representative), Brita Palumbo (Student At Large), Edward Cuevas (Club Representative) Ashley Weyers (Student at Large)

**Advisor(s):** Casey Hayden (Coordinator of Student Activities)

**Secretary:** Riley Fraser (Board Assistant for Club Committees)

**Guests:** Meg Harris (Huxley Graduate Research Working Group) Tau Moses (Western Homeless Outreach), Jasmine Strode (Demography Club), Morgan Haskins (WWU Philosophy Club), Erin Aldage (FIMRC), Jessica Stein, Nicole Quance (SALSA), Kenny Powers (Fairhaven Free Press)

**Motions**

**AC-15-W-27** - Approval of the minutes from the 1-26-15 meeting.

**AC-15-W-28** - Recognition of the SALSA club as an official AS Club under the “Special Interests” category.

**AC-15-W-29** - Recognition for the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children as an official AS Club under the “Service” category.

**AC-15-W-30** - Approval of \$180 underwrite from Grants/Loans/Underwrites to the Western Homeless Outreach.

*Giselle Alcantar Soto, VP of Activities, called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015.*

I. Approval of the Minutes

**MOTION AC-15-W-27** by Cuevas

Approval of the minutes from the 1-26-15 meeting.

Second: Thaut Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

II. Business Director’s Report

Item tabled until the end of the meeting.

Business Director's Report was not ready by the end of the meeting.

### III. Club Recognition

#### A. SALSA

Jessica Stein, Co-President of the Students Appreciating and Loving Salsa Always (SALSA) club, said that all the founding members really wanted to create a casual social environment for people to come together and enjoy salsa and chips, play games, and socialize. Even if they don't share many other interests, the shared appreciation of chips and salsa will provide a foundation for Western students to meet new people and socialize. There are a number of games and events planned for the upcoming quarter, and there is an interest in putting together more formal events, such as a trip to the Outback to pick vegetables to make fresh salsa, and a multicultural awareness night where the club makes different salsas from all around the world, because the club members wish to celebrate, respect, and be sensitive to all cultures associated with the food. Alcantar Soto commends the club for their level of cultural sensitivity. Ode asked if there has been any consideration in how to advertise the club so it doesn't get confused with the Salsa Dance Club, which is also active on campus. Stein said that they would make the effort to put pictures of actual salsa and chips in all advertised graphics, as well as using the full name and not the acronym. They would also not use the word "club" in advertisements, but just the word SALSA in all caps. Cuevas asked if the club would strictly have salsa, or if it would give any spotlight to other beloved dips such as guacamole. Stein said that guacamole and other sauces would certainly be welcome, but salsa would be the focus.

Hayden wanted to mention that, due to Health Department policy, the club must be wary of advertising any event or meeting as a "potluck," because it implies that it's an event where you are feeding the general public, which would require a food handlers' permit.

Doltar asked if the club would rather be referred to by the acronym or the full name. Stein said they would prefer to be referred to as SALSA.

#### **MOTION AC-15-W-28** by Thaut

Recognition of the SALSA club as an official AS Club under the "Special Interests" category.

Second: Weyers Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

B. Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children

Erin Aldage said that, after going on a trip abroad last summer with this organization, she would love to bring it to the Western campus. FIMRC is an organization dedicated to helping children get healthcare in underserved communities worldwide, and generally raise awareness of these things in all communities and how everyone can do their part to improve the overall health of your community. Alcantar Soto asked about the different fundraisers the club will put on. Aldage said that they would consider all different venues usually considered by clubs under the Service category, such as vacation trips abroad, fundraising at a site abroad, putting on dinners or dancing events, etc. Ode asked if there are any specific majors associated with this club. Erin said that although most of the founding members are Pre-Med and Science majors like herself, they would by no means be exclusive to a particular set of Majors; anyone who is interested can join. Alcantar Soto asked about the level of interest shown in the club so far. Aldage said that there are about ten founding members, and they have all been advertising via word of mouth so far.

**MOTION AC-15-W-29** by Palumbo

Recognition for the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children as an official AS Club under the “Service” category.

Second: Doltar Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

IV. Information Items

A. Huxley Graduate Research Working Group - \$1037.26

No representatives present. Item tabled until representative is present.

Meg Harris arrived at 5:25 pm

Meg Harris said that Huxley is holding a Graduate Student Conference on April 18<sup>th</sup>. for all disciplines. The group is hoping to reach out to all campus departments to get presenters, in order to

accurately represent and share all research currently being conducted on the Western campus. Huxley is also working in tandem with the StemGrow club for this event. Harris is expecting 50-75 people to attend the event this year, going off of past attendance records. About 40 attended last year, but this was during Back 2 Bellingham. Ode asked about the specifics of the catering plan. Harris said that they went off of last years' budget expenses, provided by StemGrow, who covered the catering aspect of the event last year. The provided food included a light breakfast and lunch with coffee and tea. Overall, Huxley requested \$1274 last year. Harris has been discussing possible funding with Huxley and other departments, but no direct response has been received yet. Ode asked Hayden if it was possible for a club to advertise inside the Viking Union, since this is a relatively high-profile event. Hayden said yes, there are two booth positions that Huxley could use. Palumbo recommended that they apply for the booths immediately, as they get all rented out very quickly.

This Information Item will be voted upon next meeting as an Action Item

B. Fairhaven Free Press - \$1,300

No representatives were present. Item was tabled until the end of the meeting.

Representative Kenny Powers arrived at 5:43 pm

Powers said the requested funds would go towards printing costs for this quarter and last quarter. Last quarter, the Press requested All 1,000 copies were distributed, the highest amount the Press has ever distributed. This new requested amount would cover the base cost for printing copies of the Fairhaven Free Press this quarter and the next quarter. Powers said there are plans to increase the amount of printed copies, thanks to their fundraising efforts. Journalism workshops have also been implemented by the Press in order to reach their goal of becoming self-sustaining. Cuevas asked if there was a digital edition. Powers said yes, digital copies and links to individual stories can be found on [fairhavenfreepress.org](http://fairhavenfreepress.org)

This Information item will be voted upon next meeting as an Action Item.

C. WWU Philosophy Club - \$2,015

Morgan Haskins said that the philosophy Club is going to hold their annual conference on Memorial Day Weekend, 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> of May. The AS has funded this event for two years, but funded less last year. This year, the club is in dire straits because the Department is unable to fund them this year, so they are asking for the same amount they received in 2013, plus a bit more. The speaker for the conference would be Heather Demarest, a very well-known philosophy professor from the University of Oklahoma. This is a very competitive conference that puts Westerns' philosophy program on the map; philosophy clubs from across the nation attend this conference. The funds would cover the cost of hiring the speaker, and the cost of food for the conference. Cuevas asked if this event would be free to attend, and if they know how much money was granted in 2013. Haskins said the event would be free, and the 2013 amount was \$1800. Ode asked if they knew the attendance rates of the previous years. Haskins said she wasn't a member of the Department then, but last year they received 55 papers, approved 10 of them, and had 40-50 people attend the keynote speaker. The spirit of philosophy is very strong in the Northwest, and groups from all the nearby colleges attend the event as well. Doltar asked for more information about the event speaker. Haskins said the speaker was carefully selected, and was the unanimous first choice for the speaker. She does a lot on the philosophy of science and physics, and many of the subjects she covers fits in well with the classes being offered at Western right now. This club works closely in conjunction with the Theistic Thinkers Club, and they have decided, rather than holding their own separate conference, they will be integrating the two for this event, so the Council will not have to consider funding another Philosophy conference this year. Alcantar Soto asked if the club was taking any steps towards fundraising the event. Haskins said no, because fundraisers have been unsuccessful in the past.

Alcantar Soto assigned the following homework items:

1. Rough estimate of attendance
2. Potential of cost of entry to outside attendees?

This Information Item will be voted upon next meeting as an Action item.

D. Demography Club - \$600

Jasmine Strode said that funding is being requested so four chosen students can present at the Pacific Sociological Conference this April in Long Beach, California. It is a great honor to be chosen to attend this event, and a great opportunity for both Graduates and Undergraduates to meet and converse with important members of the Sociological community. Alcantar Soto wanted to know about other methods of funding being considered by the club. Strode said they are receiving money from the Sociology Department and from a grant being used by some fellow club members. Ode was confused about why the price of the hotel room decreased after adding more people that needed to be funded. Strode explained that with this hotels' rates, a single room is \$150, a quadruple room is \$199, and they decided to all share a room to cut costs. Alcantar Soto asked that, when the club comes to next weeks' meeting, they have an estimate on how much each member would have to pay out of pocket for the event.

This Information Item will be voted upon next meeting as an Action Item.

V. Action Items

A. Western Homeless Outreach - \$179.20

Tau Moses said the event is for the Be Our guest Event, where students can use their guest meals to give meals to the less-fortunate members of the Bellingham community. The funds go towards the hiring of a Plain Clothes Officer.

**MOTION AC-15-W-30** by Ode

Approval of \$180 underwrite from Grants/Loans/Underwrites to the Western Homeless Outreach.

Second: Thaut Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

VI. Other Business

**Winter Training for the Activities Council will be on February 9<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the Club Hub.**

Hayden said that, if we wanted, we could have Action Items before Information Items, since the representative of Western Homeless Outreach ended up waiting until the end of the meeting for a very small and simple request. The Council approved this motion by Acclamation.

*Alcantar Soto adjourned the meeting at 6:05pm*