

Western Washington University Associated Students

Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, May 13th, 2016 VU 567

AS Board Officers: *Present:* Israel Rios (VP Activities), Zach Dove (VP Academic Affairs), Hannah Brock (VP for Business and Operations), Abby Ramos (VP Diversity), Patrick Eckroth (VP Governmental Affairs), and Emma Palumbo (VP for Student Life).

Guest(s): Bill Martin (Student at Large), Frasmies Baxter (Students for Farmworker Justice), Iglacio Pevez (Students for Farmworker Justice) Stacy Ejim (AS Elections Coordinator), Nate Christiansen (Student at Large),

Advisor: Eric Alexander (Associate Dean of Student Engagement and the Director of the Viking Union Facilities)

MOTIONS

ASB-16-S-26 Approves the Berries Resolution with the Amendments That No AS Funds Should Be Used to Purchase Driscoll and Šakuma Berries. *Passed.*

ASB-16-S-27 Approves to Ratify the AS Election Results. *Passed.*

ASB-16-S-28 Approval of the Tablet Proposal and Funds Not to Exceed \$13,500 to Purchase Nine (9) Microsoft Pro Surface 4 Tablets and Increase the Annual Allocation to AS Computer Repair and Replacement Reserves (FXCRR) by \$2,600 a year. *Passed.*

ASB-16-S-29 Approves the Resolution Regarding Student Labor at WWU. *Passed.*

ASB-16-S-30 Approves the Letter of Solidarity. *Passed.*

Hannah Brock, AS VP for Business and Operations, called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

II. PUBLIC FORUM

III. INFORMATION ITEMS- Guests*

IV. ACTION ITEMS - Guests*

A. Berries Resolution

Ramos said this is the resolution they saw last week. They did change a Whereas to include boycotting any Haagen-Dazs ice cream that uses those berries until an agreement has been made. Alexander said he got in touch with their Attorney General whether they can target a private sector, just so there isn't some legal restrictions. He hasn't heard back yet but he will let them know if he gets anything back. Ramos said would they sue them? Alexander said there is a possibility of it. Rios

said should they include in here that no AS money can be spent to purchase these berries? Ramos said yes. They need to be careful because they are changing their labels so people can't recognize them. They should add in a Be it resolved that no AS funds should be used to purchase Driscoll and Šakuma berries.

MOTION: ASB-16-S-26 by Dove

Approves the Berries Resolution with the Amendments That No AS Funds Should Be Used to Purchase Driscoll and Šakuma Berries.

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

B. AS Election Ratification

Ejim said They had a voter increase from last year and they had 20 candidates running for positions. They had a lot of admin support this year which she hopes it continues to have that support. They worked with University Residence a lot this year and that made publicity way easier with their support. They had really good events and speaking engagements. There was a lot more campus participation and knowledge about the elections than last year. Her takeaways would be more admin support and continue support. There were no grievances which was good. The Election Code said they need to be out there from 9am-3pm, but in reality they went out around 11am-2pm. Martin asked for an estimate of how many people voted at the tables? Ejim said she doesn't know but it would be good to track for the future. Brock said it would be good to do that assessment. Martin asked if the voter turnout was higher because more candidates ran or admin support? Ejim said a little bit of both. They were able to publicize to the dorms which was good.

MOTION: ASB-16-S-27 by Palumbo

Approves to Ratify the AS Election Results.

Second: Eckroth Vote: 5-0-1 Action: Passed

C. Tablet Proposal

Brock said they can discuss how many they want to use purchase because the number isn't set in stone. Two tablets could be used for Board Assistants to use. Ramos said could AS Productions (ASP) use the older tablets because they didn't get that approved through the SPAC process for a tablet? Brock said yes. Dove said he would like to buy as few as possible for that price. Ramos said it is the same amount as a laptop. They might as well buy laptops. Rios said it's with insurance. Brock said the reason they are more expensive is because these are compatible with their Q drive, work from outside their office, they can log into their WWU accounts. Dove said he gets that's why they have these, but it's only used by AS employees. Brock said they could lower the number of tablets they buy. Hammer said she would advocate for two tablets for board assistance, they overlap constantly and have to use the other tablets. Ramos said suggested nine tablets. Two for Board and seven for everyone else? Brock said would that work for Activities Council? Rios said they can share. Eckroth said for the second part of the proposal, increasing the allocation into the reserves, it says it will be replaced in 4 years. That is to be expected but it sounds too frequently. For sustainability reasons they should think about how quickly they are replacing them. Brock said the one that they have now were an abandoned project. Right when they got them, Microsoft ditched the project. Miller estimates these lasting up to 5 or 6 years which is the lifespan of technology. They could add something about looking into recycling the tablets or donating them afterwards. Eckroth said he

hopes they do that but even so the extracting of these materials are worse than using paper. If they were to extend it to a 6-year cycle that would be great. Brock said they could decrease the annual allocation. Brock said if they decrease to \$3,000 it would be extending the replacement cycle. Alexander said if they were to want nine tablets it would be about \$13,000. Rios said they may want to add in some for shipping. Brock said so maybe \$14,000. Brock said there are more questions this week which is good because she wants to make sure those concerns are covered. Dove said he wonders if the average student would think this a good use of funds. Brock said they would have to print everything for committees if not and make the committees less efficient. Palumbo said it is more of an operating expense than a service they are providing. Alexander said 5 years, 2,600 every year. Ramos said how much would be left in that budget if approved? Brock said they approved a \$ 13,000 for printer in the Publicity Center and they have \$50,000 this year. So \$37,000 after the printer. Ramos said understand the necessity but the cost is so high. Brock said they could do \$13,500. Palumbo said not including the \$2,600? Brock said yes, that would be additional.

MOTION: ASB-16-S-28 by Palumbo

Approval of the Tablet Proposal and Funds Not to Exceed \$13,500 to Purchase Nine (9) Microsoft Pro Surface 4 Tablets and Increase the Annual Allocation to AS Computer Repair and Replacement Reserves (FXCRR) by \$2,600 a year.

Second: Palumbo Vote: 4-1-1 Action: Passed

D. Resolution Regarding Student Labor at WWU

Dove said there is a new “Whereas” referring to a memorandum from the assistant Attorney General. They did take out a couple “Whereas’s”. He also added some footnotes and sources. Nate Christiansen said last year around April he approached the university on why they weren’t paid for the SAA 330 classes. He thought there would be a readily supplied answer. The conversations they had with Jim Dewild and Anna Carry is that the university hadn’t wondered that before. The explanation the university provided was after the fact and not intentionally thought through beforehand. There was an article about it in the Western Front. In some of the conversations it was mentioned that this is a practice that is common throughout the country at other university. In his own research, in New York, they had to pay a settlement with a pretty similar practice. Whatever the ultimate decision is, it’s clear it could be a large cost in the future. This would be to do right by their students and be a leader in this newer practice. Dove said there are litigation costs and students would be paying those costs. They strive to be a leader in this. It is a pretty common practice across the campus. Christiansen said he has never been employed at WWU. When he had the conversation with them, they didn’t know they were going to be public. They can investigate their own practice too. It’s a ticking time bomb for WWU. If a student follows through, it would cascade to a much larger thing. Dove said the memorandum comes to the conclusion, SAA 330 enhances students. While they are considered in this class, they aren’t employees and it appears to be an employee-employer relationship. Christiansen said for the SAA 330 they have indicated in the course guide, that it is specifically a class that teaches specific job skills. In the FAQ online, they talked about enrollment and someone asked if they’ve already taken it, do I have to take it again? And yes, because it is specific to that job not just a skill. That comment since then been removed. Dove said instead of thinking about what practice would be good, they tried to justify a bad practice. One of the be it resolved, they need to look at their process. The risk applies to the AS as well. Brock said they could make not required. They compensate the trainings too. Christiansen said they are on a lot firmer ground. Dove said they might not have the expertise, but it would be good to look through it. Brock

said some people do internships and some people don't and that's where it gets hard to figure out but they need to look critically at themselves.

MOTION: ASB-16-S-29 by Ramos

Approves the Resolution Regarding Student Labor at WWU.

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

E. Solidarity Letter

Ramos said the only changes she made is their organization name and last paragraph "we also hope the university will respond to the violence enacted on students, especially marginalized students, who speak out and demand their rights on campus."

MOTION: ASB-16-S-30 by Palumbo

Approves the Letter of Solidarity.

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

V. PERSONNEL ITEMS (subject to immediate action)

VI. ACTION ITEMS - Board*

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board*

A. Environmental and Sustainability Programs (ESP) Mission Statement

Palumbo said the ESP has been doing a lot of internal assessment and they are proposed a new mission statement. Their new statement would be "Through conscious and inclusive outreach, events, and activism, the ESP promotes the social, economic, and environmental elements of sustainability. The programs of the ESP are dedicated to supporting a diverse, aware, and engaged campus which positively impacts the local and global community." Brock said the AS Program Standards will be coming to the Board as a whole, they are going through Management Council right now. Rios suggested spelling out ESP in the mission statement. Ramos said there is nothing about education and she would like to see something on that aspect. Eckroth said it talks about awareness part but not education. Palumbo said shout out to the ESP for their work this year.

B. Disability advisory Committee Charge and Charter

Ramos said the changes to this Charge and Charter is that the AS VP for Student Life position would be non-voting. Her position would be non-voting. Ramos said the reason behind that is that the Disability Advisory Committee provides recommendations to the Board of Directors, where they will get a vote then.

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (subject to immediate action)

IX. BOARD REPORTS

Belina Seare, AS President did not give a report.

Zach Dove, YP for Academic Affairs reported that the Biology Department had an internal rule in the department that was not on the course catalog. It's what the students sign as a contract. This rule was an extra restriction to course repeat policy. Academic Coordinating Commission (ACC) said that the Biology Department needs to bring it forward to ACC to be voted on. It did not pass ACC. They spilled out criteria for when departments want more restrictive rules they have to do certain steps beforehand. The Math and Free Pizza event happened yesterday. They got some feedback and there were no solutions but its complex. They will be drafting a letter to Math department to ask for students should be involved.

Patrick Eckroth, YP for Governmental Affairs reported that he won't be at Back to Bellingham. He will be going to the Washington Student Association (WSA) General Assembly. He will be heading down at 5am to Central Washington University. They are bringing enough people to not proxy, it's a low turnout for WSA activities in general though. They will be bringing five legislative proposals for the state wide agenda.

Hannah Brock, VP for Business and Operations reported that in Services and Activities (S & A) Fee, they have decreased their request by about half. They have been working hard, they have been trying to absorb as much as they can. They are typing up the summary to send to all students. Some of the items they requested instead of putting it into operating, they will be in reserves. Alexander said originally \$220,000 over their budget last year. They cut it back to \$87,000. Most of it is mandatory increases. Brock said about \$70,000 is mandatory. Martin asked what is mandatory. Alexander said state said they had to give a 3% mandatory salary increase. Redid the salaries pay schedule as well. They also shifted the benefit costs so there are different rates now. Brock said they will be having an open meeting for students to attend and she brought up the point that it shouldn't be at 7am. Right now they are looking at an 8-dollar increase per quarter for S & A. She is writing a better bullseye than what was originally sent out. It was super vague, it didn't say how much the fee was increasing, no information about their budgets of each of the departments. Brock wants to put how much they are proposing. They are welcome to come but its terrible time, she is going to tell students that anyone can email concerns to her and she will print them out and bring them to the meeting.

Abby Ramos VP for Diversity reported that Culture Shock happened yesterday and 200 people there. This weekend is full of stuff put on by the Ethnic Student Center. She went to the Alumni event and got to talk to Jesse Moore. It's the 25-year celebration of the ESC.

Israel Rios VP for Activities reported that the Recreation Center said no to a fee increase. One student wanted an increase although no one recommended an increase or wanted it. He will be going to Back to Bellingham this weekend.

Emma Palumbo VP for Student Life reported that student trustee was announced and Abby Ramos has been selected.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Belina Seare, AS President, adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.