

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

Friday, May 6th, 2016 VU 567

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

**Guest(s):** Chris Miller (Information Technology Manager),

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

**MOTIONS**

**ASB-16-S-24** Approve the Legislative Advocacy Coordinator Job Description with the Amendments to the Job Title to be Changes to Legislative Liaison and with the Stipulation that Any Changes to Pay and Term of position will be Dependent on Budget Decisions. *Passed.*

**ASB-16-S-25** Approve the Consent Items. *Passed.*

*Abigail Ramos, AS VicePresident for Diversity, called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.*

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**II. PUBLIC FORUM**

**III. INFORMATION ITEMS- Guests\***

**A. Berries Resolution**

Ramos said this is a resolution about boycotting Šakuma Brothers berries with dining services on campus. She doesn't know about having a resolution like this because there are rules about taking political stances but this is a student group who has worked really hard. Guest One said history there is a farm at Skagit valley and about 3 years ago, they asked for a 1 cent raise per pound of berries because they weren't making enough to feed their families. They went on strike to get that, and the farm instead fired the workers on strike and hired new employees which is illegal. And so, they have been trying to negotiate fair pay since then. The farm has been bullying, hired security to go in and hang out by the workers houses. The farmworkers have called for a boycott to they can get a fair contract. They want to having dining services to sign on. Guest Two said this is an international boycott. It's important to Western Washington University. She knows they have something about not taking political stances but this is a human rights issue. It's a matter living up to their values. Additionally, they have talked to dining services and they don't source from those farms right now. They aren't publically doing so, it won't be changing anything financially. It would just be taking a public stance which is what boycotts are meant to do.

They have been doing a lot of picketing at Costco to let individuals know about it and they are trying to get Costco to do it as well. This change isn't going to be a big change, it's not a change to their values or their services, but be public with it. University of Washington has already agreed to this boycott and they did that a couple weeks ago. Guest One said he talked to the executive Chef on campus. They are really receptive to what the students want and if the Board said this is what the students want, they will respect that. Ramos said they were also the ones to write the resolution. Eckroth said the organization has taken political stances before such as support for initiative 74. If it is something students care about, they can do it. Do they sell Haagen-Dazs ice cream? They use the berries. Ramos said that would be good to add. Seare said if they pass this, have they gotten word from the chef saying they won't be using them? Ramos said they are not using them currently. Guest Two said they are kind of resistant to that, so they are trying to build support for it and then go back. It would be an important step to show it is important to students. Brock asked how they were resistant. Guest Two said they said they hadn't heard enough from students about it, which is why they are at the Board. Rios said it very good and enjoyed the links on the side with the sources. He was thinking about the mention to the pay rate system. He knows it's really common and there is differing opinions from the farm workers. Guest One said it's one of the farm worker's main points, so go to a living wage system.

## **B. Election Results**

Eckroth said there are two pieces of the report. There are the results and the historical turnout and the GUR Referendum results. This essentially shows the results. Alexander said it was good to see a voter turnout. Rios said he was hoping for more of a turnout because of the candidates. Rios said the answers to the ranking question, it doesn't tell them as much as they hoped because it's all the same. Brock said she has learned that ranking is really hard. Rios said comments are good. What are they planning on doing with the results? Eckroth said they want to present it to the faculty senate and the smaller group working on the GUR reform.

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

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

#### **A. AS VP for Diversity Job Description**

Ramos said they change some of the committees they don't sit on now. And they added in ensuring the continuing work of the Multicultural / ESC expansion. She added in that they will be chairing the ESC Executive Committee and sitting on the University Administration Steering Committee. They will be working with the VP for Enrollment and Student Services, Director of the Viking Union and the ESC coordinator. Lastly she added that the VP will be meeting regularly with students to inform them of any decisions that are being made. She also added to work with the VP for Governmental Affairs to help create an event around legislation specifically the ESC lobby day. She was looking into getting that position paid more, because this year with the ESC expansion she put in over 25 hours a week, and if they will be doing more with the ESC Lobby day, they will be working a lot more. This is just the job description change. Eckroth said

there is a change to the Viking Lobby Day Board Assistant and they are going to change it to Lobby Days Board Assistant so it can be for all the lobby days. Palumbo said with the pay increase and work load, she wonders if there is a way to shift some of the duties that are on the VP for Diversity's plate to the VP for Student Life's plate because there are some overlaps. Like with the Equal Opportunity Office, Sexual Violence, and Health and Safety aspects. They can talk about that as well. Rios said the committees that are on there, did all of them meet with year? Ramos said yes.

### **C. Legislative Advocacy Coordinator Job Description**

Brock said they passed this through Personnel Committee. Eckroth said the majority of the changes were in the job responsibilities and the increase the term of position, the job description currently 10-20 planning hours in the summer. The other change is to add an extra 5 hours a week in Fall quarter. They are heavily involved with the planning with Viking Lobby day and the agenda setting. Palumbo said have there been any conversation around the title going back to Legislative Liaison because there was confusion on what the position was supposed to be doing. Eckroth said there is some difficulties around trying to accurately name the position and have a position title that is accessible. Palumbo said it's an important position and taking away some of the ambiguity of what they are doing there will help the position work more effectively. Eckroth said he doesn't know what the best title would be but he is open to it. Palumbo said she would like to see the name change. Dove said that the name is a bit confusing. Alexander said they could have a slash title if that helps. Palumbo said that it doesn't necessarily do advocacy coordination. Eckroth said yeah, that's more his job.

#### ***MOTION: ASB-16-S-24 by Eckroth***

Approve the Legislative Advocacy Coordinator Job Description with the Amendments to the Job Title to be Changes to Legislative Liaison and with the Stipulation that Any Changes to Pay and Term of position will be Dependent on Budget Decisions.

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

## **VI. ACTION ITEMS - Board\***

### **VII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board\***

#### **A. Tablet Proposal**

Brock said they have brought the proposal for the new tablets for the AS to use. Miller said back in 2013, they got a great deal on the Microsoft tablets and they were going to pilot whether they were going to succeed in the AS. after a few years, the Board uses them, Activities Council uses them but overall the AS doesn't take advantage of it. That happens for a number of reasons, one being that they didn't advertise it well. They talk about it Fall Staff Development but then don't continually let the AS know they are available. The devices themselves are not great, they got a discount, but they can't use their WWU username and passwords. They don't automatically connect to their mail or Q drive. They are also running on a system that was a trial of Microsoft and it failed and its discontinued. There are all sorts of weird problems like not running Orgsync. They can't patch them part of their automatic patch process. Those particular devices were bad. So what they are proposing are using some of the reserves to buy new devices that will work better for what they need. They are looking at the Surface Pro 4's they can sign in with their WWU log in and they can find all their information, just like a

desktop. They are proposing 12 new tablets, two would be dedicated to the AS Board Assistants, then for the committees like the AS Board or Activities Council and other than that, it will be first come first serve for AS staff to use. Brock said these tablets AS Productions were taking them to events to do surveys, but now they don't work well, they don't use them. Their assessment process has slowed down because of it. Miller said he wanted to add, they would be able to take the tablets into events and use them. They would be able to pilot a card swipe type of process and then they can aggregate anonymous data to show who is attending and participating in events. Brock said it would be easier than people coming over to a table to answer surveys. Miller said there are other uses for the card swipe like at Takewood, they could see if someone was actually a student, not someone who just has their ID still from ten years ago. They are asking to not exceed \$18,000 and put additional money aside so they can replace these in four years. Brock said they are essentially a laptop. Miller said they are about the same about the laptop but they are easier to carry around and they don't have moving parts like hard drives, so they don't break down as fast. Brock said they have a battery life of nine hours. Miller said and after a year, they still will see about 5 hours on their battery life. Rios asked if other committees would use these. Brock said yes, they will need to make sure they are getting the word out to committees. That's why they sent the survey out to committee members as well. They should make sure the chairs are the one who checks it out or working with the reservation office to put it on their reservation. Is there enough for Activities Council? Rios said yes, there is 11, and they share. They stopped using them after the Orgsync failed. Miller said a lot of time people will bring their own device which is great, but for work purposes and equity purposes they want to make sure they are providing that. Brock said it would be so nice for Budget Committee to use these instead of squinting at the screen. Dove asked about the first come first serve? Miller said they can talk about the process. They could attach it to the reservation request. They could leave it available for a grab and go. Miller said he likes the reservation system because it gives them hard data on the usage. Dove said right now, can they reserve them? Miller said two years ago they put it into EMS but the overall use was so low, they just made it available to anyone. Rios asked what will happen to the ones they have now. Miller said they are at the end of their life span right now, so he doesn't want to put them in a place that will need them for a program but they can be available for additional survey data. Dove said if they aren't an AS employee or a committee member, can a student use these? Brock said no, they are really expensive and too hard to track and they need to make sure they are taken care of well. Miller said they are a service capacity problem. The management of keeping track of them. For 200 AS Employees, that is doable but for 15,000 students, that's too hard to keep track of and they don't have the staff to do it. Plus, that program already exist with ATUS and Woodring has tablets people can check out.

### **B. ESC Executive Committee Charge and Charter**

Ramos said she is bringing this back because they want to increase the membership again. They got down to the final 2 and they couldn't decide. They want to have the membership be eight people. The committee asked to change the membership. That would be an even number and if there was a tie, it would fall on the VP for Diversity's vote.

### **C. Solidarity Letter**

Ramos said this is from Eastern Washington University. They are also asking a Multicultural Center. They don't have a physical space, nothing close to the Ethnic Student Center. Their

student union is going under remodel and they kind of missed the opportunity to put in feedback but they are requesting that the remodel include a multicultural center. They also asking for a VP for Diversity at their university because they don't have that right now which is why it was missed to have this part of the renovation. They are trying to get as much support from people as possible, she is going to have a skype conversation with them soon. They are asking people to sign off on this. They want to send it to their different administrators. Rios said can they edit this at all? There were some letters posted around saying that they didn't feel students of color were being included in the decisions and people wrote "then leave then" and he would like to include some support for those students of color as well. Ramos said they can do that. Eckroth said Washington Student Association is having their student of color summit next week. Ramos should give his contact information to any students interested. Ramos said she will reach out and let them know about it.

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

### A. Committee Appointments

#### Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE)

Maya Price                      International Business and French                      Senior

Committee Removals:

#### Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE)

Tessie Robertson English and Psychology                      Sophomore

Dove said CUE originally had a student who was appointed and they never showed up so they removed that student. Then they approved another student, Tessie, and there was some confusion because they wanted to only be on one committee and they got appointed to multiple committees, so they were never able to show up. Maya goes to those committees to take notes, and they expressed interest in obtaining the vote because she is already being there. Her desire is to only be on the committee for the last couple meetings.

#### ***MOTION: ASB-16-S-25 by Eckroth***

Approve the Consent Items.

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

## IX. BOARD REPORTS

**Belina Seare, AS President** did not give a report.

**Zach Dove, VP for Academic Affairs** reported that he looked at death in the face and said "not this week". The grade replacement policy passed in Faculty Senate. They pushed off the Pizza and Math event, next Thursday at 6pm. He got reached out to by the Teaching and Learning academy in the Library and they are working on a proposal to make Western Today and opt-out service, instead of a opt-in service. There is a lot of good information there and students don't have access to that. They are looking for his endorsement and he will try and bring it to the Board. Currently students need to go out of their way to sign up.

**Patrick Eckroth, VP for Governmental Affairs** reported that Legislative Affairs Council (LAC) is prepping for the Washington Student Association General Assembly on May 14th. They have five proposals they are bringing including student success, most universities have had this. Similar proposals they had on their own agenda like the voter access as well as dedicated revenue minus a few of the progressive taxes. They are bringing something similar to the support for survivors of sexual violence and student trustee empowerment to get them to a regular trustee. The entirety of the budget will be voted on at the General Assembly and the voting of the executive board as well as any changes to the bylaws and things like that. The Students of Color Summit is at the same time as the General Assembly and hopefully that won't happen ever again. It may have been done for convenience but it isn't a great way to do that. His focus is on bringing people to the General Assembly because he doesn't want to take people out of the voting power. LAC had a discussion around their membership with the United States Student Association and they had a good conversation. They are about two years into their membership and they wanted to do a good check in. Western Votes had its General Assembly and they have new elected folks in that.

**Hannah Brock, VP for Business and Operations** reported that Services and Activities is a bit behind but they presented their budgets. Departmentally Related Activities Council asked for \$30,000 asked for every other year because of Klipsun and they are looking to just have a flat increase instead of it changing every year. They are looking at around a 5.2% increase in fees at this point. She has ranked the decision packages and she will be meeting with the AS Business Director and the AS Club Business Director to go over those.

**Abby Ramos VP for Diversity** reported that event Culture Shock is on Thursday and the Low Rider show is on Sunday. ACC heritage dinner is this weekend. Latinx Student Unions' Heritage dinner is on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Israel Rios VP for Activities** reported that great WWU Puzzle Hub and Hedgehogs of WWU Clubs got designated and club renewals start May 10<sup>th</sup>. Orgsync is getting an update to add club leadership positions. They are trying to figure out what to call it because some don't call it leadership positions. Brock said they can just say contact person. Rios said they can also change the budgets which make it tricky. There were some issues with the students using classroom spaces on campus. Chairs and tables were moved and sometimes stacked and even put outside the classrooms and the professors had to spend extra time during their class to set the room back up. It's become a big enough problem that the university has talked about limiting the hours of certain buildings or even closing off access to those rooms. This is just for information and a reminder to put the rooms back together because it would be a huge negative effect if the buildings got closed off or the hours got changed.

**Emma Palumbo VP for Student Life** reported that the Sustainable Action Fund (SAF) is working on updating the rules of operation. It will be brought to the Board soon. Alternative Transportation Fee Committee is still meeting with the Whatcom Transit Authority. There will be a survey gone out to students about the fee increases and the services desired. They are planning for the Collaborative Community Dialogue. They are doing outreach and the form for registration is made. Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-4:30pm. Also non-ADA animals are not allowed in campus buildings other than comfort animals in the dorms and if they are on campus, they have to be under control and on a leash. There have been more issues popping up and now

campus security will be enforcing it more. Structural Review is working on the proposal. They split up in four smaller groups to work on different sections.

## **XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Belina Seare, AS President, adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m.*