



Western Washington University Associated Students Ethnic Student Center Presidents Council Meeting

Meeting of Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Non-Voting Members: Aleyda Cervantes (AS VP for Diversity), Simon Bahta (ESC Director), Alan Alatorre-Barajas (ESC Cultural Education Coordinator), Abby Ramos (ROP Director)

Voting Members: Tina Shirasu (JSA), Meron Knutzen (ACC), Shaneen Walter-Edwards (ACC), McKenzie Bolar (MISO), Niveda Ganesh (SASA), Victoria Matey (Blue Group, ESC Event Coordinator), Nathaniel G Williams (BSU), Meredith Karbowski (HOH), Cindy Marquina-Negrete (MEChA), Lucina León Palma (LSU), Elizabeth Perez Garcia (MEChA)

Absent: Maia Adolph (BSU), Karen Liang (CSA), Mia Amaranto (FASA), Danny Duok (KhSA), Kathy Lee (KSA), Karina Quiroz (LSU), Ayita Berhane (MISO), Thu Nguyen (VSA), Vilay Lee (WHSa)

Guests: Alex LaVallee (AS VP for Activities), Nora Selander (AS Legislative Liaison)

Secretary: Julia Rutledge (Board Assistant for Club Committees)

MOTIONS

Aleyda Cervantes, AS VP for Diversity, called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. on September 27, 2016.

I. Objectives of council

Cervantes ran through a few of the by-laws, such as every ESC club needing a representative in the council, creating a standard for ESC clubs, hopefully doing ESC Lobby Days, and if a member of the council missed 3 meetings, their club would no longer be able to ask for ESC funds. She said that if a president was not coming to meetings or was not fulfilling their responsibilities, Cervantes would email them to ask what was going on, and asked people to let her know if they would not be able to attend the council.

Cervantes explained the rules for action and information items, and how to make motions concerning them.

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Cervantes said that if there was anything a council member wanted to go on the agenda, they could email her by Monday at the latest, and she would add it. She explained the rules of action items and information items.

III. Inclusive Language

A. Introductions

Cervantes began a presentation that Abby Ramos, the VP for Diversity from last year, presented at both Steering and Presidents' committees in 2015. Cervantes explained what pronouns are and stated the necessity for saying them, so that peoples' gender identities could be respected. She asked that pronouns be said at the beginning of Presidents' Council, as well as the beginning of ESC clubs. She recommended that ESC clubs have Gender and Sexuality Chairs, in order to bring up the topics of gender and sexuality to clubs. She also directed people to the QRC and Womxn's Center.

Cervantes taught that if anyone accidentally misgenders someone, they apologize and correct themselves. They should also point out when other people do it.

She gave some examples of inclusive language, such as "you all", "people with disabilities", and "people of color". She offered to email a presentation to the council. She offered up a list of resources such as offices on campus and teachers who would be willing to come to clubs and give talks.

IV. Guests

A. Resource and Outreach Programs

Cervantes talked about clubs doing Heritage Dinners, but encouraged clubs to do other activities. She said that they could coordinate with AS offices to put on other events.

Ramos introduced herself and the ROP: Womxn, QRC, Social Issues Resource Center, Disability Outreach, and the Legal Information Center. She said that they put on events, but so did the ESC clubs and she was interested in collaborating with them. She said that they had slightly more funds than they could use and would like to help the clubs fund events. If clubs wanted to schedule a speaker or film, they could reach out to the ROP offices. They could also help clubs get funds through departments on campus who sponsor AS offices.

B. Legislative Liaison

Selander introduced herself and explained her job: tracking legislation in Olympia that pertained to students. She introduced the Legislative Affairs Committee, which decided what was on the agenda for lobbying, and talked about the Legislative Action Fund that was at the disposal of the ESC. She invited the possibility of having ESC Lobby Days again, since it didn't happen last year. Selander pointed out that there was an ESC spot open on the LAC, and either the presidents or somebody from their club could be on that. They would have the chance to help plan lobby days. They offered their own help as well as VP for Legislative Affairs Bryce Hammer's.

Cervantes said that the ESC spot on the LAC was appointed by Presidents' Council. She said that an ESC Lobby Day was necessary since funding was needed for the ESC Renovation, and they wanted to send students to the capitol during winter

quarter. She wanted someone from an ESC club to sit on the LAC so that they could work on the agenda for Lobby Days.

C. VP for Activities

LaVallee introduced himself and explained his job. He also talked about AS Productions, which he worked in last year. He talked about the coordinators that brought different people and events to campus. He gave examples of events that the AS Productions put on last year. He said that since the ASP had broader productions, they had more money to put on events. LaVallee said that the ASP coordinators are always looking for different events to do, with huge budgets that they needed to use up. He talked about the opportunity to put on a huge event with a huge budget by collaborating with the ASP. He pointed out that Ganesh worked in the ASP and could also help. Cervantes reiterated that ESC clubs could put on a concert or a movie.

V. Other Business

A. BSC specific committee spots

Cervantes said that there were specific committees that had spots saved for only ESC members. She thought that it was important for an ESC member to be on the Legislative Action Committee, so that the needs of students of color would be heard during Lobby Days.

B. BSC Dining Advisory Committee

Cervantes explained that the dining halls and residence halls get together on this committee. She said that the committee spot would be voted on by Presidents' Council, and reviewed by her. Matey asked what the committee would entail, and Cervantes explained that it would make decisions about the dining halls on campus. She said that not many ESC members sit on this committee.

C. AS Structural Review

Cervantes explained that the ESC is under the AS, which is going through review and having a restructure. There is a spot saved for an ESC member on the AS Structural Review. She thought that it was possible to apply on OrgSync. Cervantes said that there was not a lot of check and balance within the student government and they wanted to change it. She said that VP Hammer was overseeing the restructure. The restructure is necessary, Cervantes said, because the AS Board has a lot of power over student dollars.

D. Voting Method

Cervantes said that in the past, voting began with one council member proposing a motion, and another member seconding it. She said that she was planning a presentation to better explain parliamentary procedures. Cervantes said that there could also be secret voting, where people wrote their name and what they were voting on and pass it to her.

Knutzen from ACC said that she wanted to do secret voting like they did on Steering Committee. Cervantes asked if the council agreed, and they did.

B. Constitutions

Cervantes said that many of the constitutions on the AS website are inaccurate, and that they should all be updated for the ESC clubs. She recommended that the constitutions be read through during club board meetings, and then brought back to the club to be checked.

VI. Club Updates

Cervantes turned to Bahta to explain Building Unity. Bahta said that both this event, on Saturday, and the Club Kickoff, on Friday, needed to be attended by a club member or the club might not be considered a club this year.

Bahta said that there was an ESC Conference October 14-16. He explained that it was free to attend for students living on campus, and \$40 for those living on-campus. Matey offered that there were scholarships that SOS students could apply for. Cervantes put in that if people had trouble paying,

they could also come talk to her. She encouraged clubs to get their freshmen to go, since it was most likely free for them. Williams asked why the conference was \$40 for students living off-campus, and Bahta explained that those living on campus were being paid for by Res Life. He added that the fee was \$145 for non-Western students.

Bolar asked if the facilitators had been chosen for that. Bahta said that that was being closed this week, and that the ESC was going to send out an email on Thursday. Ganesh asked if someone from every club should be a facilitator. Bahta said that the applications were closed but they could email him.

Williams asked if a proxy from the club could be sent to the Building Unity. Bahta said not this year, but he could be contacted if someone couldn't make it.

Cervantes said that at the conference, there would be workshops, especially training explaining how to fill out WRs. Before the council said their own club updates, Cervantes reiterated that clubs could put on non-conventional club events. She acknowledged that many clubs put on Heritage Dinners, but attendance to them waned as the year progressed since there are so many of them throughout the year. She offered her help, as well as Alatorre-Barajas, Bahta, and Mateys', to brainstorm ideas for events this year.

Alatorre-Barajas said that he was the ESC Cultural Education Coordinator and said that he was doing a series of workshops, the first one being on mental illness. He said that it was going on in the Underground Coffeeshouse this Tuesday. He was hoping to do another workshop on how you see yourself when you look in the mirror, probably in November. He said that he was also a resource for programming.

Cervantes asked for questions, then proceeded to club updates.

BSU: Their first meeting is September 27, in VU 462. Williams hoped that they would get into more politics next week.

Blue Group: Their first meeting is September 28, and they had a lot of sign-ups. They were planning on doing a quiet demonstration in mid-October.

SASA: Their first meeting is Tuesday, October 4th, and there will be free chai. Ganesh said that she was new to being an officer, and was the only officer in her club. She asked for help since she was new, and since she missed the Steering Committee.

MISO: Their first meeting was September 26, and there was a low turn-out, probably because of the presidential debate going on. All of the board members except for one are new.

ACC: Their first meeting is September 28. They are going to have free pizza and Jeopardy. They are going to have a chill, laid-back meeting instead of their usual discussions. Miller Hall 131 at 5 p.m.

JSA: First meeting September 27, Miller Hall 235 at 5. They are going to have a sports day on October 1st.

MEChA: First meeting September 29th, 6pm Miller Hall 05. It's going to be lit. And chill.

LSU: Meets September 27 at 6. There are going to be snacks and discussions of future plans.

HOH: First meeting Thursday 6:30, AW 210. There is going to be food, and they are planning on changing their name. Meredith thought that their officers were able to decide that, but heard at Steering Committee that they had to put the name change up to a general vote at the club.

Matey asked if everyone knew what Blue Group was, since people often ask her. Several members of the council said that they knew what it was.

Cervantes reminded everyone that there is a Facebook group, and that the board assistant would send everyone an email with the agenda and minutes from the previous meetings. She told everyone the name of the Facebook group, and said she would send out an email with the link.

Cervantes adjourned the meeting at 4:48 pm.