



**Western Washington University Associated Students  
Ethnic Student Center President's Council Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes for: Tuesday, November 15,  
2016**

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**Non-Voting Members:** Aleyda Cervantes (AS VP for Diversity)

**Voting Members:** Victoria Matey (Blue Group), Ryan Hoveskeland (CSA), Hunter Eider (FASA), Keiichi Takano (JSA), Danny Duok (KhSA), Jack Boyd (KSA), Karina Quiroz (LSU), Cindy Marquina-Negrete (MEChA), Elizabeth Perez (MEChA), McKenzie Bolar (MISO), Meredith Karbowski (OSA), Dedeepya Gudipati (SASA), Duy Nguyen (VSA), Thu Nguyen (VSA), Jenny Chang (WHSA)

**Absent:** Simon Bahta (ESC Director), Alan Alatorre-Barajas (ESC Cultural Education Coordinator), Nathaniel Williams (BSU), NASU Representative

**Guests:** Camilla Mejia (Social Issues Resource Center)

**Secretary:** Julia Rutledge (Board Assistant for Club Committees)

**MOTIONS**

**PC-16-F-09 - Motion to approve minutes from November 8 meeting - PASSED**

**Aleyda Cervantes, VP for Diversity, called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm on November 15, 2016.**

**I. Approval of Minutes**

**PC-16-F-09 by Duok. Moved to approve minutes from  
November 8 meeting.**

**Second: Matey**

**Vote: 12-0-0**

**PASSED**

**II. Revisions to the Agenda**

Erick Yanzon was added to "guests", in potentia.

**III. ESC Lobby Day**

Cervantes wanted to touch base with people about Lobby Day. Last week the council talked about a few concerns they had with the packet. Cervantes wanted to know if anyone else had any revisions or additions they wanted to make. Three years ago, after some comments by President Shepard, there was backlash from white supremacists on campus. A Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Taskforce was created, but it's going to be permanent now. Within the package, there was funding around this permanent Equity Alliance. The funding is around \$66,000, which Cervantes said seemed high. Another issue was a full-time staff member for queer students on campus, but not working too heavily with the Queer Resource Center. Cervantes said that a lot of the explanations in the package are inadequate. Cervantes emailed Eileen Coughlin and Steve Swan about her questions. There would also be a tribal liaison position which would be part-time, but should be full-time. Cervantes asked if people had any questions. Rutledge asked why the QRC was being involved in this if it's not being put into the new Multi-Cultural Center. Cervantes said she wasn't sure, it didn't make sense. She talked to the ROP director, who didn't want to ask any ROP people to lobby if the ROP wasn't going to be involved in the Multicultural Center. Cervantes said she wanted the agenda to be figured out before anything else got done. Bolar asked what the queer full-time position would be doing, and what working more with the administration would mean. Cervantes said there wasn't much of a description in the package. These positions would be in direct contact with the President, but Cervantes wasn't sure if the students actually needed that. She said it might just be a move to show that the university had a queer staff liaison. Rutledge said that it didn't make any sense for there to be a queer staff member who didn't work with the QRC. Cervantes said that they would

work with the QRC, but not as much as Simon Bahta in the ESC, for example. Cervantes said there was a Social Justice Faculty Senate Committee, but she hadn't been to any of the meetings and didn't know what they were doing. There were a few positions in the package that had high salaries, but it wasn't specified what they did. Cervantes was hoping that she would have better answers at the next meeting, and things would be on hold until then.

#### **IV. Guests**

##### **A. Social Issues Resource Center**

Representative: Camilla Mejia, the SIRC Coordinator. She came to ask to do a collaboration with Presidents Council and the ESC in general. They're planning on doing a thing in Winter quarter called Cultures of Resistance. It got put on last year by Cervantes's position. The event involves bringing in artists. To kick off the series, the SIRC is bringing in a Dominican spoken-word poet. Mejia said that the price to bring her in would be \$3,250. She wanted to know if any clubs wanted to collaborate. The poet is coming on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Mejia wanted to set up a meeting with folks to get the funding and get people to help out. Mejia said that one of the goals of the SIRC this year was to represent identities within minorities that weren't often represented. She asked people to contact the SIRC if they wanted to bring in anyone from the community who fit in this category. Bolar asked who the speaker was. Mejia said her name was Elizabeth Acevedo. Matey said she would let Mejia know by the end of the week if Blue Group wanted to be a part of the event. Mejia said that they were planning on having an Immigration Stories night, but in light of recent events they were re-visiting if that was a good idea.

## B. Erick Yanzon

Yanzon couldn't make it, but Cervantes said for him that he was going to make closed students of color spaces to discuss curriculum and the college of Ethnic Studies, which began in the seventies but was removed in the eighties. The plan was to start talking about bringing it back, or at least getting in the works for bringing it back. Michael Vendiola used to be coordinator for the ESC, and he's doing his PhD on why the college of Ethnic Studies was removed. Yanzon wanted people to apply for the Academic Support Committee, because they're going to make policy changes within different colleges. There will be an ESC spot open, appointed by Presidents Council. One of the big things the committee will be talking about is more diversity GURs. Yanzon wanted ESC members to apply for the Strategic Plan Committee. He would e-mail the council with more information.

## **V. Blue Group Petition**

Matey said that Blue Group got together over the weekend to work on a petition and a letter to send to schools in the community and Western faculty and staff. The petition was asking for Western to come out as a safe school for undocumented students. They want a center and a staff member for undocumented students, lawyers, and for Western to do something if anything were to happen. Marquina-Negrete said that faculty and staff on campus made a list of demands including some things that Blue Group didn't think of. Matey asked people to look at the petitions, share them, and sign them. She hadn't heard from the school, but many staff members had gotten back to her. She said that Blue Group is planning on having a quiet demonstration on Thursday. Matey said that the

president was having a listening session on Thursday in Miller Hall, and people could ask him any questions. Matey said that the petition had 200 signatures already, and she wanted that number to keep growing.

## **VI. Other Business**

### A. ESC Executive Committee Nominations/Interviews

Only one person had asked to be on this so far, so Cervantes encouraged other people to apply. Marquina-Negrete asked when the appointment would be made, and Cervantes said that she wanted it to be done before the quarter ended.

### B. ESC Dining Advisory Committee

### C. AS Structural Review

### D. Legislative Affairs

### E. Sustainability Action Fund

All of the above committees still have an open seat. There is a new committee, for the Student Enhancement Fund. The fund will be for students to go to conferences. Before, students had to go through Steering or the AS Board. Steering is going to put someone on the committee. Cervantes wasn't sure of the time commitment yet.

### F. ESC Night Market

May 20<sup>th</sup> is the date that's been decided on. Cervantes said that if people want to start brainstorming what they're going to bring, she would ask Event Services about what the budget would be. That would be one of the few costs. Perez asked if people could sell things and Cervantes said yes, this would be a big fundraiser. Cervantes said that there was a conversation about Culture Shock vs. Night Market, but she felt that they were two different events and one shouldn't cancel out the other. Boyd asked if clubs would have to pay for everything

themselves, and Cervantes said she wasn't sure yet. There's money left from Steering last year, which could apply to funds. Cervantes said that one of the things her friend could do is ask for funds for clubs. Perez asked if a club wanted to just bring their food on their own, paid out-of-pocket, would that be all right? Cervantes answered that was fine, and if there was money it would have to go back into the clubs' accounts. She was aware that some people didn't have money in their accounts.

### **VII. BSC Updates**

The only thing was a Mental Illness event in the Underground Coffee house from 7 to 9.

Cervantes said that in light of recent election events, if any student needed their professors to give them a break, she could e-mail the professors for them.

Cervantes and Bolar went to the Oregon Students of Color Conference, and it went really well. The keynote speaker was amazing. She talked about a few of the panels and workshops she went to.

### **VIII. Club Updates**

KHSA is having a culture night on Friday at 6 in AW 304, their last meeting before the break.

**Aleyda Cervantes, VP for Diversity, adjourned the meeting at 4:55 pm on November 15, 2016.**