

**Western Washington University Associated Students**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Thursday, May 11, 2017

OM340

**AS Board Officers: Present:** Stephanie Cheng (President), Alex LaVallee (VP Activities), Erick Yanzon (VP Academic Affairs), Mary Moeller (VP for Business and Operations), Bryce Hammer (VP Governmental Affairs), and Wayne Rocque (VP for Student Life).

**Guest(s):** Henry Poellet (AS REP Director), Students for Renewable Resources Representative

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

**MOTIONS**

**ASB-17-S-34** Approval of the Students for Renewable Energy Resolution. *Passed.*

**ASB-17-S-35** Approval of the AS Board Inauguration Event. *Passed.*

**ASB-17-S-36** Approval of the Scent Free Zone signs with language change. *Passed.*

**ASB-17-S-37** Approval of the University Housing Representation and Advocacy Committee Rules of Operation. *Passed.*

*Stephanie Cheng, AS President, called the meeting to order at 12:05p.m.*

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

They moved the S&A fee committee update to the forefront of information items.

**III. PUBLIC FORUM (comments from students and the community)**

**IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests\***

**A. AS Budget Presentation**

Henry Poellet, AS Representation and Engagement Programs Director, came to the presentation to advocate for why the New York Times (NYT) should be continually funded on WWU's campus. Hammer said that the NYT is increasing the cost so they are requesting that the times be picked up. Moeller asked how they measure where students and faculty pick up copies. Hammer said that it was common sense based on which areas the students go to. Alexander said there should be a way to track where the papers were going. Hammer said that the \$2,100 funding would be for the \$700 per quarter on top of the enrollment fee, which is \$200. Hammer said that because this is a student-centered program we are not paying the NYT the usual cost, so it would be too expensive for the Provosts office to fund on their own. Poellet and Hammer said that they are confident that students are picking up the papers. Moeller said that it was irresponsible to cut the NYT from the budget because they have already decided. Hammer asked how they proceed moving forward. Alexander said that right now the NYT will not be approved, but they could motion to approve the budget with

the added funding for the NYT and then the budget will be operating in a deficit. LaVallee said that they should try to fund it for a year for students. Cervantes suggested that we commit to a working group for the board. Hammer said that this issue is close to her heart and close to the heart of the REP. Wilson said that there would be other ways to fund the New York Times.

Minimally this budget needs to have two info and one action. Yanzon suggested that there would be budget work sessions for the approval of the budget. Hammer said that the AS budget review committee should always let the board know when they have decided to cut a program.

## **B. S & A Fee Committee Update**

Moeller showed a description of the S & A fee increases. They said that it used to be funded through the state but it is no longer, so that requires more funding from the institution. This is important because what other constituent groups ask for is what the AS tends to ask for. The overall increase is greater than the mandatory increase because of different budget requests. Campus recreation did not ask for a fee increase. It was clarified that this budget was separate from the Ree employees, but rather for the recreational programs. They then looked at the DRAC budget. Hammer thought that the DRAC western window budget was paid for by a different department. They then looked at the AS budget request. Then they reviewed the S&A Fee Academic Year budget Request. Then they looked at the S&A fee budget proposal options; each option depends on what will happen depending on what happens with the S&A fee. They found that there would be an increase of 3% upon decoupling of the S&A fee. Alexander said that this was just the recommendation that goes to the board of trustees. It was said that if the fee can not increase, then the AS will hold a deficit budget. Moeller said that they could not alter the summer S&A fee because it was set last year. TaValle asked how we would cover the deficit funding. There were positions that went unfilled this year that will possibly make up for the summer deficit. TaVallee asked if the 280,000 reserve was comparable with other reserves. Alexander said that if the decoupling doesn't happen, the AS would have to commit to covering next year by taking money out of the reserves. If the fee does not get decoupled then it would be two years of the fee not being decoupled. Moeller said that it looks likely that the S&A fee will be decoupled but that they need to be on the air of caution. Cervantes said that not a lot of people attend the events that cost ten thousand dollars, so she is wondering if they want to continue spending that money on events. Carry forward funds are the unspent, unallocated funds available for use that can be spent in the operating budget in the future. Cervantes said that she does not want the leftover money to be moved anywhere besides the ROP in the future because those offices have low budgets compared to other budgets within the AS. Raquel said that in the past they have not been able to ask for a carry forward of salary savings. There has been new money added to the ROP and then specific cuts to the budget. The money is not going to fund any other program, but rather to a fund balance to assist with programs. Cervantes said she feels like there is a lot of money sitting that cannot be used for anything. That is a concern of hers because there are complaints about having no money but then there are pockets of money just sitting there not being used. Cervantes said that they should be making more use of the money for better use. Alexander said that the difference is between one time money and ongoing money. The money in the reserves has been collecting from years of reserves, and there is access to that money for one time, but they can't tap into it for things that are funded annually. Cervantes said that she has experience with the ROP not being fully funded. In the past, they had to do their jobs without enough support, so they need to have more support so that the money can be more beneficially distributed in order to support the offices best. Cervantes said that the way you prioritize things in an organization is by the budget, and she doesn't like that the ROP budgets is so much less than ASP because they don't have as much money to be able to do things to support. Wilson said that when there was a need last year to fund a position the budget was not large enough. Cervantes said that in the past few years budget has not been prioritized in thought processes because they are focusing on things like students who are experiencing racism within their classrooms. The AS is moving to giving budget at a staff level, not expecting students to create the

budgets but giving the students the opportunity to give input. Budget committee did recommend increasing the ROP budgets.

### **C. KVIK Discussion**

LaVallee wanted to give an update on KVIK. On March 30<sup>th</sup> they accepted the communication office recommendation that included the dissolution of KVIK. Recently the Western Front produced an article addressing the dissolution of KVIK, which has resulted in a lot of negative feedback from KVIK alumni on Facebook. The communications office will take on the responsibility and the maintenance of KVIK supplies and resources. Mohammed said that there are a few possibilities. Rocque asked if it was KVIK who made the recommendation or if it was the Communications office and what KVIK's opinion on the discontinuation was. Mohammed said that the KVIK reps were okay with the recommendation. The communications office will be taking on the responsibility of video advertising. The job descriptions will be worked on in the future by the next year's positions. Rocque asked how the club would fit into this. Cervantes said that KVIK always served as a creative outlet. Rocque said that his biggest concern is that the recommendations are conducive to what the board originally approved so that they are clear as to how KVIK will be in the future. TaVallee said that the communications office structure will have a director and an assistant director, so they would be figuring out how those positions fit into the structure with the new design. TaVallee said that he appreciated Rocque bring up the value of sticking to the recommendation and what that would be. Moeller said that she thought the recommendations were perfectly fine. Rocque said that he does not necessarily stand by what the Communications office has presented on their Facebook. He said that it caused confusions and wondered how they could be providing information to people. Moeller said that it is important to remember that the Western Front is what sparked the issue. Hammer said that this has been an ongoing problem for a while. Cheng said that there is no liaison between the AS and media. Rocque said that this is already being done in the US but that they need to find out how to address it moving forward. Mohammed suggested that they do a Q&A video or that they stay quiet for a while so that they can figure out what is happening with the students. Cervantes said that she does not think social media is the answer because it is just going to cause the issue to continue to worsen.

### **D. Shared Governance Resolution**

Yanzon said that he has met with Octavia Schultz and Fisa Rosenberg about what the AS can do in the future. They all looked over the resolution. Moeller said she wasn't sure if it was appropriate to create a physical space for space for information. Yanzon clarified that he was referring to the kiosks on campus so that information would always be up for students. Cervantes said that just because they have advertisement does not mean people are going to get involved, but that they need to be doing programs that interest students and encourage them to get involved. Yanzon said that students do not know how to approach faculty other than going to the board of directors, so he wants there to be a way for students to go straight to admin and faculty to address their issues. Hammer suggested an interactive org chart. Cervantes said that the issue that the ESC has and students of color is that they have the expectation of going into white spaces and presenting when it should be the other way around. TaVallee said that there should be a WHEREAS improving how information is provided to students on the AS website and the WWU website. He said that having that on the top of all of the pages would take advantage of the resources that we have now. Yanzon asked Alexander what the capacity was for there to be a centralized way for western website and the AS to be linked. Yanzon asked if there would be a way to fund a graduate student or another person to revamp the AS website. Yanzon said that having one person focused on that is unrealistic so there should be a team. TaVallee said in the future there would be a team working on it.

Stephanie Cheng left the meeting at 1:52 PM.

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

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

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

### **A. UHRAC Rules of Operations**

Rocque said that the board had made recommendations last week and that he changed some of the language on the document. He added an extra thing that said member responsibility and accountability amendments would be determined by the University Housing Representation and Advocacy Committee Rules of Operation, so that he is not controlling the culture of the club. He then discussed would the chair on the board could be. He said that it could be anyone so that there is not any pressure put on certain clubs to fulfill the responsibilities.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-34** by Rocque

Approval of the University Housing Representation and Advocacy Committee Rules of Operation.  
Second: Yanzon Vote: 7-0-0. Action: **Passed.**

### **B. AS Board Inauguration Event Proposal**

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-35** by Cervantes

Approval of the AS Board Inauguration Event.  
Second: Rocque Vote: 5-0-0. Action: **Passed.**

### **C. Student for Renewable Energy (SRE) Resolution**

An SRE representative came to speak on the updated resolution to the Board of Directors. She said that they changed the whereas programming to acknowledge the western foundations difficult job and to support them in that. She said if there were any other questions then she would be happy to answer them. Rocque asked her to speak on the change in this recommendation from past recommendations to the board. The rep said that in the past SRE's relationship with the board was very strained but that this year they are looking at it differently, discussing the work that the board does and what the best method of approach would be to get the message through. Two faculty members recently came to an SRE meeting in order to discuss divestment. SRE members are going to be presenting to the board on May 19<sup>th</sup> 2017 in order to establish the new relationship that they are trying to build. Cervantes asked if she thinks there will be a big impact by the AS Board supporting the resolution. The representative said that it would help to humanize the issue and continue to make sure that the Board of Trustees recognizes the significance of the resolution. Rocque said that this resolution is more about sustainable investment and less directly about divestment.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-36** by Rocque

Approval of the Students for Renewable Energy Resolution  
Second: Yanzon Vote: 7-0-0. Action: **Passed.**

Stephanie Cheng left the meeting.

## VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board\*

### A. ESC Executive Committee

Cervantes brought this item to inform the Board that she will be removing someone from the committee because of their lack of attendance.

## IX. CONSENT ITEMS (subject to immediate action)

### A. Scent Free Zone Signs

Moeller changed the language so that it would not be specific to the AS or other offices so that others can use it.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-37** by Rocque.

Approval of the Scent Free Zone signs with language change.

Second: Yanzon. Vote: 7-0-0. Action: **Passed.**

## X. BOARD REPORTS

**Stephanie Cheng, AS President** did not give a report.

**Mary Moeller, AS VP for Business and Operations** did not give a report.

**Bryce Hammer, VP for Governmental Affairs** said that WS A is this weekend and that they will be presenting their proposals for next year's legislative goals for WSA's legislative agenda.

**Erick Yanzon, VP for Academic Shared Governance** did not give a report.

**Aleyda Cervantes, VP for Diversity** said that they are using all of the money from Steering to get food. She said that the Angela Davis event went really well. Aleyda said that she wanted to hear about people's experiences with the ESC and any feedback that they have. She said that a lot of things have been going through the cracks, for example there were 5 ESC events this past weekend which means that not everyone was able to go to all of them.

**Alex LaVallee, VP for Activities** did not give a report.

**Wayne Rocque, VP for Student Life** reported that the sexual assault investigator is on campus today.

## XI. OTHER BUSINESS

**Maty Moeller, ASVP for Business and Operations, adjourned the meeting at 2:11 p.m.**