

**Western Washington University Associated Students**  
**AS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Thursday, November 30th, 2017

Old Main340

**AS Board Officers:** *Present:* Simrun Chhabra (AS President), Hunter Eider (ASVP for Academics), Julia Rutledge (ASVP for Activities), Alex LaVallee (ASVP for Business and Operations), Erick Yanzon (ASVP Diversity), Annie Gordon (ASVP Student Life) and Ana Ramirez (ASVP Governmental Affairs)

**Advisor(s):** Eric Alexander (Advisor)

**Guest(s):**

**MOTIONS**

**ASB-17-F-34**                      Approval of all consent items. *Passed.*

*Simrun Chhabra, AS President, called the meeting to order at 8:11 AM.*

**I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

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

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

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

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

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

**VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board\***

**A. ASWWU Legislative Agenda**

Ana Ramirez explained the Civic Participation proposal included civic engagement and civics classes in high school to receive more funding and to be taught better. The hope being that better education on voting earlier on will lead to more engagement. Ramirez asked for feedback. Sabrina Houck asked what had changed from the previous year. Ramirez said most agenda items were the same as the previous year. Gordon said the previous year as a student participating in Lobby Day, she felt she had a hard time in the meetings with legislators transitioning from higher education agenda items to K-12 agenda items. Ramirez asked if it would be better if the K-12 items were first and then moved on to higher education items. Gordon said that could help and also would be important to mention the transition during training. Chhabra asked why it was not passed the previous year. Ramirez said the prior year the legislators were focused on K-12 so she was unsure why the agenda item did not pass.

Ramirez said the Revenue agenda item had a focus on taxing cannabis, taxing lottery winnings, closing the extract fuel exemption, increase the estate tax, first time mortgage lenders tax loophole, limit real estate excise tax (REET) exemptions, capital gains tax and carbon tax. She said the final language was based on these proposals. Chhabra said the previous year during their Lobby Day meeting her group had focused on the estate tax and the legislator was really not for it. Maybe during Lobby Day they could talk about which revenue item to focus on with which legislator. Rutledge stated to maybe flag which revenue items were more favored or disliked.

Ramirez stated the Sex Education was another K-12 item. This item was requesting that Sex Education be required because at the time it was not and that decision was made by the school board. Rutledge mentioned there should be a justification on why Western had this on the agenda, potentially explaining how sexually active students are in college. Chhabra felt it might be helpful to explain why Western, a higher education, was bringing this topic forward. Gordon said Guttmacher was a research website that could provide data on the healthy benefits on comprehensive sex education. Rutledge pointed out that it might be helpful to include teaching students about consent as a bullet point so it could easily tie in with the Survivors of Sexual Assault agenda item. Chhabra said it might be helpful to research Sweden because they have the lowest rate of sexual assault, which might be linked to their sex education's focus on pleasure.

Ramirez said the Student Unionization agenda item passed during the Washington Student Association (WSA) general assembly. Rutledge asked if other schools were planning to lobby on this. Ramirez stated yes because it had passed WSA it would be on the collective agenda. Casey Hayden pointed out the line "Students are capped at working 19 hours a week, but that very rarely happens" and said it was a big statement that needed data to back it up. Gordon stated the previous year a lot of RAs kept a log of hours worked and would be able to provide that data to the Board. Hayden mentioned the difference between hourly and salaried student employees and how those hours are tracked. Gordon wondered if it could be reworded as students have come forward to express their worry of being able to complete their work in only 19 hours a week.

Ramirez stated the Support for Survivors of Sexual Assault was the same as last year except for one line about supporting the WSA's recommendation in regards to exempting higher education institutions from the Administrative Procedures Act and forming an educational model for conduct proceeding in cases of sexual assault. Gordon said they wanted to advocate for supporting sexual assault survivors, but wanted to be careful not to make statements that were not in support of rehabilitation. She mentioned how the previous year the Board wrote open letter regarding sexual assault and she received a lot of warning about how it sounded like the university did not support rehabilitation efforts. She had not seen that kind of language in the proposal, but wanted everyone to be cautious about how it could be perceived in the future. Ramirez said the WSA focus was on how survivors have to go through a potentially painful process. Hayden mentioned that the conversation about the reversal of the Obama-era Title IX policy and how the burden of proof might be shifted to higher standard of "clear and convincing evidence." Ramirez said Washington was one of two states that had this process under their Administrative Procedures Act, so they were not as heavily effected as others.

Ramirez explained the new Support for Undocumented Students agenda item. She said this was proposed to WSA general assembly and passed. The item includes creating a DREAMer Loan Program so undocumented students can get loans. They were basing the program off of Senate Bill 1210 that was passed in California in 2014. This agenda item

also includes supporting House Bill 1488, which failed to pass the legislature the previous session, but would be reintroduced the coming session. House Bill 1488 helps undocumented students receive financial aid. The Governor’s office was planning to lower the requirements to receive residency to obtain financial aid. At the time it was three years but the hope was to decrease it to one year. WSA plans to push for this to pass. Another point the agenda item discussed was the protocol for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on campus because there was none. They wanted to provide legal support for undocumented students on campus, especially when ICE was on campus. The item mentioned the detention center in Tacoma and to revoke their business license. Chhabra asked if this was policy or budget. Ramirez clarified it was a policy change and the funds could be found at different time. Rutledge asked if the section on legal support was tied to any Bills. Ramirez said it was not. She said House Bill 1488, provided in-state financial aid opportunities for both undocumented individuals with or without Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). She stated this was important because DACA was ending and every day 122 undocumented students lose their DACA status, this number was expected to increase to \$1,200 per day by March 2018.

Ramirez clarified that the final language document was not finalized yet and the document shown was a rough draft. She stated the document would be the language that would be printed on the paper agendas for the legislators. Rutledge felt the Student Unionization summary should be elaborated. Gordon wondered if there was an appropriate place to include research because a lot of the items were similar to what they have already brought forward, they could mention how many times the agenda item had been brought to the legislators. This could be something that was brought up during the meetings with the legislators or a small note on the agenda. Chhabra said in previous years the student lobbyist received the printed agenda as well as one pager, which she thought was really helpful. She wondered if the one pagers could include more context for the students to understand. Some legislators also asked for copies to get more information and she thought it might be helpful to print extras. LaVallee suggested the committee utilize the AS videographers to make summaries of the agenda items in a creative way. Houck stated she like the comment about adding how many years an item has been brought back. She recognized the weight that it might add on the agenda items. She cautioned that the legislators might interpret the items that had been brought back as the most important when that might not be the case. Chhabra asked if there could be one pagers on each of the taxes from the revenue agenda item, she recognized that doing so might be too much work. LaVallee mentioned it might be helpful to provide each group with a one-pager on their legislator so the group knows what to focus on.

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

A. Committee Appointments

**AS Student Disability Advocacy Committee**

Kaylee Martig	Junior	Therapeutic Play and Child Life (previously approved to Disability Advisory committee)
Elmer Campot	Senior	Communication Studies (previously approved to disability advisory committee)

**AS Student Trustee Selection Committee**

LeRoux Matau	Junior	PoliticalScience
Lauren Schriver	Junior	Business Administration (finance concentration)

**AS University Housing Representation and Advocacy Committee**

Anne Lee	Junior	Human Services
Gracida Gomez	Freshman	Pre-Law
Yeshaia van Leeuwen	Sophomore	Interdisciplinary Studies
Maeve Eickelberg	Sophomore	undeclared

**Campus Public Safety Advisory Council**

Peter Condyles	Sophomore	History
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**Food Systems Working Group**

Matia Jones	Graduate Student	Anthropology
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**Graduate Council**

Katrina Radach	Graduate student	Environmental Studies
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**Residential Advisory Committee**

Athena Adams	Freshman	Psychology
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**Student Rights and Responsibilities Review Committee**

Michael Prostka	Sophomore	Political Science/Business Administration
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**AS Legislative Affairs Council**

Natasha Hessami	senior	Biochemistry
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**Academic Affairs Council**

Ria Montenegro	senior	Mathematics/Economics
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**MOTION: ASB-17-F-34** by LaVallee

Approval of all consent items.

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

**X. BOARD REPORTS**

**Simrun Chhabra, AS President** reported that she set up a meeting with admissions to talk about the facebook “You’re In!” pages to see what it would look like. Students have created other pages but it doesn’t have the connection like the WWU You’re In pages. LaVallee said that they already have all students in Orgsync.

**Hunter Eider, AS VP for Academic Affairs** reported that Faculty Senate talked about how to move forward on shared governance and what they expect from Brent Carbenhaul and President Randhawa. They are looking for ways to increase communication pathways. They talked about staff and students briefly but he would like students to be talked about more when discussing shared governance. There is a committee that is around the details on the Global Pathways program and he would like to have a student on that committee so they are connected. He went to the Student Technology Fee Renewal Committee. They are having another meeting soon. They are looking to increase Student Technology Fee because of minimum wage increases. Alexander and him have been meeting with college deans to figure out student senate and they may need to wait another year to organize it in order to get all the details fleshed out. Academic Coordinating Commission is talking about General University Requirement competencies which have been talked about for several years. There is 11 competencies written a long time ago which were the outcomes after taking the GUR’s.

**Julia Rutledge, AS VP for Activities** reported that the VU Art Gallery met and talked about how they can get updated art within the building. Hayden and her went to the emergency WAC meeting and made some decisions. She talked to Gordon about the food pantry on campus and she suggested having a nonperishable food donations and entry's into events.

**Erick Yanzon, AS VP for Diversity** did not give a report.

**Annie Gordon, AS VP for Student Life** reported that issues concerning issues on the Ridge is still happening and students are still wanting to see some movement on that. She has been working with Sue Sullivan on how to contact students and identified some specific things with RA's on what they want to see come out of this. Residence hall specific emergency alert so that they are aware if something is happening in their specific residence hall. Dessert with the director, in the SHADO community, the students were update with the interaction with UPD because it didn't seem like it was a good environment and she is thinking about how they as a Board can communicate that with them and bring that up. She has been working with Sue Sullivan and they want to make sure the changes are exactly what everyone wants to have done before they make any changes. They want to send out a survey, a specific safety assessment. The RA's also want to do that in order to have quantifiable data on how students are feeling. The blue call boxes around campus hadn't been used that often and it is expensive to upkeep and Sue is looking for feedback on if they should keep them or not. Rutledge said that cell phone data doesn't give the best data for location, and the benefit of the blue call boxes is that they tell UPD where their specific location is. As for smoking on campus, she has been advices and feels pretty good about this, that there are three main groups to address, students, faculty, administration. She would like to meet with all those areas and figure out how to move forward. Although it passed with the students, it only had 7% voter turnout and it wasn't passed very highly. If they passed something without a lot of base building and education around it, it would have a lot of push back and hard to incorporate it. The suicide awareness committee is going through a strategic planning through the Trevor Project. The Trevor Project did a comprehensive assessment at WWU around resources and how they are supporting suicide issues and they gave a list of recommendations. She became a Certified Suicide Awareness Trainer. There are 20 of them who got trained and they are going to increase the received trainings across campus. If they have anyone who should be trained, let her know.

**Ana Ramirez, AS VP for Governmental Affairs,** reported that at the Washington Student Association meeting the student trustee student empowerment and student trustee election rights did not pass. Student unionization and support for undocumented students passed. They are going to start moving forward on global lobby day and there may be a Disability Outreach Center lobby day in February.

**Alex LaVallee, AS VP for Business and Operations,** reported that Eider and him are on the Student Technology Fee Renewal Committee and they are trying to figure out what the next fee should be set at. They may ask the Board to talk to students on what they would want it to be and how to utilize their fee better. They were talking about increasing the print quota as being an option. Management Council is meeting today and they are going to be discussing AS restructure and setting up some subcommittees to work on it. He will be bringing the Facilities and Services Committee Charge and Charter next week.

## ***XL OTHER BUSINESS***

## **XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

***Simrun Chhabra, AS President, adjourned at 9:48 a.m.***