



**Western Washington University Associated Students
Legislative Action Council**

Monday, November 27th, 2017 8:00 AM VU 460

Members: *Present: Ana Ramirez (VP of Governmental Affairs), Rosa Rice-Pelepko (AS Legislative Liaison), Anna Kemper (AS Local Issues Coordinator), Giovanna Orecchio (Student at Large), Nicholas Horvath (Graduate Student), Victoria Matey (ESC Rep), Zoe Evans-Agnew (Student at Large), Casey Hayden (Coordinator of Student Activities) and Natasha Hessami (Student at Large).*
Absent:

Advisor: Casey Hayden

Secretary: Chloe Callahan

Motions:

- LAC-17-F-2** Approval of the minutes for November 14, 2017. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-3** Approval for Giovanna Orecchio to be promoted to Vice-Chair of Legislative Affairs Council. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-4** Approval of the Voting Accessibility Agenda Item. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-5** Approval of the Tuition Affordability Agenda Item. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-6** Approval of the Sex Education Agenda Item. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-7** Approval of the Support for Undocumented Students Agenda Item. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-8** Approval of the Civic Participation Agenda Item. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-9** Approval of the Revenue Agenda Item. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-10** Approval of the Support for Survivors of Sexual Assault Agenda Item. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-11** Approval to remove the Student Success Agenda Item from the Legislative Agenda. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-12** Approval to remove the Student Trustee Agenda Item from the Legislative Agenda. *Passed.*
- LAC-17-F-13** Approval of the Student Unionization Agenda Item. *Passed.*

Ana Ramirez called the meeting to order at 8:20 AM.

I. Introductions

A. Highlight thanksgiving

II. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: LAC-17-F-2 by Horvath

Approval of the minutes for November 14, 2017.

Second: Kemper Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

III. Nominations for Vice-Chair

Ramirez nominated Orecchio for Vice-Chair of Legislative Affairs Council.

MOTION: LAC-17-F-3 by Horvath

Approval for Giovanna Orecchio to be promoted to Vice-Chair of Legislative Affairs Council.

Second: Kemper Vote: 7-0-1 Action: Passed

IV. Revisions to the Agenda

Ramirez moved items A-J from Information Items to Action Items. The motion passed with acclimation.

V. Action Items

A. VOTE Agenda Item

MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Evans-Agnew

Approval of the Voting Accessibility Agenda Item.

Second: Rice-Pelepko Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

B. Tuition Affordability Agenda Item

MOTION: LAC-17-F-5 by Orecchio

Approval of the Tuition Affordability Agenda Item.

Second: Evans-Agnew Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

C. Sexual Education Agenda Item

MOTION: LAC-17-F-6 by Horvath

Approval of the Sex Education Agenda Item.

Second: Kemper Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

D. Support for Undocumented Students Agenda Item

Ramirez informed the committee that the item had been changed since the previous meeting. She added support for undocumented student's right to work on campus and WSU as an example of providing legal support for undocumented students. Matey said she added a part about sensitive locations and how there was no protocol or legal team at the university when they break the sensitive locations rule. Orecchio said that when she was reading into sensitive locations she found that sensitive locations did not exist within 100 miles of the border, and Western is within 100 miles of the border. She wondered if Western would count as a sensitive location. Matey said she had brought that up with the university President and community development. Ramirez said the committee should keep the sensitive location portion on the agenda because it will affect other universities within the state. Ramirez said she added a part about 1488.

MOTION: LAC-17-F-7 by Matey

Approval of the Support for Undocumented Agenda Item.

Second: Kemper Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

E. Civics Education Agenda Item

Evans-Agnew asked for clarification on who was being quoted or cited in the proposal. The committee decided to remove the quotations and have a general citation for that portion of the proposal.

MOTION: LAC-17-F-8 by Horvath

Approval of the Civic Participation Agenda Item.

Second: Orecchio Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

F. Revenue Agenda Item

Orecchio said she updated the revenue figures and made sure the cannabis tax was as accurate as possible.

MOTION: LAC-17-F-9 by Kemper

Approval of the Revenue Agenda Item.

Second: Horvath Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

G. Support for Survivors of Sexual Assault Agenda Item

Ramirez said the agenda item was the same as the previous year, with the addition of endorsements.

MOTION: LAC-17-F-10 by Kemper

Approval of the Support for Survivors of Sexual Assault Agenda Item.

Second: Evans-Agnew Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

H. Student Success Agenda Item

MOTION: LAC-17-F-11 by Horvath

Approval to remove the Student Success Agenda Item from the Legislative Agenda.

Second: Evans-Agnew Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

I. Student Trustee Agenda Item

MOTION: LAC-17-F-12 by Rice-Pelepko

Approval to remove the Student Trustee Agenda Item from the Legislative Agenda.

Second: Horvath Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

J. Student Unionization Agenda Item

MOTION: LAC-17-F-13 by Horvath

Approval of the Student Unionization Agenda Item.

Second: Orecchio Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

VI. Discussion Items

A. Final Language

Hessami asked New York's new bill on free tuition could be mentioned in order to provide legislators with an example. The committee agreed with that idea.

Ramirez asked if she could bring the draft of the final agenda language to the board for review. The committee said yes.

B. Next Steps

Ramirez informed the committee that she would be bringing forward the approved agenda items to the Board of Directors the following Thursday.

Hayden asked who would be doing the final formatting. Ramirez said that she would probably do the formatting, but would inform anyone if an item needed to be cut short.

VII. Reports

A. AS VP for Governmental Affairs

Ramirez said that she would be out of office the following week.

B. AS Legislative Liaison

Rice-Pelepko mentioned when her next WS A board meeting would be and sent an invitation out to all members of the committee.

C. AS Local Liaison

Kemper said the following Thursday there was a planning commission meeting, it would be talking about Accessory Dwelling Units. In Bellingham it was hard to find housing in Bellingham that was affordable and there was a very low vacancy rate in the city, so hard to find housing as a student. At the time 70% of Bellingham is zoned only for single families, so the families could not building additions on their property, apartment above their garage or a cottage in their backyard, to offer affordable housing to students. A lot of people in Bellingham do not want to see this change, so student testimonies will be important at the meeting.

Ana Ramirez adjourned the meeting at 9:00 AM.