

Western Washington University Associated Students
AS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Friday, October 5, 2018

YU567

Members: **Present:** Millka Solomon (President), Levi Eckman (VP for Academic Affairs), Ama Monkah (VP for Activities), Camilla Mejia (VP for Diversity), Natasha Hessami (VP for Governmental Affairs), Anne Lee (VP for Student Life), Genaro Meza-Roa (W for Business & Operations).

Absent:

Advisor: Eric Alexander (Associate Dean of Student Engagement/Director of Viking Union)

Guests: Kellen Lynch (Project ZeNETH), Olivia Dingus (Project ZeNETH), Tyler Andres (Student Enhancement Fund Facilitator), Alec Willis (AS Elections Coordinator).

Motions:

- ASB-18-F-15** Approval of the meeting minutes from September 28th. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-16** Approval of all the revisions to the agenda. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-17** Approval of the AS Alternative Transportation Fee Committee Charge & Charter. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-18** Approval of the ESC Leadership and Advocacy Force Council Charge & Charter. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-19** Approval of the AS Activities Council Charge & Charter. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-20** Approval of the AS Management Council Charge & Charter with the change of the “Resource & Outreach Programs Director” to the “SAIRC Coordinator” as a non-voting member and removal of the KVIK position. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-21** Approval of the AS Structural Review Committee Charge & Charter as is. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-22** Approval of all committee appointments. **Passed.**

Millka Solomon, AS President, called the meeting to order at 4:13pm.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION ASB-18-F-15 By Monkah

To approve the meeting minutes from September 28th.

Second: Eckman Vote: 6-0-1 Action: Passed

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Levi Eckman stated that he would like to move the SEF item to Information Item- Guest. Anne Lee would like to move Action Item A to an Information Item because she received some last minute changes. Genaro Meza-Roa stated that he would like to remove Item G. Hessami stated that she would like to move to Info Items D and E to Other Business.

MOTION ASB-18-F-16 By Meza-Roa

To approve all the revisions to the agenda.

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

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

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests*

A. Project ZeNETH

Natasha Hessami stated that Kellan Lynch is here to discuss the WWU tiny home project called Project ZeNETH. Hessami stated that Lynch is interested in reaching out to broader areas of Western, so that is why he is here at the AS Board Meeting. Lynch stated that they are not asking for anything from the Board but they thought that the AS Board should know about this project because it is a major project for many WWU students and the project involved many different stakeholders. Lynch noted that this has never been done at Western, so they thought it would be great to inform the Board on what they are trying to do through this project. They want to give students a sense of ownership in their education because there is a deeper issue in unrealized education. Lynch stated that there are not a lot of tangible projects that students can be involved with. Another component in Bellingham is that rent is increasing while vacancy is decreasing. There are solutions in high-density housing but tiny houses are another solution to this problem. They want to illustrate to students that there are other options than purchasing houses after graduation or paying astronomical amounts of rent to property owners. The team is looking at how to design a house that fits those needs as well as providing education to students. Lynch explained that they are working to build a 230 square foot house that is grid-tied, energy efficient, and net-zero energy. The house is constructed on a trailer so it is easily transported. The house was designed to match the aesthetics of the house to the Pacific Northwest. Lynch clarified that they designed it this way to make people understand that living in a tiny house is not a compromise but something that people would like to do. Lynch noted that the unfortunately the house in is not accessible for everyone, so they are working towards making it accessible for people with disabilities. They have a whole team focused on the social impact of this house and tiny houses in general. Lynch stated that there are other schools doing tiny house projects. The WWU team was just contacted by the University of New Hampshire who was inspired by the WWU project. At the peak of last year, there were 22 people on the team in all sorts of disciplines. They are trying to get the word out more and more. Lynch stated that they have five colleges involved in the project but hope to involve all seven colleges. They want to broaden their network on the people that want to work on the project. Lynch stated that they received funding of \$57,000 from the Sustainability, Equity, and Justice Fund to build the house. They hope to have it on campus for three years, possibly near the Outback Farm, Artzen Hall, or near the Alumni House. They will begin construction in early 2019 and once the house is on campus, they want it to be a showcase piece for the first 6 months. It will be a tour site, a venue location, and show people how it applies to people's educations. They also hope to have a residency program where people can stay in the house and experience what it is like to live in a tiny home. They were part of the Institute for Energy Studies speaker series last week and they asked the students why they were present and why they were going beyond their class schedules. Many said they were there because they wanted to make WWU better. The team wanted to give

them the resources on how they can take things that they see that need improvements and turn them into a learning opportunity. It is important to ask and remind people that there are resources available such as fellow students, staff, and the SEJ Fund available to them. Eckman stated that the graphics in the presentation are super cool. He asked whether construction of tiny homes would be economically feasible for university students. Olivia Dingus stated that students do not have the tools or money to build apartment buildings and it cannot be done with \$57,000 but they could build a tiny home. Lynch stated that they could produce cheap housing but are very inefficient in terms of energy, so the resident would be paying more in terms of electricity and heating compared to a better constructed home. Lynch clarified that the point they are trying to make is that they can impact someone's education better than they can impact high density housing. Eckman asked why Woodring College of Education, College of Fine and Performing Arts, or the graduate colleges have not contacted the team. Lynch explained that they want to be in contact with all the colleges but it is a matter of capacity for them. So far, they have relied on students from the various colleges to express interest in the project instead of going to them. Lynch stated that they would love more students interested in education involved because education is a huge part of the project. They want students studying fine arts to be involved because he wants this project to have that kind of impact to be challenging, artistic, and beautiful. Camilla Mejia clarified that the main goal is to educate people about low impact housing. Dingus stated that is one of their goals but they also want to educate people on how to take control of their energy consumption and the affordability of it. Lynch stated that each member of the team is participating in the project for slightly different reasons.

B. SEF Budget Rollover

Eckman stated that he has brought this item on behalf of Tyler Andrews, the Student Enhancement Fund Facilitator. Andrews explained that the SEF is a fund that can be awarded to students who want to attend academic conferences, professional development workshops, retreats, competitions, anything that enhances student experiences at WWU and gives back to the community. Andrews added that people involved in the AS could request funding as long as they are solely acting as a student-at-large. Andrews stated that he is requesting that the \$9,242.33 left over from last year's budget be transferred over to the current year's budget. The reasoning for this is so that more students could receive SEF funding to enhance their student experience. In addition, because there is no guarantee that the SEF will continue after this year, they would really like to be able to fund as many students as possible while the position is active. Hessami noted that the funds have not been allocated yet, she wondered if there was any intension to allocate them anywhere in particular. They are now in the reserves. Millka Solomon explained that all of the funds were supposed to be spent last year but were not, so Andrews is asking for the amount left over to be transferred to this year's budget. Mejia asked for clarification on why the SEF Facilitator position may not exist next year. Andrews explained that the SEF was created 2 years ago to provide resources for students-at-large positions. It was initially at \$70,000 grant to be distributed over 2 years, so they allocated \$35,000 for last year and this year Andrews will campaign to renew it again. Lee wondered how Andrews plans to advertise the SEF to the student body. Andrews stated that he was distributing SEF information at the Fall Info Fair and submitted

an expenditure request for extra publicity. Andrews also reserved the Miller Hall Collaborative Space to host an event for previous SEF applicants to share their SEF-related experiences with other students on November 27th. Eric Alexander stated that the SEF has been one of the most successful programs the AS has had.

V. ACTION ITEMS - Guests*

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

VII. ACTION ITEMS - Board *

A. AS Alternative Transportation Fee Committee Charge & Charter

Lee stated that at the last Board Meeting, they talked about the changes she made: updating the date on the document as well as the correct title from “Student Transportation Program Assistant Secretary” to “Student Transportation Program Coordinator”.

MOTIONASB-18-F-17 By Hessami

To approve AS Alternative Transportation Fee Committee Charge & Charter.

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

B. ESC Leadership and Advocacy Force Council Charge & Charter

Mejia stated that there were grammatical changes made as well as the date change to the charge & charter.

MOTIONASB-18-F-18 By Eckman

To approve the ESC Leadership and Advocacy Force Council Charge & Charter.

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

C. AS Activities Council Charge & Charter

Ama Monkah stated that she edited the name of Douglas Van Druff's title to AS Club Events Facilitator 2 and Jenn Cook's position name to Club Activities Coordinator. She also changed the date on the document.

MOTIONASB-18-F-19 By Hessami

To approve AS Activities Council Charge & Charter.

Second: Meza-Roa Vote: 7-0-0 Action: Passed

D. AS Management Council Charge & Charter

Eckman stated that the date was changed on the document. The biggest change in the charge & charter is the change of the chair from VP for Business & Operations to the AS Business Director. Eckman explained that the AS Business Director was made the chair to allow them to create a legacy document as the AS goes through restructure. Mejia stated that the ESC no longer has the Internal Coordinator it is now the

Advocacy Director. The ROP Director should be changed to SAIRC Coordinator. Alexander wondered if they wanted the SAIRC Coordinator to be a voting member since they are a staff member. Eckman stated that since the SAIRC Coordinator is professional staff, they would be non-voting. Hessami stated that KVIK no longer exists. Genaro Meza-Roa clarified that the VP for Business & Operations position has been moved to vice chair. Hessami stated that she would rather see the document edited before they pass it. Eckman stated that this is somewhat time sensitive, so they can pass it with the changes.

MOTION ASB-18-F-20 By Eckman

To approve the AS Management Council Charge & Charter with the change of the "Resource & Outreach Programs Director" to the "SAIRC Coordinator" as a non-voting member and removal of the KVIK position.

Second: Mejia Vote: 6-0-1 Action: Passed

E. AS Elections Board Charge & Charter

Natasha Hessami stated that she has made changes to the document since the last time it was discussed. Hessami spoke with Nora Harren, the chair of the committee last year; they decided to change some of the membership. They removed the requirement that the chair is "not an AS employee" because that was proven to be very difficult. Most people who were interested and involved with elections were AS employees. Thus, Hessami removed that they could not be an AS employee but kept that they could not be a candidate or involved with a candidate's campaign. In regards to quorum, Hessami explained that this is a committee that needs to meet quickly, so Hessami added a stipulation to the quorum section that states "if committee does not consist of twelve (12) students at large due to lack of interest, quorum shall constitute a majority of confirm committee members". Alec Willis stated that they discussed these changes with the REP office and they all agreed that they should remove the first edit. Even though it may be difficult to find a chair that is not an AS employee, it is important that the chair is impartial to the elections. Hessami stated that she is sorry for not consulting with Willis beforehand, so she would like to take this off Action Items. Alexander stated that it is historically very difficult to fill the chair position and quorum is consistently a problem for this committee. Alexander added that each candidate is allowed to disqualify one member of the committee, so the challenge is to make sure the numbers work out. They need to discuss further to make sure the numbers pan out. Alexander added that it is very difficult to meet with quorum within 36 hours of a grievance. Hessami stated that she would like to table this item until October 19th.

F. AS Structural Review Committee Charge & Charter

Hessami stated that no other changes have been made to this charge & charter since it was discussed on September 21st. Eckman stated that he would like to be added to the membership since he was involved in the Student Senate creation. Hessami stated that they could not because that would have the Board at quorum. She stated that this a committee that many want to be on but she thinks the President and the VP of Diversity bring expertise to the committee as well as the three positions on the

committee would not be dissolving, unlike the VP for Academic Affairs and the VP for Business & Operations. Eckman's concern is the large change with the Student Senate. Hessami added that two Student Senators would sit on the committee, so they can be representatives of the Student Senate. Alexander stated that this committee will hopefully be done after this year. The two important pieces that need to be finished by the end of the year: rearrangement of executive branch and the creation of the Activities Council portion. There will be a lot of work that is not related to the Student Senate. Alexander added that they allowed designation of various Board Members to keep it under quorum. Hessami stated that she might remove the Student Senators from the membership because she did not realize how time sensitive this item was. Hessami stated that she does not think it needs any amendments since there is the designation portion for all the members of the Board. Solomon stated that she wants to think more about this document, so she would probably abstain from voting. Alexander stated that Solomon and Monkah can work on their portions without the committee meeting but they should start scheduling meetings for this committee.

MOTION ASB-18-F-21 By Hessami

To approve the AS Structural Review Committee Charge & Charter as is.

Second: Meza-Roa Vote: 5-0-2 Action: Passed

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board*

A. Sustainability, Equity, and Justice Fund Committee Charge & Charter

Tee stated that this document is the same as last week because she needs more time to add some of the language that she removed and would like to make more changes in regards to the feedback received from the Board. Tee will be adding an ESC Representative to the membership. Tee stated that she has been consulting with Teti Romo and Katie Winkelman about making a more inclusive space on the committee and having a deeper understanding of what that looks like. The students-at-large number would be increased to four with two of those seats being for folks with interest in equity and justice within a sustainability field. The other two seats will be for anyone who wants to be involved in the committee. Tee stated that she might add a seat for the SAIRC if the students from those offices want to be involved. She decided to make the ESP Director the Vice Chair because the position brings a lot of content-orientated knowledge to that committee. The VP for Business & Operations would be a voting member because they have information about budgets and funding. Winkelman stated that she would be comfortable taking on the Vice Chair role. Tee will be adding a section about standards when running the committee about ensuring the space is free of tokenization. Part of that conversation is having all committees in general having a training for all folks that take part in committees.

B. AS Communications Committee Charge & Charter

Monkah stated that she and Sam Trost talked about Communications Committee and discussed how the committee brings all the marketing folks from the AS together. Monkah stated that the KVIK Coordinator should be removed and the references to the ROP should change to the SAIRC. Mejia stated that she thinks the title of the ESC Coordinator for Marketing changed. The only changes in the charge & charter are title changes and a date change. Mia Sieben stated that the charge & charter looks good

and noted that they and Sam Frost have been working on trying to improve the outreach of the Associated Students on social media. They added that the possible Instagram account for the Board would be on the agenda as well.

IX. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Committee Appointments

Legislative Affairs Council

Grace LaMonte	Freshman	Political Science/Communications
Bennett Massey-Huber	Freshman	History and Political Science
Brandon Lane	Junior	Finance
Gabriella Nazari	Senior	Political Science and Sociology

Student Technology Fee Committee

Kyle McCaffery	Senior	Computer Science
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AS Elections Committee

Bennett Massey-Huber	Freshman	History and Political Science
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Academic Honesty Board

Isabella Reece	Freshman	Biology
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Emergency Management Council

Sandra McCall	Junior	History and Sociology
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Counseling Health and Wellness

Darcy Allen	Junior	Community Health & Human Services
Jodie Howson-Watt	Sophomore	Sociology

Campus Dinning Committee

Miles Nevier	Junior	English
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Structural Review Committee

Nate Jo	Freshman	Fairhaven
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Sustainability, Equity, and Justice Fee Committee

Aden Nevier	Graduate	Environmental Studies
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University Sustainability Committee

Aden Nevier	Graduate	Environmental Studies
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AS Disability Advocacy Committee

Kaylee Martig	Senior	Therapeutic Play and Child Life
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AS Activities Council

Ryan Mouche	Junior	Linguistics
Brandon Rodriguez	Freshman	Undeclared

MOTION ASB-18-F-22 By Hessami

To approve all committee appointments.

Second: Mejia Vote: 6-0-1 Action: Passed

X. BOARD REPORTS

Genaro Meza-Roa, VP for Business and Operations stated that he has nothing to report.

Camilla Mejia, VP for Diversity stated that she got in contact with the ESC folks involved in Budget and Programming Committee and will be setting up regular meeting times with them. She let them know that if they need any assistance with getting started, she can provide resources. Mejia added that she is willing to help them for the first meeting. She will be going to regular ESC and SAIRC staff meetings to help with collaboration with the two departments. In addition, Daniela Tierra, the ESC Cultural Education Coordinator, is working with more collaboration between the ESC and the SAIRC. Mejia talked to Sammy Baxter about setting up regular meeting times to develop an ESC Alumni Network.

Levi Eckman, VP for Academic Affairs stated that the Assistant Attorney General confirmed that full-time graduate students are eligible to sit on the student senate. They may be purchasing a new election system. The decision for this is pending, as there are some logistical questions. He met with the Faculty Senate Executive Board and there was a lot of confusion in regards to human subject approval and whose grants are being approved. It seems as though there were two forms sent out to faculty but only one of those forms was eligible but faculty were given the choice fill out both forms. They are waiting for some questions to be answered. He will be presenting at the Student Success Committee on the Student Senate.

Millka Solomon, President stated she and Eckman went to Presidents Cabinet. One of the most interesting topics discussed was making campus smoke-free where they referenced the student referendum. They noted that there was extremely low voter turnout. She met with Darin Rasmussen, the police chief, and talked about the relationship between WWU students and the police. She wants to invite Lee but anyone is welcome to come to their meetings.

Natasha Hessami, VP for Governmental Affairs stated that Legislative Affairs Council met. They posted the job announcement for the Board Assistant for Lobby Days.

Ama Monkah, VP for Activities stated that next Monday is the first Activities Council meeting. She was looking through her legacy document and they need to talk about the Viking Union Art Gallery and how it was put on hold because of construction.

Anne Lee, VP for Student Life stated that Sustainability, Equity, and Justice Committee meeting has been organized and she will make a list of things to talk about at the first meeting. She wants to reflect equity and justice in the committee. The Board is not looking at it yet but it will be coming. In regards to safety and sexual assault, they found a lot of

information that pushes them to consider what students think about the issue. There is a student-led group on campus called Students Against Sexual Harassment and Assault, where they explore how people are tackling assault and the systemic issue with hyper masculinity and violence as well as how Western responds. They provide information on what paths people can take if they are assaulted and the different departments available to them. Tee stated that they would be meeting with students that are doing this work already and work with them to address it from a preventative measure not a curative measure. Tee added that she met with Henry Pollet from the REP office to talk about the Title IX transition with the Equal Opportunity Office. Lee noted that she is thinking about the protection of Resident Advisors and developing a structure for them to provide feedback without putting their job on the line. Lee also wants to work with RAs in regards to gender-inclusive housing and how the Board can support that. Lee added that she is becoming involved with Shred The Contract with Aramark and she invited them to come to Board Meetings. Hessami stated that she is in support of Shred The Contract.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Bird Scooter

Hessami stated that she talked with a representative from the organization Bird Scooter. Hessami asked the representative about how scooters fair in rain or with bricks and they stated that they do not work well. Hessami stated that she referred them to the Western Transportation folks. It does not seem feasible in the Western environment. Meza-Roa stated that there is Bird Scooter where he lives in California but a major problem is that they are littered everywhere. It is a strange phenomenon but he prefers bike share programs. Hessami will update the Board after her conversation with Gillian.

B. Initiative Endorsements

Hessami stated that she has been contacted by some local Bellingham folk running campaigns as well as statewide campaigns regarding endorsing in an official capacity. Hessami would ask for guidelines about how political the Board Members can be. Alexander stated that the Board Members can determine whether they want to be representatives of the AS or trustees of the AS. The Board can have a conversation to determine how they want to approach endorsements and it could possibly be topic dependent. Hessami added that the Board Members endorsing organizations or groups would be very public. Hessami stated that they could possibly send a survey out to the WWU students to determine how students would feel about AS Board Members endorsing groups. Alexander stated that this Board tends to focus on issues that directly impact students but the Board Members could ask counterparts at other universities for any advisement. Hessami will get in contact with various folks and come back next week with more context on possible repercussions from initiative endorsements. Solomon stated that she would want to go through each possible endorsement individually before making a decision. Lee stated that it is always good to try to learn about initiatives that impact students and impact members of the community in general.

C. Smoke Free Initiative

Meza-Roa asked for more information on the Smoke Free Initiative. Solomon stated that they essentially said that they had to continue the conversation. They wanted to

send out a survey to the students and the faculty. Eckman stated that they want to have a survey including everyone on campus. Solomon suggested that Meza-Roa try to find minutes from the meeting. Lee stated that students who were being impacted by smoking on campus contacted Annie Gordon, the VP for Student Life last year. Gordon said that they would have a student vote and historically the turnout for those polls are quite low. Lee stated that they want to have a more educational approach rather than a policing approach. Most schools that transition to being smoke free have a long transition period. Lee stated that she could help support the Board with this.

D. Self-Pay Seminar for the SAIRC and the ESC

Mejia stated that she found an interesting self-pay seminar from a self-care Instagram for people to learn how people's bodies react to different feelings. She thought it would be a great way for the SAIRC and the ESC to bond together and work towards their goal of self-care. As student leaders, it is very easy to become burnt out and especially the SAIRC and ESC have a lot of emotional labor in addition to their office work. She wondered if the Board would also want to be involved.

Solomon adjourned the meeting at 5:41pm.