

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

Friday, September 28, 2018

YU 567

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 (VP for Business & Operations).
 Absent:

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

Guests: Erick Yanzon, Jacob Carver.

Motions:

- ASB-18-F-4 Approval of the meeting minutes from September 21st with all the spelling changes amended. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-5 Approval of all the revisions to the agenda. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-6 Approval of the updated LAC Charge & Charter for October 2018. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-7 Approval of the updated ESC Budget and Programming Committee Charge & Charter. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-8 Approval of the AS Underrepresented Student Leadership Council Charge & Charter. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-9 Approval of the AS WWU Student Senate Bylaws. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-10 Approval of the AS WWU Student Senate Charge & Charter. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-11 Approval of the AS WWU Student Senate Pro-Tempore Job Description and the AS WWU Student Senator Job Description. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-12 Approval to dismiss the former vote (ASB-18-F-11) on the approval of the Student Senator Job Description and the Student Senate Pro-Tempore Job Description. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-13 Approval of the AS WWU Student Senate Pro-Tempore Job Description. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-14 Approval of the AS WWU Student Senator Job Description. **Passed.**
- ASB-18-F-15 Approval of committee appointments of Kayla Owens, Jodie Howson-Watt, and Kevin Harris. **Passed.**

Millka Solomon, AS President, called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION ASB-18-F-4 By Hessami

To approve the meeting minutes from September 21st with all the spelling changes amended.

Second: Eckman Vote: 5-0-0 Action: Passed

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Natasha Hessami proposed to move Camilla Mejia's items A and B in Action Items - Board* to the bottom of the list to allow her time to get here and talk about them.

MOTION ASB-18-F-5 By Eckman

To approve all the revisions to the agenda.

Second: Hessami Vote: 5-0-0 Action: Passed

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

Nate Jo, a first year student enrolled in Fairhaven college, posed the question to the Board: what do you think is the AS resource most commonly used by students? Jo claimed that it is information. Every day, thousands of Western students search for events, ways to get involved, and services provided by the AS. The problem is that much of the information is difficult to come by. Jo claimed that the current AS website is old, clunky, and has an unflattering design. It possesses a particular knack for burying information through unintuitive navigation and confusing organization. Furthermore, the as.wvu.edu is even more difficult to use on mobile phones. Even AS employees who simply want to upload meeting minutes for a committee, the process is extensive, difficult and time consuming. Jo stated that he feels strongly that the AS WWU should disseminate information freely instead of burying information. The AS website serves as a primary checkpoint concerning the services and operations of the AS, but the current design turns away students instead of inviting them to learn more about how their money is spent and what services are available to them. From 2015 to 2018, the budget that funds the AS website (FXXWEB) increased over 200% from \$8,242 to \$26,532. Despite this enormous increase in funding, the website saw no significant improvements. When talking to other students, Jo found that they too were not able to find information they were looking for and felt that the AS was inaccessible, partly due to its website. Jo believes in the name of transparency and accessibility, the AS Board of Directors should consider taking steps to remedy this widespread issue. Jo saw two possible solutions: first, using the funds already from FXXWEB to create a new AS position solely devoted to web development and accessibility of information. Jo claims that creating a new, part time position would allow a web transformation, building a new platform of transparency and accessibility. This would have no additional fiscal impacts on the AS budget, since the funds already exist. Paid at a Level II AS wage, even working up to 19 hours per week, the total salary would not exceed \$9,500, which the FXXWEB can easily cover. It would only require a directive from the AS Board of Directors in conjunction with the Personnel Office and Human Resources. The second solution, according to Jo, would be to contract web design services to an outside organization. Again, the FXXWEB budget would have more than enough to cover such a program.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests*

V. ACTION ITEMS - Guests*

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

VII. ACTION ITEMS - Board *

A. AS Legislative Affairs Council Charge & Charter

Hessami stated that all the changes recommended at the last meeting were added: the ESC Representative is now appointed by the Leadership and Advocacy Force and “Associate Dean” was changed to “Associate Director”.

MOTION ASB-18-F-6 By Hessami

To approve the updated LAC Charge & Charter for October 2018.

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

B. AS Facilities & Services Council Charge & Charter

Millka Solomon stated that the Board decided to table this item.

C. AS Ethnic Student Center Budget and Programming Committee Charge & Charter

Mejia stated that she made grammatical changes throughout the charge & charter but everything else remained the same. Mejia noted that reportage was discussed for this committee but she decided to keep it as “this committee shall report to the AS Board of Directors through the AS Vice President for Diversity” because Mejia will set up meetings with the chair of this committee based on their schedules.

MOTION ASB-18-F-7 By Eckman

To approve the updated ESC Budget and Programming Committee Charge & Charter.

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

D. AS Underrepresented Student Leadership Council Charge & Charter

Mejia stated that in regards to the Board’s concerns about accommodating the larger Western campus, she decided to keep this committee within the AS. Mejia stated that she would like to discuss the future and direction of the committee with the committee members. The committee will only include the AS and Mejia added a Veterans Center Representative to the membership.

MOTION ASB-18-F-8 By Monkah

To approve the AS Underrepresented Student Leadership Council Charge & Charter.

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

E. AS WWU Student Senate Bylaws

Levi Eckman stated that he changed the date on the document as well as the changes discussed at the previous Board Meeting. Eckman made sure the language used for the Senate Pro-Tempore was repeated for the Student Senator. He also made sure all references to the ROP were changed to SAIRC. No other changes were made to the document. Hessami asked when the Board of Trustees meeting is and she wondered what Eckman’s plan for presentation is. Eckman replied that the meeting is October 11th and October 12th in Anacortes, WA. He plans to attend both days and present it as an information item and be present for it to be voted on. Eckman stated that he is

working on getting approval through the President's Cabinet and the Faculty Senate. Eckman stated that Board of Trustees member, Sue Sharpe, expressed interest in having a question session about the Student Senate.

MOTIONASB-18-F-9 By Eckman

To approve AS WWU Student Senate Bylaws.

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

F. AS WWU Student Senate Charge & Charter

Eckman stated that the charge & charter is a reiteration of the bylaws and that he added some language for clarification. Eckman explained that "approving any changes made to the ASBOD by-laws, or charge and charter" was added under the Charge section. Eckman added that for clarification that the Student Senate does not report to anybody and the "Charge & Charter may be amended by a 3/4th majority vote" of the Student Senate.

MOTIONASB-18-F-10 By Lee

To approve AS WWU Student Senate Charge & Charter.

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

G. AS WWU Student Senate Pro-Tempore and Student Senator Job Descriptions

Eckman explained that the job descriptions for the Pro-Tempore and the Student Senator are grouped together. The job descriptions did not require major amendments except for the language in regards to their pay. For the Student Senator, their wage "is set to a starting salary of \$1,750 for the Academic Year, beginning in Fall Quarter, and ending in Spring Quarter". Under the Senate Pro-Tempore job description, "this position will receive a starting salary of \$12,600 per position term, including fall to spring quarter of their current Academic Year, and 40 planning hours in the summer". Eckman added that the term "starting salary" implies that they have the option to amend that.

MOTIONASB-18-F-11 By Hessami

To approve the AS WWU Student Senate Pro-Tempore Job Description and the AS WWU Student Senator Job Description.

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

Eric Alexander noted that the Board should vote on the two job descriptions separately just in case there is an issue with one of the job descriptions.

MOTIONASB-18-F-12 By Eckman

To dismiss the former vote (ASB-18-F-11) on the approval of the Student Senator Job Description and the Student Senate Pro-Tempore Job Description.

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

MOTIONASB-18-F-13 By Eckman

To approve the AS WWU Student Senate Pro-Tempore Job Description.

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

MOTIONASB-18-F-14 By Eckman

To approve the AS WWU Student Senator Job Description.

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

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board*

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

Anne Lee stated that the Sustainable Action Fund Committee last year voted to change the name to the Sustainability, Equity, and Justice Fund Committee. The only changes throughout the document are in regards to the name change. Lee added that they removed one representative from the ESC and added one representative from the SAIRC. Mejia asked why an ESC representative was removed. Lee stated that historically those spaces in sustainability committees were tokenizing the ESC voices as the one diversity voice for all things equity and justice. With past conversations with committee members, Leti Romo, and ESC students, Lee thought it was best to have a more general voice on equity and justice, not specifically someone who is a person of color. Lee added that this is subject to change depending on the interest of the SAIRC employees to be on this committee. Lee noted that she is open to suggestions in terms of reaching out to other student groups on campus to reflect the equity and justice portion of the committee. Solomon asked if there are any students-at-large on the committee. Lee stated that there are three students-at-large. Mejia stated that she thought Lee could reach out to people pursuing an ES J minor because there are many people in that line of study that are also interested in sustainability and the environment. Mejia added that she is not sure where in the charge & charter it could be added but Lee could possibly add that tokenization is not permitted in the committee. Then someone from the ESC could be added to the membership and if they are being tokenized, that issue could be addressed. Hessami noted that Lee discussed removing the ESC representative with Romo but Hessami wondered whether it was discussed with any leadership in the ESC. Lee stated that in the past there has been a lot of outreach from this committee and the AS to the ESC for representatives and because of the history of tokenization in those spaces, ESC representatives tend not to show up, which is why Lee is moving forward on removing them from the membership. Lee noted that she would be making amendments based on the feedback received from the Board. Eckman wondered whether Lee planned to increase the number of students-at-large to compensate for the increase in outreach to other areas. Lee stated that she will take all the suggestions and change the language of the charge & charter to reflect an increase in students-at-large with an interest in equity, justice, and sustainability in addition to the SAIRC representative depending on whether SAIRC employees are willing to take part in the committee because Lee does not want to tokenize anyone from the SAIRC either. Mejia stated that she thinks

it is important to have someone from the SAIRC but she thinks it is important to also have a representative from the ESC. Mejia added that in regards to being transparent with the student body, when doing outreach for this committee, they could mention that this position has a history of being tokenized, so they would not be surprised when attending the committee meetings. Hessami stated that Lee should specify that the representatives from SAIRC are students and add who would appoint them in parentheses. Solomon stated that in regards to tokenization, they should try to make the committee environment un-tokenizing instead of not having the person there. If the person does not feel comfortable and safe, they can choose to not come to the meetings but there should be explicit language in the charge & charter that states that tokenization is not permitted. Lee stated that she is working part of the time in a very white space, so she really appreciates these suggestions on how to open that space up again for the ESC and working together with them to make sure the committee is a safe space for everyone. Mejia asked Lee what type of support Lee needs from the other members of the Board. Lee stated that she will be as transparent about what she experiences in those spaces and will ask for advice on how to navigate various committees.

B. AS Alternative Transportation Fee Charge & Charter

Lee stated that the only change made to this charge & charter was updating the date to September 2018.

C. AS Transportation Advisory Committee Charge & Charter

Lee stated that the only change made to this charge & charter was updating the date to September 2018. Eckman asked whether the date should be October 2018. Alexander stated that all charge & charters are supposed to sunset in the first three weeks of the term.

D. AS Activities Council Charge & Charter

Ama Monkah stated that the only portion of the charge & charter that was changed was the date. Monkah added that they were considering removing one of the AS Club Representatives but Monkah and her advisor decided that it was important to keep it. Alexander noted that the advisor is Jenn Cook and her title is Coordinator for Club Activities not Coordinator for Student Activities. Hessami asked for clarification on what the AS Club Events Facilitator does. Monkah stated that Douglas Van Druff is the AS Club Events Facilitator and they will meet with clubs that are requesting funding. Then the facilitator will meet with Monkah, Cook, and the Business Director to review the request. Monkah stated that she would ask for clarification on Van Druff's title for the charge & charter.

IX. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Committee Appointments

Eckman stated that there are three students to appoint and they all received excellent marks on their applications.

Academic Honesty Board

Kayla Owens

Jodie Howson-Watt

Student Technology Fee Committee

Kevin Harris

MOTIONASB-18-F-15 By Hessami

To approve committee appointments of Kayla Owens, Jodie Howson-Watt, and Kevin Harris.

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

X. **BOARD REPORTS**

Camilla Mejia, VP for Diversity stated that the ESC Leadership and Advocacy Force Council has been set up. The ESC has their conference from October 12th to October 14th. Mejia stated that she and Lee have had the opportunity to sit on the WWU work group on sexual assault with the Equal Opportunity Office, Leonard Jones, representatives from the Residence Halls, the Health Center and many others. Mejia stated that at the first meeting, she and Lee were upset because the committee was not student centered; they were the only students on the committee. Mejia and Lee met with Sue Guenter-Schlesinger and told her that they need to revamp the group. They will be having trainings with them on pronouns and inclusive language. They will be working to create a GUR that tackles issues like toxic masculinity. They will also be creating a class for women and femme identifying people to teach them self-defense and how to be assertive. Even though it may not prevent sexual assault, it is a good first step. Lee added that she contacted Men's Resiliency to see what their new director is doing; they hope that with the new director there will be different types of programming and an interest that will align with the AS.

Genaro Meza, VP for Business and Operations stated that he would be setting up meetings with the Registrar to discuss the Degree Application Fee and getting more involved with budgets.

Natasha Hessami, VP for Governmental Affairs stated that she has been going to various bottleneck STEM classes talking about lobbying and how beneficial it can be to have students behind it then handing out a brief survey. She has received about 100 surveys back and expects to receive 400 total.

Millka Solomon, President stated they she met with Guenter-Schlesinger who expressed interest in working with the AS in setting up a forum so students can express what they need from the Equal Opportunity Office and what issues they have had with the EOO. Solomon stated that she has been going to committee meetings for the ESC conference and is very excited for the conference.

Levi Eckman, VP for Academic Affairs stated that his position is only required to meet with the deans twice a year but he is trying to meet with them twice a quarter. The dean of CHSS, Paqui Paredes, gave the Board of Directors this year a special compliment and said that she was very excited for the work already done by this Board of Directors and would really like to come into meet with the all of the Board. Eckman will be presenting the Student Senate documents to the President's Cabinet next week and then the Board of Trustees. Eckman stated that in regards to GURs, they would be looking at ways they can critically evaluate GURs rather than pushing them through each year assuming that there

is no failure. Eckman stated that he thinks that the university looks at GURs and if there is not an issue, they think they do not need to fix it even if it bad. Therefore, he will be bringing up issues with GURs at the Faculty Senate meeting.

Ama Monkah, VP for Activities stated that she would be a facilitator for the ESC conference and will be giving a presentation at Club Kickoff so that clubs know what Activities Council is and how to utilize it. Monkah added that she and Sam Frost were discussing the Board possibly having a social media platform to provide updates and make the Board more accessible. If anyone has any suggestions, they should talk to Monkah and Frost.

Anne Lee, VP for Student Life stated that she has been setting up meetings with committee members and met with Greg McBride and Seth Vidafta. McBride suggested setting up the SEJ Committee to ensure that student experience is always a priority. Fee has also been working with Katie Winkelman in regards to outreach. Fee is working on setting up guidelines and ground rules for committee meetings. Fee added that an RA approached them about some issues they are experiencing with the ResFife Office.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Discussion with the Western Front

Eckman stated that Sam Frost thought the Board should meet with the Western Front classes about how they want to engage with them this quarter. Eckman would like everyone's thoughts on possibly doing that. Hessami stated that she would be happy to touch on personal space and make sure Western Front employees and students know it is not appropriate to message the Board on Facebook or text them on their personal phone numbers when they have designated work emails and office hours. Eckman clarified that the Board was invited by the Western Front classes to speak about how the Board wants to be engaged with. Everyone agreed that they should have that discussion with the Western Front. Fee stated that she would like to meet with whoever is going to discuss general ground rules.

B. Active Shooter Training at AS Fall Staff Development

Hessami stated that during AS Fall Staff Development, an individual from the Western Washington University Police Department came to talk about safety, specifically an active shooter situation. Hessami stated that many AS employees felt very uncomfortable and there was some strong confrontation during the presentation. During the reflection session the next day, which Hessami co-facilitated, they received a lot of feedback. Hessami wondered if the Board wanted to contact the University Police Department in a casual capacity to explain that the AS did not enjoy their training. Eckman stated that multiple employees came up to him and stated that they did not attend the training after they saw that the officer that came was dressed in full uniform and he felt that the officer they sent was not as well briefed as they should have been. Eckman agreed that something should be said to the University Police Department. Monkah stated that she thought they could talk to Officer Bianca Smith about this issue. Hessami noted that as the Board they should approach the issue respectively and with a tone of constructive criticism. Solomon stated that she heard

that the session was not very productive. Solomon and Mejia stated that they would not want to invite them back. Lee stated that given the current relationship with police, Lee thought that they could provide training on alternatives options rather than calling the police. Solomon agreed with Lee. Eckman stated that they could advise the Personnel Office into looking into other options to address active shooter trainings because that training is important in this geopolitical climate. Hessami stated that she attended that training and received feedback from various employees, so she will draft an email and meet with all the Board Members in duos to receive feedback on the email. In the next few weeks, she will also meet with Alexander to receive feedback.

Solomon adjourned the meeting at 5:09pm.