

**Western Washington University Associated Students  
STUDENT SENATE**

Date: January 28, 2019      Room: VU 567

**Attendees:** *Roster Attached*

**MOTIONS**

- ASWWUSS-19-W-9      *To move New Minutes Policy from Information Items – Senate to Action Items – Guests. **Passed.***
- ASWWUSS-19-W-10      *To add an Action Item – Senate for AS Student Senate Vice Chair elections. **Passed.***

*Levi Eckman, Interim Senate Pro-Tempore, called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.*

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- A.** Adah Barenburg motioned to move New Minutes Policy from Information Items – Senate to Action Items – Guests. Eckman motioned to add an Action Item – Senate for Vice Chair elections.

*MOTION ASWWUSS-19-W-9      by Barenburg  
To move New Minutes Policy from Information Items – Senate to Action Items – Guests.  
Second: Koltiska      Vote: 21 – 0 – 0      Action: Passed*

*MOTION ASWWUSS-19-W-10      by Eckman  
To add an Action Item – Senate for AS Student Senate Vice Chair elections.  
Second: Koltiska      Vote: 21 – 0 – 0      Action: Passed*

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

**A. Sam Frost, AS Communications Director**

Frost delivered a short training to the Student Senate regarding the use of inclusive language. Frost talked about microaggressions, addressing exclusive language, and reacting to someone who invites you to use more inclusive language. Dayjha McMillan shared that referring to all people with they/them/their pronouns when you are uncertain is a great way to practice adjusting to using more inclusive language. Riley Embly also shared that he has had a difficult time adjusting from saying “you guys” instead of more inclusive forms, such as “you all”. Nina Tuyen-Tran noted that use of the word “crazy” is also problematic in its tendency to be used as an insult to women, and to be conscious of that. Luke LeClair also shared that use of the word “lame” is also an exclusive term. Nicole Wood then told the Senate that she has found that the best way to address a mistake in pronouns is to apologize sincerely, correct herself, and then move on. Wood has noticed that dwelling on a misidentification of pronouns can make the other person uncomfortable. Ruth Ewald noted that she has found it helpful to replace words that she is struggling

with in all contexts. Barenburg claimed that she often focuses on listening to others, especially when she is uncertain of someone's pronouns.

#### **IV. INFORMATION ITEMS – Guests\***

##### **A. New Minutes Policy**

Barenburg introduced Nate Jo, AS Board Assistant for Internal Committees, to discuss a [new minutes policy](#) that they had presented to the ASBOD. Jo shared that the proposal was passed by the AS Board of Directors and is intended to make minutes more transparent for the student body by recording the voting count for each motion within the minutes. Jo noted that it would hold Senators more accountable. Eckman then made the body aware that, due to the size of the body, each vote taken within the Student Senate would need to be done by roll call so that the count would be accurately recorded.

#### **V. ACTION ITEMS – Guests\***

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

#### **VII. ACTION ITEMS – Senate\***

- A. Eckman discussed the Vice Chair election for the Student Senate, sharing that the Vice Chair will be elected by the Student Senate and will work closely with Eckman, Leti Romo, AS Assistant Director for Student Representation and Governance, and Juliet Knowles, AS Board Assistant for Academic Shared Governance. Eckman shared that Phillip Hensyel and Barenburg were both nominated, and asked if anyone else wished to run for Vice Chair. LeClair expressed that they are also interested in also running. Barenburg then noted that the by-laws indicated that speeches would not be needed for three candidates. After discussing the description of the position, the body decided that speeches will be given by the nominees. Barenburg began her speech by discussing her experience with parliamentary procedure due to her involvement with Model US Senate and Model United Nations. Barenburg then noted that there seems to be a lack of representation of undergraduate students in academic shared governance. LeClair shared that they are interested in the position as a fifth-year student who is familiar with the University structure and who would like to represent the Student Senate. LeClair stated that they are familiar with and a member of multiple marginalized groups on campus and that they want to use their experience to better represent students on campus in a calculated manner. Eckman asked Schorr if she could speak for Hensyel, as he could not attend the meeting. Schorr claimed that Hensyel is a non-traditional student who is very passionate about his work and who has a lot of experience and determination to act as a Student Senator. Eckman then informed the body that the vote would be taken by instant run-off by writing first and second choices on pieces of paper being passed around. Eckman then stated that Knowles would count the votes and he would inform the body before the end of the meeting.

#### **VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS – Senate\***

**A. Discussion of MCC Student Leadership**

Ewald discussed her observation that students need to be more involved in the decisions being made by the University. More specifically, Ewald highlighted that there should be more students involved in the discussion of the Multicultural Center being built on campus, as it will be a student space. Ewald noted that the Ethnic Student Center has been doing its best to provide services, but that it is small. Ewald claimed that she believes that students are excited for the MCC and that it will be a positive change, as students will have more support on campus. Ewald expressed that she wished to look into the possibility of establishing a Senate committee group of students that could be well aware of the needs of the MCC and could report to the Senate to facilitate representation and support. Eckman recommended that Ewald and Koltiska reach out to Camilla Mejía, AS VP for Diversity, to invite her to be a part of this conversation as things move forward. McMillan added that the students who have been participating in the conversation to develop a College of Ethnic Studies have been working hard and have become involved in MCC dialogue, as well. Romo added that a committee will be formed soon, though there is difficulty to find space for everyone involved. One of the tasks of this group, Romo shared, is developing a mission and vision statement for the MCC, and that talking to Mejía would be a good idea to explore the possibility of adding a Senate representative to the committee to facilitate communication to the Senate.

**B. Discussion of WWU Code of Conduct 516-21-260**

Ewald discussed that the WWU Code of Conduct 516-21-260 lays out the procedures for immediate interim suspension of students. Reflecting on the incidents on campus from Fall Quarter 2018 [by WWU student, Shan Merwin], Ewald claimed that students have felt like action was not taken quickly and that administration felt restricted by the code. Ewald claimed that, although this process is carried out by the Dean of Students, there should be a joint process between the Dean of Students and students who feel threatened by such incidents. Barenburg asked if Ewald imagined students to vote or just provide input in the conversation. Ewald responded that she did not imagine a committee that would vote, but rather a student that worked with the Dean of Students to provide a new perspective during the review of the student's actions. Courtney Yoshiyama asked if it would be more focused on preventative measures or on reacting to a situation when it occurs. Ewald claimed that she found that administration commonly claims that it cannot carry out certain responses due to various codes of conduct, but that it would be beneficial to have a student involved who could determine or validate the level of threat posed to students when administration is determining the level of severity. Koltiska shared an incident that occurred during the 2017-2018 academic year in the Kappa Dorm in which students were not made aware of the incident until after the fact, though it was perceived as having been an imminent threat to the students, but was never communicated because it was not seen as a threat by University police. Koltiska shared his concern that the code expresses that an interim suspension can be enacted if the incident poses

a serious threat to the students, but that having one person in charge of determining what students believe is a serious threat is not representative of the student body. Eckman encouraged Senators to reach out to the Emergency Management Council to begin dialogue to discuss this concern. Eckman then addressed Ewald's idea, and said that getting in contact with Michael Sledge, Assistant Dean of Students, would also be a good idea. Wood thanked Ewald and Koltiska for sharing the item and noted that the student who carried out the crimes on campus last quarter is no longer attending school at WWU because they made that choice, and the administration did not take action. Wood then shared her knowledge of Universities in the country that have established a student-focused conduct board, which may be helpful to consider. Romo noted that Sledge had seen the AS Student Senate Agenda and inquired about this Information Item.

**C. ASWWU Student Senate Information Handout for Deans, Chairs & Faculty**

Tran shared that they and Kelly Yokuda attended the All-Chair meeting for the College of Science and Engineering and came up with a [document](#) about the Student Senate and the goals of the CSE Senators to share with all Department Chairs. Tran shared that it was set up like a template for other Colleges to use and also noted that the chairs were quite interested in the information included in the document and that they and Yokuda have set up meetings with various Department chairs. Tran stated that the ultimate goal is to have the Chairs share the information with the faculty in their Departments. Tran then asked the body if there were any comments or if Senators would like the document shared with them. Barenburg noted that it was a great idea, but that the document did not include that At-Large Senators meet with the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education. Eckman also noted that language would need to be amended to say "AS Student Senate Pro-Tempore" instead of "AS VP for Academic Affairs" and that Romo's title would need to be corrected. Ewald commented that the format was very detailed, but not very easy to read quickly. Tran said that it may be helpful to condense it for various purposes in the future.

**D. Campaigning in the Recall**

Eckman stated that there will be a recall election for Genaro Meza-Roa, AS VP for Business and Operations, as was passed by the AS BOD at their [January 18, 2019 meeting](#). He then shared that there is a policy for the recall election that will restrict his own campaigning rights as an AS BOD member, but that he supports to Senators to do what is needed during the election. Romo discussed further that the election will begin Friday, February 1, 2019, and will close Monday, February 4, 2019, and will be a simple majority vote. Romo then referred to Section 2 of the [AS Recall Election Code](#). The AS BOD amended the code to say that BOD members could not post on their personal social media accounts any campaigning regarding the election. However, Romo stated that, should Senators create a Facebook page for campaigning during the recall, they would need to verify it with Alec Willis, AS Elections Coordinator (as.rep.elections@wwu.edu). Romo then reiterated that Senators cannot use their official emails, email lists, or any money within their

campaigning. Ballard clarified that the Student Senators would be permitted to post on personal social media on their personal accounts, but would need to verify with Willis before creating a new Facebook page. Romo and Eckman stated that was correct. Schorr asked for more context on why AS BOD members could not post on their Facebook. Yoshiyama noted that the AS BOD had a long discussion at the [January 25, 2019 meeting](#), and Romo stated that the AS BOD voted to hold themselves to that standard in order to prevent the possibility of any perceived malicious campaigning. Ballard noted that, although the Code will stand for all elections in the future, the AS BOD had noted that Meza-Roa does not have social media. Eckman added that the Action Item will be coming back up at the [February 1, 2019 AS BOD meeting](#) because he was not in attendance at the meeting in which the vote was originally recorded, and that he would like for his vote to be recorded. Yoshiyama noted that Millka Solomon, AS President, had been very firm in her position against the social media restriction, and asked Eckman more about why he was bringing it back up. Eckman claimed that it would be different if it was a general election, but that since all AS BOD members are already on the BOD, they each have equal power in their stances on the recall. Eckman added that he would like to be able to continue sharing articles on his own Facebook, and that he believes this issue to be around free speech. Ultimately, Eckman noted that he wanted his vote to be recorded for further transparency with the student body. Romo noted that she did not agree that it was about free speech since BOD members can still campaign, but just not in this way. Ballard stated that campaigning would open at 8:00 AM on Friday, February 1, 2019, and asked, if the decision were to be reversed at the February 1, 2019 meeting, students could post on Facebook over the weekend. Eckman clarified that the Action Item would only affect the AS BOD and not the general student body. Ewald asked what Senators can do as Senators and individuals to campaign. Eckman noted that the Senators can campaign in their capacities as Senators, but cannot use AS funds for that campaigning and cannot campaign in academic spaces. Ballard added that Senators cannot campaign in academic spaces, but they are allowed to encourage students to vote. Embly confirmed that the election is simple majority and thanked Eckman for reading the Student Senate statement at the AS BOD meeting on January 18, 2019. Eckman invited Senators to campaign, but emphasized that Senators do not have to campaign. Eckman then encouraged Senators to ask him any questions they may have and to contact the REP with anything else.

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

#### **X. BOARD REPORTS**

##### **At-Large**

Ballard reported that she and Buss were sitting on ACC (Academic Coordinating Commission) and shared that someone in the Woodring College was encouraging students to take tests rather than classes to receive endorsements, and that ACC voted to revert to the old Course Catalog that would not permit this process. Buss added that

the Woodring actions were questionable and concerning, and then discussed the AS BOD meetings regarding the recall and election code, as well as WILD (Western Intersectional Lobby Day). Yoshiyama shared that she and Barenburg are sitting on CUE (Committee for Undergraduate Education) and they have approved courses such as study abroad GUR courses and credit changes in the Modern and Classical Languages Department. Yoshiyama then told the body that they reviewed the classifications of specific GURs and the defining of GUR capacities. Barenburg stated that she and Yoshiyama condensed eleven GUR capacities into five and then presented their proposal to CUE last Thursday.

#### **College of Business and Economics**

Akelipa reported that he and Makrakis also sit on ACC and that the CBE Senators will be attending Policy Council within the CSE this week and also met with Dean Scott Young today. Makrakis shared a concern about the dissolution of the At-Large positions on the AS Budget Committee, which has been stagnant due to the turmoil with Meza Roa. Makrakis and Akelipa then wrote a letter to the Board of Directors regarding the student's concerns and the availability of At-Large positions that are not reserved for Student Senators. Makrakis noted that, in their meeting with Dean Young, he and Akelipa talked about sending out an email to CBE students about themselves and about the ways they can serve their constituents. Ballard shared that the AS BOD did approve the proposal and that the REP is adding students At-Large currently.

#### **College of Fine and Performing Arts**

Koltiska reported that he and Ewald met with their College's Faculty Governance Council and that it was very welcoming. He then stated that he and Ewald are working on finding ways to make the Performing Arts Center (PAC) more accessible for persons with disabilities. Ewald said that the target audiences of many performances are people who might have difficulty moving around. They are attempting to find ways to make access to the PAC and its performances more accessible. Koltiska then discussed the idea of an anonymous concerns box that could be used to help students feel more comfortable bringing up concerns with elected officials. Maya Noesen then shared that she had created an online form that could be used anonymously for students to also share concerns through an online format. Schorr added that an online platform may be more feasible and accessible for those who commute to campus or are not students on campus. Koltiska then shared his next idea to have all Senators spend time in Red Square to meet students as they pass by on a more regular basis. Eckman added that it would be a good idea to contact the Communications Office for publicity and handouts, but that it's a great idea to be more visible to students. Koltiska then discussed that the Strategic Plan of the CFPA is having difficulty with diversification and that a University in California used a cluster hire for diverse faculty, which has proven to be useful in many ways because it facilitates a community of individuals with diverse backgrounds, and the CFPA is forecasting a cluster hire. Koltiska then shared that, if other Colleges were to also look into cluster hiring, it could be designed as a decision package through the University Planning and Resources Council (UPRC), and more money could be requested from the State, and all Colleges could be diversified. Koltiska noted that the CFPA plans to hire 10 faculty and/or staff members, and that cluster hires like this is important for creating a more diverse and inclusive campus. Ewald added that she sits on the Student Enhancement Fund, which

gives grants to students who wish to attend events or pursue activities that contribute to academic development. Ewald then noted that it may be helpful to have Senators in Red Square during the Recall Election for the AS VP for Business and Operations to talk about the Senators' decision to recommend a recall to the ASBOD.

### **College of Humanities and Social Sciences**

Meerdink reported that she and LeClair decided to push back the CHSS Town Hall/Forum to February 12, 2019 from 5-7 PM in AW 210. They are planning to reach out to Dean Paredes Méndez to send out an email to all CHSS students. LeClair claimed that they and Meerdink have had some difficulty getting a position on a College council, but that Cora Cole has been very helpful in helping. LeClair also noted that President Randhawa has hosted a few meetings with marginalized communities, such as one for LGBTQ+ students and disabled students, to ask what students want from the school. LeClair claimed that the University has a lot of information on progress that they have made but has lacked transparency and communication with the student body. LeClair then expressed that they hope that the Senate can facilitate the dissemination of this information to all students, as it is important to share with the student body and the administration is not doing that. Eckman added that CHSS is now the only College that has not been given a student seat on any College committee, and that he will soon be meeting with Dean Paredes Méndez and inviting LeClair and Meerdink, as well as the Chair of the CHSS College committee. Eckman then noted that he talked to Faculty Senate earlier today about getting students on the College committees.

### **College of Science and Engineering**

Tran had nothing to report.

### **Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies**

McMillan reported that they met with Dean Herring today by walking into his office after not receiving a response to any emails. McMillan stated that Dean Herring invited the Fairhaven Senators to the Fairhaven Faculty Meeting. Dean Herring also shared a list of strategic priorities to support the College of Ethnic Studies, as spearheaded by Fairhaven College, which would dismantle American Cultural Studies and push those professors into teaching in the College of Ethnic Studies. McMillan shared that they're not entirely sure how it will go, but that they wanted to share this information with the Student Senate because it affects professors in other Colleges. Soulliere shared that Dean Herring is looking for a transition of funding to pay new faculty to teach these classes. Soulliere then mentioned that, though not normal for most Faculty Governance Councils (FGCs), Dean Herring is the Chair of the Fairhaven FGC, which brings up some concerns regarding his conflicting roles. However, Soulliere also noted that Dean Herring mentioned giving that position to a faculty member, but that this change seems to be pushed by the Fairhaven faculty and not him. Koltiska mentioned that hiring Ethnic Studies faculty would be a good opportunity for cluster hiring. McMillan then said that they told Dean Herring that Eckman hoped to fund the positions partially from Colleges in the future and that Dean Herring seemed surprised by this. Eckman responded that he shared this information with all Deans beginning in August 2018 and has sent emails reflecting this information. McMillan also noted that they and Soulliere are creating a Facebook page for Fairhaven Senators and that they are also soon hosting a forum. Soulliere also

stated that she and McMillan are planning an event to talk with Fairhaven students on February 5th, 2019, from 4:00-5:00 PM in Fairhaven 307, to make their conversations with Dean Herring more transparent to all students in Fairhaven College. McMillan also noted that they are involved in further organizing with students involved in the forum, and that there will be further forums this Tuesday and Thursday (January 29th and 31st) from 5:00-7:00 PM in Bond Hall 105.

### **Graduate School**

Schorr reported that she and Hensyel are in an interesting position, as they were already sitting on the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC), but that they are using their Senate positions to help further goals for that Council. They have been researching information on pay for TAs and the difficulties that graduate students are having with reduced stipends (\$12,000, but \$10,000 after taxes, with around \$3,000 in fees to the University.) Schorr noted this affects undergraduate students because TAs are heavily involved in facilitating undergraduate teaching, and that emergency funding requests from the Graduate School have not been granted in the past to help alleviate this. Schorr then reported that there is no graduate counseling on campus. Schorr also reminded the body of DEI training that was discussed in the last meeting, and that she and Hensyel have received DEI training samples that they requested from other schools, and have also met with Camilla Mejía, AS VP for Diversity, about conducting a survey regarding DEI needs in the Graduate School. Schorr discussed the Graduate Council's move from the ACC under the Faculty Senate, and the by-laws need to be revised now.

### **Huxley College of the Environment**

Noesen reported that the Huxley Senators had a meeting with Dean Hollenhorst that went very well and was met with support from Hollenhorst. Noesen then noted that she has positions on College committees that meet during her class time, but that the scheduling of those committees to work with Noesen's schedule will be a priority next quarter. Eckman added that he or Knowles could attend any meeting that Noesen and Embly cannot. Noesen added that Embly secured a non-voting position on those committees, so he has been able to attend. Noesen added that she and Embly will be meeting with Dean Hollenhorst on a bi-weekly basis, and that they will soon be meeting with faculty advisors within Huxley. Noesen then stated that she and Embly are also trying to incorporate more DEI training within the College. Embly noted that he and Noesen want to get permission to visit classrooms in hopes to facilitate student involvement and advising College committees.

### **Woodring College of Education**

Wood reported that the Senators met with Dean Walker on January 9th, 2019, and that Woodring has a faculty-led forum for students, which occurred at the end of last quarter, but that they are hoping to increase attendance at the next forum in February. Wood noted that a Human Services student expressed a concern last quarter in the forum about an occurrence in the classroom and that the professor of concern has been fired. Wood then discussed the Woodring Advisory Council (WAC) in which Wood is focusing on Human Services clubs and Fox will focus on Education clubs to ask for statements to present to the WAC. Fox noted that the UPRC has been discussing expanding the campus to the Olympic Peninsula, which would provide education for 430,000 people in the region.

**Levi Eckman, Interim Senate Pro-Tempore**

Eckman stated that there are three Deans up for review: Dean Spicer (CFPA), Dean Herring (Fairhaven College), and Dean Greenberg (Western Libraries). He reiterated that any students can review any Dean, but that he would recommend that the Senators for the respective Colleges should be involved. Eckman shared that the Faculty Senate was made aware of Meza Roa, and that Eckman received a somewhat aggressive comment from McNeel Jantzen regarding faculty frustration with not always knowing what is always going on with the AS Student Senate. Eckman responded to Jantzen saying that the Student Senate is also new to students, so it is a learning process on both sides, and invited Student Senators to attend Faculty Senate. Eckman then shared that the Faculty Senate discussed a lack of parking on campus for faculty, and then moved on to talk about the different information that should be included as a Board Report vs. Information Item. Eckman then shared that new appointees will be coming up for multiple committees, and that Senators may soon be assigned more committees and that there will be an informational PowerPoint sent to all Senators. Eckman stated that the Vice Chair of the Student Senate will be Adah Barenburg.

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

*The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:30 P.M.*

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS STUDENT SENATE – ATTENDEE ROSTER 01/28/2018**

<b>VOTING ATTENDEES</b>				<b>Senate Pro-Tempore</b>		
<i>Student Senators</i>				21	Levi W. Eckman, <i>AS VP for Academic Affairs</i>	P
1	Nicole Ballard	<i>At-Large</i>	P	<b>NON-VOTING ATTENDEES</b>		
2	Adah Barenburg	<i>At-Large</i>	P	<i>Advisory</i>		
3	Tatum Buss	<i>At-Large</i>	P	22	Leti Romo, <i>AS Assistant Director for Student Representation and Governance</i>	P
4	Courtney Yoshiyama	<i>At-Large</i>	P	<i>Recorder</i>		
5	Jona Akelipa	<i>College of Business and Economics</i>	P	23	Juliet Knowles, <i>AS Board Assistant for Academic Shared Governance</i>	P
6	Nicholas Makrakis	<i>College of Business and Economics</i>	P	<i>Guests</i>		
7	Ruth Ewald	<i>College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>	P		Nate Jo, <i>AS Board Assistant for Internal Committees</i>	
8	Paden Koltiska	<i>College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>	P		Sam Frost, <i>AS Communications Director</i>	
9	Luke LeClair	<i>College of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	P			
10	Laura Meerdink	<i>College of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	P			
11	Nina-Tuyen Tran	<i>College of Science and Engineering</i>	P			
12	Kelly Yokuda	<i>College of Science and Engineering</i>	--			
13	Dayjha McMillan	<i>Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	P			
14	Sarah Soulliere	<i>Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	P			
15	Phillip Hensyel	<i>Graduate School</i>	--			
16	Anna Campbell Schorr	<i>Graduate School</i>	P			
17	Riley Embly	<i>Huxley College of the Environment</i>	P			
18	Maya Noesen	<i>Huxley College of the Environment</i>	P			
19	Hudson Fox	<i>Woodring College of Education</i>	P		<b>Voting attendees</b>	19
20	Nicole Wood	<i>Woodring College of Education</i>	P		<b>Non-voting attendees</b>	4
<b>Voting members in attendance</b>			19		<b>TOTAL ATTENDEES</b>	23