



Western Washington University Associated Students

AS Board of Directors

May 24, 2019

VU 567

Board Members: *Present:* Millka Solomon (President), Levi Eckman (VP for Academic Affairs), Ama Monkah (VP for Activities), Nate Jo (VP for Business and Operations), Camilla Mejía (VP for Diversity), Natasha Hessami (VP for Governmental Affairs), and Anne Lee (VP for Student Life)

Absent: Ama Monkah (VP for Activities)

Advisor: Leti Romo (Assistant Director for Student Representation & Governance)

Secretary: Astrid Dueñas (Board Assistant for Internal Committees)

Guest(s): Tyler Andrews, Raquel Vigil, Janet Mcleod, Darcy Allen, Steven Magneson, Rachel Walsh, Cindy Monger

Motions:	
ASB-19-S-31	To add a document to Action Item - Board C and to remove Information Item – Guest C. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-32	Extend discussion by 5 minutes. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-33	Approve the job description edits for the Business Director as presented. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-34	Add 5 more minutes to the discussion. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-35	Approve option A from the AS Wage Task Force. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-36	Approve all wage changes. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-37	Approve the Carry Over Policy as presented. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-38	Approve the ASVP Board Assistant Grant Proposal. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-39	Approve the funding request for a two-year grant with money rolling over. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-40	Make the AS Undocumented and Mixed Student Status Charge & Charter an action item. <i>Passed.</i>
ASB-19-S-41	To pass the Charge and Charter with amendments of date, strike, grammatical, format, and executive. <i>Passed.</i>

Millka Solomon, AS President, called the meeting to order at 4:03.

I. Approval of Minutes

II. Revisions to the Agenda

MOTION ASB-19-S-31 by Eckman

To add a document to Action Item - Board C and to remove Information Item – Guest C.

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

III. Public Forum (comments from students and the community)

IV. Information Items - Guests

A. AS Reserves Policy & Reserves

Tyler Andrews and Nate Jo presented the AS Reserves Policy document.

Levi Eckman asked if this budget would be operationalized. Jo responded that no, they want to make sure that the Student Enhancement Fund (SEF) is in the reserves policy. Eckman continues what the difference is between it being in reserves or operationalized. Jo responded that Budget Committee considered it, but thought that keeping SEF in reserves would be wiser. Eckman tries to clarify if it is like operational, to which Jo responds that not exactly.

Natasha asked how much typically carries over into reserves. Jo responds that it is, historically, about 10%. Raquel Vigil stated that reserves stand at 1 million. A policy determines how that money is distributed and SEF is trying to be part of the discretionary part of the policy.

Eckman questions if there was no money in reserves, does that mean SEF would be left with nothing. Jo explains that while yes, the chances are incredibly slim. Plus SEF and other reserve funded groups, have cases that spend less than what is requested. Never has it fully been spent.

Hessami asks is anything else is funded through the discretionary. Jo responds that yes, quite a few.

Eckman asks if there was a plan to operationalize it. Jo, responds that the plan has always been to have it in discretionary. Eckman continues that if there was no money, could the next Board put some money in. Jo says yes and Vigil adds that SEF depends on discretionary. For operational, it gets harder to justify.

Anne Lee asks for clarification between operational and discretionary. To which Jo responded with a clarification.

B. Health Services Fee Proposal

Janet McLeod and Darcy Allen presented the Health and Wellness Fee Proposal document.

Jo asked how requests for funds function, plus the expansion of counseling services. McLeod explained that there are emergent aid requests. The state is on a biennium system and it is understood that it will likely not be funded. The goal is to continue adding counselors and services are still going, despite lack of funding and there being space issues.

Eckman asked what happens if the fee does not happen. McLeod explains that the process is out of counseling and the AS Board, so that would continue as it stands.

Hessami questioned that since there has been an increase in the past few years, has that been matched. McLeod explains that the increase was only specific to counseling. Out of the past 5 years few positions have been added. Hessami continued asking if she knew by how much it had increased. McLeod noted that she did not have an exact percentage and Vigil added that the fee increase had to be at least 3.9%.

C. OC Excursions Training Grant Extension

Steven Magneson presented the OC Excursions Training Grant Extension document.

Hessami asked if the Outdoor Center (OC) has tried to get more people to balance out the technical knowledge. Magneson responded that they have been trying to get more diverse people in terms of technical skills. However, they are focusing on desired skills rather than on tech skills. Hessami continued asking how that it was paid, to which Magneson responded that it was the fee.

Jo commented that though the impact of the OC excursions are not as visible, there is a direct impact on students. They stated that diversity requires investment. The Board cannot claim to care about diversity, if they do not invest in it.

Millka Solomon asked what the OC was doing to attract more people of color. Noticing the jump to \$6000, she asked what the reasoning for that jump was. Also, she questioned if it should be a grant. There a specific goal, but with people graduating, this grant would constantly need to ask to be funded. Jo responded that the Budget Committee decided to not put it into S&A because of the increases in wages. Magneson also wants to refine the trainings and there are plans to make it operational. Magneson adds that he wants this to be operational but it was not realistic for this year. In response to Solomon's first question, Magneson responds that the OC is having regular meetings and meeting people in their

space. Have reviewed the original design of the program, and have taken out exclusive language and done internal things to attract people to the program. However, it has not worked so OC has started strategic outreach and focus on the responses that they are receiving.

Camila Mejía asked who would oversee meeting people where they are. She is aware of interest from people of color; however, the deterrent is the cost. No one has come talked to her during her time as ESC staff. She also was curious what kind of anti-racist and non-binary training is being given.

MOTION ASB-19-S-32 by Jo

Extend discussion by 5 minutes.

Second: Eckman

Vote: 5-0-0

Action: Passed

Magneson responded that they mostly connect with the ESC excursion coordinator. They partner with the ESC quarterly for their trips. Plus, every year, for their staff training do sessions surrounding topics of race, discrimination, justice, and raising consciousness of the OC.

Eckman emphasized Solomon's second question, which was why there was a jump of \$6000. Magneson responded that medical certification has been subsidized, but with the VU's new fees it has impacted their allocation of money and budget.

Jo noted that trip leaders do not go to staff development for Fall, only the coordinators. Eckman asked if it would be valuable for them to go, only issue is that they have WOOT at the same time.

Mejía asked who does the trainings. Magneson responded that it was Joanne Demark.

D. SAIRC Library and Archival Coordinator Proposal

Alberto Rodriguez-Escobedo presented the SAIRC Library and Archival Coordinator job description.

Jo asked if the reportage for this position comes from Rodriguez' position, which it was. Jo also adds that there seems to be overlap with Mejía's proposed position. Mejía responded that the position she is proposing would mostly be helping the next VP rather

than working on the physical relocation of the library. Jo also wants to see the funding request.

Hessami also wanted to emphasize the credit load. So long as they are not a transfer or a freshman, they are eligible to apply. She asked what the hourly rate was and the max for hours. Jo, responded that it relates to budget and would also like the same information.

V. Action Items - Guests

VI. Personnel Items *(subject to immediate action)*

A. AS Business Director Job Description

Jo presented the Business Director Job Description document.

Hessami asked if this position would get an assistant, similar to a board assistant. Andres responded that the current Business Director and they have considered adding another position to the office. Jo noted that there will have to be consideration on how the Business Director position and the Business office will work.

Eckman suggested adding into his and Millka's job descriptions something relating to maintaining relations with the Business Director.

Hessami asked where reportage is and to who. Jo responded that these edits were made by Vigil and Eric Alexander, so whoever this position is reporting to was decided by them. The Board was happy to be notified of that.

MOTION ASB-19-S-33 By Jo

Approve the job description edits for the Business Director as presented.

Second: Eckman

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

VII. Action Items - Board

A. AS Wage Policy

Jo presented the AS Wage Policy document.

Eckman reported that the Senate's official recommendation is option A.

Eckman asks when the hourly for elected starts. Jo responded as soon as possible. The options is that the Board changes at the beginning of the fiscal year, then all other AS employees would take effect in the new year. Or have every position change at the beginning of the fiscal year. Hessami noted that it having everyone start as soon as

possible would keep people's paychecks consistent. Solomon asked if there was a reason for not starting in June, which Jo responded to save money.

From the Senate, Eckman asked if there was an issue with money being left over in some way. Jo responded no.

Eckman expressed the views of Senator that voted for option C that their comments were that the AS should strive for option C, have it, and then figure out how to implement it. Jo responded that the Senators made valid points, however he is uncomfortable with having to notify future students that they will have to figure out how option C will be funded.

Hessami remembered that two years ago, a similar attempt at change was stopped because of administration, and asked if there was a possibility for that to happen again. Jo noted that the only relation with WWU is the classifications matching up.

Eckman noted that he personally is favorable toward option A.

Rachel Walsh noted that the Personnel Office is in support of option A.

Jo clarified that there are two more documents attached to the presentation however the focus of the meeting was the hourly rate and a major change is that program assistants will have two categories.

Hessami noted that the Outdoor Center was not listed. Jo explained that positions such as trip leaders are stipend and are not factored into this policy.

Eckman commented that he was uncomfortable with making decisions based on the numbers given. Theoretically, it could be a lot more money but is concerned of depleting funds. Solomon noted that she was to pay as much as possible without hurting future students. Jo responded that the AS, using option C, would not run out of money in five years. However, option A is both mindful of the budget and progressive. Another aspect is that increasing wages will mean that there will be less money for services.

Lee commented that it was not fair to abstain from voting because summer hours are not accounted for. Plus, since it is starting in June, it is possible that we are projected less numbers. Jo added that student workers are being compensated appropriately during that

time. Hessami also added that option C does not increase equally for every position. She also wants to pay everyone as much as possible, these jobs give a lot and A gives student workers a decent compensation.

MOTION ASB-19-S-34 by Eckman

Add 5 more minutes to the discussion.

Second: Solomon

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

Eckman noted that they had a review of the documents and that was not provided for the Senate. Due to this he is uncomfortable with the Senate's position since they did not have it. Lee responded that Jo told the Senate and that the numbers presented are good estimates.

Solomon wondered if anything was inaccurate. Jo responded that they are not exact, they are not accurate simply because there is no way of knowing the actual amount of hours that people will work in reality and in the future. Hessami responded that the number of \$9000 was not accurate to the difference between option A and C. Solomon noted that since they are both estimates, then \$9000 could be considered a reliable number.

Mejía wondered that with the increase of option C, would that mean an increase in wages but a decrease in programming. Jo responded that not for this year, however for next year, it is possible for small cuts to happen. Mejía noted that when there are cuts, it is most often that programming for minorities gets cut first.

Solomon asked other Board members who prefer option A, why they do so. Hessami responded that both are good, but A is more fiscally conservative. Jo responded that both are progressive, both are equitable, but C has the potential to cut program funding. Mejía noted that they like both, but she is concerned about the programs.

Mejía stated to do option A, since it would not impact the budget as quickly as option C. So, if future students wanted to increase, they would have more time to acknowledge the potential impacts. Jo added that wages will be constantly looked at and improved upon.

Solomon stated that since the Senate's vote is option A, they will heed their decision.

MOTION ASB-19-S-35 by Jo

Approve option A from the AS Wage Task Force.

Second: Hessami

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

MOTION ASB-19-S-36 by Jo

Approve all wage changes.

Second: Eckman

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

B. AS Carry Over Policy

Jo presented the AS Carry Over Policy document.

MOTION ASB-19-S-37 by Jo

Approve the Carry Over Policy as presented.

Second: Hessami

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

C. ASVP Board Assistant Grant Proposal

Mejía presented the MCC Board Assistant Grant Proposal document.

Lee commented that there are a lot of responsibilities and duties that need to be done for the MCC transition and the ASVPs will need more support.

Jo commented that the Vice President for Diversity does not have a board assistant. This grant will be beneficial and could lead to a restructure to the roles of board assistants.

MOTION ASB-19-S-38 by Mejía

Approve the ASVP Board Assistant Grant Proposal.

Second: Eckman

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

D. Student Senate Grant

Eckman gives a presentation and explanation for the Student Senate Grant document.

MOTION ASB-19-S-39 by Eckman

Approve the funding request for a two-year grant with money rolling over.

Second: Jo

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

MOTION ASB-19-S-40 by Solomon

Make the AS Undocumented and Mixed Student Status Charge & Charter an action item.

Second: Mejía

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

E AS Undocumented and Mixed Student Status Charge & Charter

Mejía presented the Undocumented and Mixed Student Status Charge & Charter document.

Jo commented that they like the section pertaining to keeping the administration accountable. They further comment that the format needs to be updated but they approve of it.

Hessami wonders about student compensation. Mejía responded that there have been discussions about it. There is the source of the Blue Resource Center. Also, compensating by providing food. Mejía notes that they can tell the next AS Vice President for Diversity to use their fund. Eckman suggested the foundation.

Hessami was curious about who appoints. Mejía noted that the purpose was to bring people together in a more formal setting.

Hessami asked about having an advisor. Mejía responded that they do not think that would be the best practice. Solomon noted that the group could invite Melinda Huskey if needed. Mejía responded that this group already meets with Huskey, this is to put a name to that group.

Hessami asked what mixed states meant. Mejía responded that situations like DACA is mixed status, or residency. Plus, there are also mixed status families. In which, some family members are documented, and others are not.

MOTION ASB-19-S-41 by Mejía

To pass the Charge and Charter with amendments of date, strike, grammatical, format, and executive.

Second: Eckman

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

VIII. Information Items - Board

A. AS Budget Recommendation

Jo presented the Budget Recommendation document.

Cindy Monger noted she would be able to have information by Wednesday.

Hessami recommended that when looking at what needs to be updated and looked at, the Assessment office could do it. Jo notes that it brings up a conversation that the Assessment office has not been doing a great job, there needs to be a better option for assessing. Solomon noted that the office is doing assessment that is not necessary.

B. STF Guidelines

Eckman presented and explained the STF Operational Guidelines document.

IX. Consent Items *(subject to immediate action)*

X. Board Reports

Camila Mejía, AS Vice President for Diversity stated that the soft opening of the MCC is June 7th from 5pm to 7pm. There will be vegan options available. LAF did presentation about heteronormativity in our communities. Topics discussed we're not being inclusive of QTPOC and how we are complacent to systems of oppression. Next week, they will be talking about best practices and stepping away from heteronormativity in ESC spaces

Levi Eckman, AS Vice President for Academic Affairs stated that everyone should attend ACC and Faculty Senate in the upcoming weeks.

Millka Solomon, AS President stated that she had nothing to report.

Nate Jo, AS Vice President for Business and Operation stated that they had nothing to report.

Anne Lee, VP for Student Life stated that they had begun their internships with next year's board. They also notified every one of the Ethnic Studies teaching, upcoming Tuesday, and social, that would occur the upcoming Friday.

Natasha Hessami, VP for Governmental Affairs stated that the Washington Student Association would have a meeting on June 1st. Her and Solomon also attended the President's Advisory Council for Internal Resource Modeling, discovering that the institution was interested in retaining and hiring more faculty of color. The council ran an analysis and found out that to increase diversity at Western is inexpensive. The funding provided is surprisingly adequate.

XI. Other Business

Millka Solomon, AS President, adjourned this meeting at 6:29 pm