



Western Washington University Associated Students

AS Board of Directors

December 6th, 2019

VU 567

Board Members: *Present:* Lani Defiesta (President), Selome Zerai (VP for Activities), Yesugen Battsengel (VP for Diversity), Grace Drechsel (VP for Governmental Affairs), Emily Gerhardt (VP for Student Services), Trever Mullins (VP for Sustainability, and Adah Barenburg (Senate Pro-Tempore)

Absent:

Advisor: Leti Romo (Assistant Director for Student Representation & Governance)
Annie Byers (AS Board Program Coordinator)

Secretary: Sierra Templeton and Elaine Morado.

Guest(s): Bennett Massey-Helber, Kaitlyn Davidson, Joselyn Chavez, Andrew Burnell, Nate Jo, and Sargun Handa.

Motions:

ASB-19-F-56 To approve the meeting minutes from November 22. *Passed.*

ASB-19-F-57 To add Jasmine Balasa, graduate student, to the consent items. *Passed.*

ASB-19-F-58 To move the AS WWU Legislative Agenda for 2020 to an Action Item.
Passed.

ASB-19-F-59 To pass the WWU Legislative Agenda for 2019-2020. *Passed.*

ASB-19-F-60 To move the Restructure Committee Charge and Charter to an Action Item.
Passed.

ASB-19-F-61 To pass the Restructure Committee Charge and Charter with the amendment of creating a subcommittee to evaluate the Finance Council starting week 6 of Winter and Spring quarter. *Passed.*

ASB-19-F-62 To acknowledge Jasmine Balasa on the Academic Excellence Committee.
Passed.

Lani Defiesta, AS President, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes

MOTION ASB-19-F-56 by Drechsel

To approve the meeting minutes from November 22.

Second: Mullins

Vote: 6-0-1

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

II. Revisions to the Agenda

MOTION ASB-19-F-57 by [insert name]

To add Jasmine Balasa, graduate student, to the consent items.

Second: Drechsel

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

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

- A.
1. Andrew Burnell
 - a. Wants to combine advanced sailing tech with renewable/sustainable/recycled materials to enable a low-carbon foot print commercial marine transport targeting the triple bottom line to sail across Norway to bring his key back to where he got it from.
 - b. Worst fossil fuels are carried in ships, super tank carries 24,000 containers, produces more greenhouse gas than most of the world's cars. Bunker fuel has to be heated up to work.
 - c. Figure out ways to introduce sail and solar and hydro and wind technology into the sailing industry because the amount of carbon that would be cut, working with the head of the equal resource institute, connected to UVC to work with the naval architects and graduate professors to find architects for this boat.
 - d. The race to Alaska is a sail voyage from the inside passage from Port Townsend to Ketchikan.
 - e. He wants to start a club to work on this project, creating a vessel made of completely recycled materials that sails that carries 40-50 engines each weighing 100 engines.
 - f. A timely thing, international maritime organization is launching a reduction of carbon footprint campaign, and a lot of industry partners are also getting aboard.
 2. Nate Jo
 - a. Eric Alexander put together a trip to UW to visit the Huskey Union building and AS UW as well as the Q.
 - b. The board members were invited to attend the trip to communicate with and observe the student government from another university.

IV. Information Items - Guests

A. N/A

V. Action Items - Guests

A. N/A

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

A. N/A

VII. Action Items - Board

A. AS WWU Legislative Agenda

MOTION ASB-19-F-59 by Dreschel

To pass the WWU Legislative Agenda for 2019-2020.

Second: Battsengel

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

A. Restructure Committee Charge and Charter

MOTION ASB-19-F-61 by Zerai

To pass the Restructure Committee Charge and Charter with the amendment of creating a subcommittee to evaluate the Finance Council starting week 6 of Winter and Spring quarter.

Second: Defiesta

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

VIII. Information Items - Board

A. AS WWU Legislative Agenda- Drechsel

1. The LAC generated a list of potential issues that affected students and sent a survey with these issues. List was narrowed down based on the responses and the issues were looked into on what could be asked for that makes sense in this legislative year.
2. College affordability- students indicated that this affects their lives the most. HB 2158 passed (Workforce Education Investment Act), money dedicated to state financial aid for students, increased eligibility for aid. There was a gap in the funding, and the LAC is asking to make sure this gap is filled, and to expand the student loan forgiveness programs in Washington State.
3. Support for Undocumented Students- Joselyn Chaves would be the contact for this as well as blue group. Ask to require protocols for universities to prioritize undocumented student safety. Washington student association is asking for a state funded student loan program for undocumented students to access; both undergraduates and graduate students. LAC asks to close the Tacoma detention center by revoking it's business license
4. Funding for Ethnic Studies- Ask for 1.01 million per biennium for five tenure track faculty with expertise and experience in critical ethnic studies to structurally support building an ethnic studies program at Western. Originated in the coalition for ethnic studies, and this is how the LAC is supporting them. Last year, SB 5023 mandated ethnic studies classes in K-12 schools. As Woodring doesn't have ethnic studies classes, there's no way they can be expected them to teach ethnic studies.
5. Mental Health and Wellness- a lot is needed to get the services where they need to be. A new building is needed but can't be asked for in this supplemental year as it's a 30 million dollar ask. The LAC does ask for a long term plan for a future integrated health and wellness center at Western including a new building to locate WWU wellness service such as the counseling center, CASAS, ADCAS,

and the student health center. In the short term, there's an ask designed by Western to renovate Old Main so that CASAS has a waiting room, etc. Establishing a statewide study to research current access to coverage to reproduction, mental, dental, vision, and general healthcare for Washington students. It didn't pass in the WSA but that ask also asked to amend the RCW. The survey can probably be achieved this year, as well as developing a system for an opt-out program.

6. Environmental protections and climate justice- Ask to establish a low-carbon fuel standard, provide funding for the department of ecology pre-adjudication work (HB 1051 respecting indigenous water rights), supporting a statewide ban on single use plastic bags, setting targets for greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles to be lower than the levels from the 90's.
7. Support for Survivors- HB 1002 to modify the definition of rape in the 3rd degree. Change from lack of consent to clear expression by the victims words or conduct. Allocating resources so that specialized personnel and training for staff members can be implemented. Developing and implementing a statewide program for all university staff and administration. The program at Western isn't comprehensive and doesn't apply to staff and admin. Requiring universities and colleges to conduct a sexual assault campus survey to assess prevalence of sexual assault on an institutional level to keep track of all credible instances of incidences and complaints against staff. Supporting a new version of a bill to mandate comprehensive sex-education.
8. Dedicated Revenue- this shows legislators how these asks will be paid for. Examples of tax loopholes to close, etc. This may change based on what the LAC is able to do, Jay Inslee's priorities come out mid-December, which may shift the dedicated revenue section.
9. Burnell asked about the Environmental Protections and Climate Justice sections and Drechsel and Mullins pointed him the HB 1051 as well as Jose Ortuzar from the ECC.
10. Massey-Helber wanted to clarify that Tacoma has already tried and failed to pull the detention center's business license and they are being sued. He believes this should be moved to more of a state ask, because there is more support this year. He comments that Support for Survivors should be changed to Support for Survivors of Sexual assault for clarity, and that the 90's emissions goal should be worded differently to be more easily understood.
11. Barenburg asked whether the document would be exactly the same on Lobby Day, and Drechsel clarified that it would, just in a Tri-fold format. Gerhardt questioned whether the study concerning mental health would be focused on universities in general or Western's campus specifically. Drechsel and Massey-Helber clarified that this would be a state-wide survey for state university campuses. It would show the gap of students who aren't receiving the healthcare they need.
12. Zerai asked for a clarification about the Funding for Ethnic Studies, the issue with anti-blackness, and relating to the coalition, which Defiesta clarified. Defiesta asked whether the board should pass the funding for an ethnic studies based on the reasons that the ethnic studies resolution had not passed previously. Gerhardt noted that the funding is important to back the idea of an ethnic studies department separate from what the coalition does.
13. Dreschel made note that the Western administrators wanted to push for the funding of a longhouse on campus on the legislative front. This may be added to future legislative agendas, but it doesn't need the backing of Western's students, only the support of a legislator, so it won't be added to the LAC agenda.

14. The changes listed were; clarifying ADCAS and CASAS instead of using acronyms, revising the wording on the carbon emissions ask, changing the wording from Support for Survivors to Support for Survivors of Sexual Assault, revising the language in the Undocumented Students ask to be state-focused instead of Tacoma based, and adding “AS WWU recommends...” before each ask.

MOTION ASB-19-F-58 by Mullins

To move the AS WWU Legislative Agenda for 2020 to an Action Item.

Second: Zerai

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

B. Restructure Committee Charge and Charter- Zerai

1. First change was to create a subcommittee to evaluate the Finance Council starting week 6 of the Winter and Spring quarters. The second is to change wording to representative of the Viking Union.

MOTION ASB-19-F-60 by Zerai

To move the Restructure Committee Charge and Charter to an Action Item.

Second: Gerhardt

Vote: 6-0-1

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining: Dreschel

IX. Consent Items (subject to immediate action)

A. Adding Jasmine Balasa to the Academic Excellence Committee

1. Barenburg noted that Balasa has served on 15 different committees on campus and is also the chair of GSAC, and she recommends her placement on the committee.

MOTION ASB-19-F-62 by Mullins

To acknowledge Jasmine Balasa on the Academic Excellence Committee.

Second: Barenburg

Vote: 5-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

*Abstaining: Defiesta and
Battsengel*

X. Board Reports

Lani Defiesta, AS President stated that she had a meeting with Sabah. Adah and WWU Deans are attempting to streamline the process for communicating with each college of education. Defiesta also stated that she is in the hiring committee for a Title IX Director whose job description will need to be edited. A search firm will select a pool of applicants for the committee to decide on.

Selome Zerai, VP for Activities stated that there's a new job opening in the club and she has been interviewing applicants, also has been meeting with admin about MLK Day and Black History Month. The counseling center will start doing Wellness Wednesdays in the Winter and Spring quarter, and they're planning on taking small cuts in budget to do more outreach events on campus.

Yesugen Battsengel, VP for Diversity was absent from the end of the meeting.

Trever Mullins, VP for Sustainability stated that he has been finishing up committee affairs, and scheduling meetings for next quarter. SEJF got through all of their agenda items as well. He has been reviewing the notes from the Redefining Sustainability event to see what to prioritize for the next quarter.

Emily Gerhardt, VP for Student Services stated that she will not be present for the next week. She attended the Dessert for the Directors where they let students know that students living in Buchanan East will have money taken off their housing payment due to the lack of access to hot water and will be reimbursed for money they spent on food while living in hotels they were assigned to while the issue was being fixed. She's been working on a survey with some RA's on the education model You Rise to present the findings to Res Life Admin, and to all RA's as well.

Grace Drechsel, VP for Governmental Affairs stated that she has been working on the LAC legislative agenda and preparing for Lobby Day. She noted that she has been doing outreach for Lobby Day and there are only 15 spots left.

Adah Barenburg, Senate Pro-Tempore was absent for the end of the meeting.

XI. Other Business

The AS would like to work on what transparency means for them which may include improving the consistency of livestreaming, and updating the website more frequently.

Lani Defiesta, AS President, adjourned this meeting at 4:38.