

**Western Washington University Associated Students
STUDENT SENATE**

Date: 02/12/2020 Room: VU 567

Attendees: *Roster Attached*

MOTIONS

ASWWUSS-20-W-18

ASWWUSS-20-W-19 *To motion to move Math department letter from action item to information item. **Passed.***

ASWWUSS-20-W-20 *To motion to move the By-laws from action item to information item. **Passed.***

ASWWUSS-20-W-21 *To motion to create a subcommittee for time sensitive issues. **Passed.***

ASWWUSS-20-W-22

ASWWUSS-20-W-23

Adah Barenburg, Senate Pro-Tempore, called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A.

MOTION ASWWUSS-20-W-18 by

Second:

Vote:

Action:

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

A. Gomez motions to move Math department letter from action item to information item.

B. Ballard motions to move By-laws from action item to information item.

MOTION ASWWUSS-20-W-19 by Gomez

To approve to move Math department letter from action item to information item

Second: Van Leeuwen

Vote: 16 – 0 – 0

Action: Passed

MOTION ASWWUSS-20-W-20 by Ballard

To approve to move the By-laws from action item to information item

Second: Arnold

Vote: 16 – 0 – 0

Action: Passed

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

A. Aguayo introduces Dr. Ledbetter, he says she has really good ideas that tackle issues regarding the Counseling center on campus. Ledbetter introduces herself as the new executive director of counseling health and wellness. She submitted a grant which proposes to partner with Bellingham police, peace health, the prosecutor's office and commission of domestic violence to focus on sexual assault and domestic violence. When she first came to western, one of the things

she noticed around counseling health and wellness had to do with the separation of the student health center and the prevention of wellness services. She works to unify them because they all impact one another. She also works to integrate our behavioral health on campus. The integration is ensuring we get at least one or two counselors in the student health center. And expanding the counseling center by hiring more with the goal of bringing students together. She welcomes students support and ideas on ways to improve the Counseling center. Ledbetter says she is working on getting screens around campus to promote health education, she is currently taking to Vice president of student services about this proposal. She is also working on getting an app called live safe for campus safety, for example if a student were to be out at night to get groceries, an escort from live safe would come with you. Gomez asks Dr. Ledbetter, within your position, what you can do to make sure that the services you offer include people of color. Ledbetter says that she works towards bring more counselors of color, but it's hard to convince them to come to Bellingham due to the lack diversity. Bashir asks how we can support you with this issue. Ledbetter says forward any references of people of color for counseling positons.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS – Guests*

Handa introduces Kevin, a CFPA student, is working to move funds to increase the SNA fees in student tuition, so that all art events on campus could be free for students. Kevin says that they are working with faculty to support the performing arts, the idea is to add a \$12.50 fee per quarter to student tuition. This will allow students to attend performing arts events and support the performers without the worry of having to pay for a ticket, which is big issue of why students don't attend in the first place. Jo says another option would be to increasing the amount funding offered by the Department Related Activities Club (DRAC), but that can be more cumbersome and less transparent. Aguayo asks can you opt out of paying the fee. Kevin says the students can opt out and it will be an option.

V. ACTION ITEMS – Guests*

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

A.

MOTION ASWWUSS-20-W-21 by

Second:

Vote:

Action:

VII. ACTION ITEMS – Senate*

A.

MOTION ASWWUSS-20-W-22 by

Second:

Vote:

Action:

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS – Senate*

- Aguayo discusses the issues surrounding the math departments. They want to condense the math 224 course from nine weeks to six weeks during summer quarter. He says that this course is very difficult for students and shortening the course to six weeks will not be favorable towards students. Aguayo has reached to faculty and asked how they will make accommodations for students if the course week were to be condensed, but he has not heard back from faculty with a response. Aguayo has been working alongside a few other students to mitigate this issue and he wrote a letter to the math department and he asks for the support of the other senators by signing the letter. Noesen says there should be academic research and statistics on the effects of condensing the course. Ballard recommends sending the letter to the academic coordination committee. Handa discussed the By-Laws and possibly changing the name of senate pro-tempore to senate chair or senate leader because a lot of students are unaware of what senate pro-tempore means. Ballard addresses the issue of changing elections from fall to spring can put a lot more work on the elections coordinator. Ford is concerned with having elections in the spring because it might be too much campaigning
- A. alongside the executive board election. Handa says this would increase voter turnout. Ford suggests there should be more preparation for the election in regards to advertising it around campus. Ballard says the student senate hasn't been around as long at the executive board, so it's going to take more time to gain the recognition. Leeuwan suggest we form a subcommittee for when there should be elections. Romo mentions if the senate wants to change the name of the senate pro-tempore that needs to be done before the election packages come out. Handa says if the senate pro-tempore and the vice chair are both absent for the senate meeting then the board assistant will take their place and is responsible for the meeting. Noesen says the senators discussed that they preferred Romo choosing who runs the meeting if the senate pro-tempore and the vice chair are absent. Handa talks about the Graduate Student Mental Health center that has been created and started in January, but there hasn't been much advertisement of the center around campus. Ballard adds the Graduate Students Mental Health center serves community members in the Bellingham area and not specifically targeted towards students, the counseling office is primarily for students. Handa suggest we meet with them to see how the senators could possibly get involved.

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

A.

MOTION ASWWUSS-20-W-23 by Leeuwan

To approve to create a subcommittee for time sensitive issues.

Second: Farrand

Vote: 15 – 0 – 0

Action: Passed

X. BOARD REPORTS

Adah Barenburg, Senate Pro-Tempore

At-Large

Kaitlyn Davidson

Sargun Handa is going to western intersectional lobby day

Koby Okezie is working on projects and opening the dining hall for students during school breaks as well as working on selling sports merchandise for the public and students.

Connor Farrand is working with the Western front reporters to discuss the student senate and what they are about.

College of Business and Economics

Abdul-Malik Ford is attending events for Black History Month

Michael Proska

College of Fine and Performing Arts

Luke Arnold

Ruth Ewald working on revisions to the snow policy

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Nicole Ballard is serving on the budget committee

Ranulfo Molina is drafting a statement to Melynda Huskey about student safety on campus

College of Science and Engineering

Kris Aguayo

Elias Bashir met with the Dean about Luke LeChair and the domain of the building

Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies

Rukhsar Sadat is on the committees and she is working Muslim Student association and planning an annual Ramadan banquet

Yashaia Van Leeuwen

Graduate School

José Cervantes-Aguilar

Patrick Q. Czichas say the Graduate council is looking at decisions on the living standards for grad students

Huxley College of the Environment

Logan Moldenhauer is sitting on committees

Maya Noesen

Woodring College of Education

Nathaniel Gaines is working on organizing the forum

Graciela Gomez is talking to the Dean and the EOO and working to get gender neutral bathrooms

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

A.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:30PM

VOTING ATTENDEES				NON-VOTING ATTENDEES			
Student Senators				20	Adah Barenburg, <i>AS Senate Pro-Tempore</i>	A	
				21	Sargun Handa, <i>Vice Chair</i>	P	
1	Kaitlyn Davidson	<i>At-Large</i>	A				
2	Koby Okezie	<i>At-Large</i>	P	22	Leti Romo, <i>AS Assistant Director for Student Representation and Governance</i>	P	
3	Connor Farrand	<i>At-Large</i>	P	Recorder			
4	Abdul-Malik Ford	<i>College of Business and Economics</i>	P	23	Winta Berhe, <i>AS Board assistant</i>	P	
5	Michael Proska	<i>College of Business and Economics</i>	P	Guests			
6	Ruth Ewald	<i>College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>	P	24	Sislena Ledbetter	P	
7	Luke Arnold	<i>College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>	P				
8	Nicole Ballard	<i>College of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	P				
9	Ranulfo Molina	<i>College of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	P				
10	Kris Aguayo	<i>College of Science and Engineering</i>	P				
11	Elias Bashir	<i>College of Science and Engineering</i>	P				
12	Rukhsar Sadat	<i>Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	P				
13	Yashaia Van Leeuwen	<i>Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	P				
14	José Cervantes-Aguilar	<i>Graduate School</i>	A				
15	Patrick Q. Czichas	<i>Graduate School</i>	P				
16	Logan Moldenhauer	<i>Huxley College of the Environment</i>	P				
17	Maya Noesen	<i>Huxley College of the Environment</i>	P				
18	Nathaniel Gaines	<i>Woodring College of Education</i>	P			Voting attendees	18
19	Graciela Gomez	<i>Woodring College of Education</i>	P			Non-voting attendees	4
Voting members in attendance			18			TOTAL ATTENDEES	22