



**Western Washington University Associated Students
AS Board of Directors**

October 9th, 2020
MS Teams

Board Members: *Present:* Keenan Kaemingk (VP for Activities), Nicole Ballard (VP for Governmental Affairs), Carson Brock (VP for Student Services), Nora Harren (VP for Sustainability, and Sargun Handa (Senate Pro-Tempore)
Absent: Abdul Malik Ford (President), Ranulfo Molina (VP for Diversity)
Advisor: Annie Byers (AS Board Program Coordinator)
Secretary: Sierra Templeton
Guest(s): Mario Alem, Casey Hayden

Motions:

- ASB-20-F-5** To approve the Executive Board meetings minutes from the date of September 25th, 2020, with the approved edits. *Passed.*
- ASB-20-F-6** To close public forum at 2:48 p.m. *Passed.*
- ASB-20-F-7** To approve the final AS Elections Code edits for the 20-21 school year. *Passed.*
- ASB-20-F-8** To approve the question “Do you believe AS Student Senate Elections should be in the Spring...” as a referendum on the 2020 student elections ballot by the AS Executive Board as sponsored by the AS Senate Pro-Tempore, Sargun Handa. *Passed.*

Nicole Ballard, AS VP of Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes

September 25th, 2020 edits

MOTION ASB-20-F-5 By Handa

To approve the Executive Board meetings minutes from the date of September 25th, 2020, with the approved edits.

Second: Harren

Vote: 5-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

II. Revisions to the Agenda

None

III. BSO Demands (comments from students and the community)

1. Byers stated that the intention of this section was for Ford to start the discussion. If other officers have updates they can share them now or revisit the item next week when Ford is able to give context to it.
2. Handa added that she appreciated adding the item before public forum so that students can voice their opinions as well.

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

1. The forum opened at 2:45 p.m.

MOTION ASB-20-F-6 by Brock

To close public forum at 2:48 p.m.

Second: Kaemingk

Vote: 5-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

V. Action Items - Guests

A. AS Elections Code- Handa

1. All edits can be viewed in the document section of the Executive Board meeting for October 9th, 2020.
2. Alem stated that these are the proposed revisions to the elections code for this year. The committee has mostly followed the suggested revisions from last year's elections advisory committee with a couple minor adjustments. Their goal is to make elections an equitable and enjoyable process for the student body and appointees, as well as fulfilling the BSO demands.
3. Handa noted that last year's committee was all white except for herself, so this year she believes there is added exploration of equity, diversity, and inclusivity.
4. Alem stated that one major change was to change the filing period to a minimum of two weeks, with official petitions and packages available on an online format such as WIN on the first day of filing. The election meeting would take place within five days of the end of the candidate filing period. The elections period would be to start at 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for 5-7 days which would be decided by the Elections Coordinator with advisement of an AS advisor. The committee would also like to remove the petition requirement for the Senate elections and the Spring Executive Board elections. As everything is online at the moment, there should be different practices.
5. Handa explained that it is most important to advertise the Student Senate elections, rather than having a longer application period. This would allow the Student Senate to start earlier. These edits only affect the election this year.
6. Handa stated that the student petition requirements were changed from 1.5% to 5% because the AS Constitution states the 5% petition requirement, and this 1.5% was therefore unconstitutional.
7. Alem stated that signatures obtained in favor of the placement of a measure on the ballot must be obtained during the Summer and/or Fall quarters of the academic year. The elections campaign period shall start the day after the candidate meeting at 8:00 p.m. and last until 4:00 p.m. on the last day of voting. This time period is to allow time for processing. If running for an At-Large position, the candidate must be undeclared.

8. Alem stated that private messaging about the candidacy is permitted, anything that can be perceived as campaigning shall not be permitted until the elections period starts. Verbal campaigning does not include social media campaigning. All websites and social media campaign pages must be declared to the AS Elections Coordinator, previous pages may be reactivated with approval of the AS Elections Coordinator so long as all previous content is deleted.
9. Alem stated that current AS employees and elected officials may endorse candidates, only as students/individuals, not as representatives of the AS. Handa stated that AS organizations may not spend money on behalf of a candidate. If an event occurs, all candidates for that position must be invited and notified at least three days in advance.
10. Alem stated that the money for campaigning includes funds spent on online advertising and social media campaigning. Ballard stated that her concern would be that some candidates would be allowed to use ads, while other positions may be deemed too political to advertise. Handa explained that allowing the funds to be used for online ads is more equitable for lower-income students who can't spend outside money on campaigning, and that the Senate doesn't have specific political positions, and she will inform CHSS candidates on how to advertise without seeming too political to the social media rules.
11. Alem stated that now students may vote for four At-Large senators instead of two (as there are four positions). If not enough candidates apply to fill a position, a nomination box can be added to the ballot. The Elections Coordinator may not use voting software to reveal candidate standing or numbers.

MOTION ASB-20-F-7 by Handa

To approve the final AS Elections Code edits for the 20-21 school year.

Second: Harren

Vote: 5-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

B. Spring AS Student Senate Elections Referendum- Handa

1. Handa stated that this is informative on the differences between an initiative, a referendum, and an amendment. An initiative is a question brought to the ballot by a general student that gathered 5% of the student body's signatures. A referendum is a question brought to the ballot by a majority vote by the Executive Board. An amendment is an actual change to the AS Constitution.
2. Handa stated that the plan for a future Spring amendment is to ask students for referendum on the 2020 Fall ballot for informational purposes, present the ballot results to the new senators for approval to change the AS Student Senate Bylaws, to present the ballot results to the Executive Board for the same, and the hold a special election before the Spring election for student approval of the AS Constitutional Amendment.
3. Handa went over the options for referendum language. The Spring elections for the Senate would mean year-long representation, but it would be more difficult for grad students and At-Large senators to apply. The Elections Advisory Committee (EAC) can work on this through the year to work through issues and improve the process.
4. Alem stated that the EAC decided that this referendum may be beneficial to student representation. Handa stated that with Spring elections, senators could

train during the Summer quarter with the board, creating a more equitable environment since both bodies are supposed to hold equal power.

5. Ballard asked that if this referendum is on the ballot that the language be neutral, perhaps going through the Communications Office. Handa stated that this document must be approved in nine minutes in order to go into effect, but if the board approves Option 3 this can occur. Brock and Ballard stated their support of Option 3.

MOTION ASB-20-F-8 by Handa

To approve the question “Do you believe AS Student Senate Elections should be in the Spring...” as a referendum on the 2020 student elections ballot by the AS Executive Board as sponsored by the AS Senate Pro-Tempore, Sargun Handa.

Second: Brock

Vote: 5-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

VI. Information Items - Guests

- A. None

VII. Personnel Items (subject to immediate action)

- A. None

VIII. Action Items - Board

- A. None

IX. Information Items - Board

- A. AS Senate Pro-Tempore JD- Handa
 1. Handa stated that she would like to change the Senate Pro-Tempore to be able to work up to 25 hours a week. The AS Senate Pro-Tempore and AS President both are heads of equal bodies and therefore should both be given these extra hours.
- B. Committee on Undergraduate Education Summer Task Force Report- Handa
 1. Handa stated that the committee has been discussing changing the CGM GUR requirements. As there was no input from BIPOC students or faculty in the first draft of this, they have been reevaluating the document. Handa asks that the board looks over the document before the committee comes to present the document at the next board meeting.
 2. Handa stated that the goal is to change ACGM and BCGM to PLEJ (Power, Liberation, Equity, and Justice) in order to focus on anti-racism. The purpose is to address power inequities in higher education, with real action instead of performance.

X. Consent Items (subject to immediate action)

- A. Academic Honesty Board
 1. Darcy Allen

2. Andrew Kunellis
 3. Julia Brinkley
 4. Kayla Owens
 5. Catherin Dawson
 - a. Ballard stated that everyone who applied was committed to open communication and looked like good candidates, but she must follow up with Andrew Kunellis before he should be approved.
 - b. Handa stated that all members had been previously involved in an Academic Honesty Board and looked like a good fit.
- B. Legislative Affairs Council
1. Jade Hedeem
 2. Jennifer Leveque
 - a. Ballard stated that she met with Hedeem previously to talk about advocacy efforts, and Leveque has been previously involved with the LAC.
- C. Sustainability, Equity, and Justice Fund Committee
1. May Weinmaster
 - a. Harren asked for an extension of the Consent Item to the following week.
- D. AS Budget Committee
1. Ruhia Crumbaugh
 - a. As Ford was not present, the Consent Item was tabled to the following week.

XI. Discussion Items

- A. None

XII. Board Reports

Keenan Kaemingk, VP for Activities stated that he met with representatives from parking services and met with Karen Deysher surrounding the food pop-ups. He is trying to get a program in which students can pay off previous fines with food donations that can go into the pop-up program.

Nicole Ballard, VP for Governmental Affairs stated that Western proposed five items to the WSA agenda: recommendations on the Title IX proposals, statewide mandated diversity, equity, and inclusion training, regulations for who can be hired as on-campus police, removing the Ed-TPA requirement, and requiring universities to post where their CARE funding is going towards

Carson Brock, VP for Student Services stated that he met with Kaemingk regarding starting a committee to support first-year students. Residence Life are looking for feedback from the Executive Board on a new type of housing option surrounding BIPOC students for the following year, so he will be reaching out soon regarding this.

Nora Harren, VP for Sustainability stated that she is preparing for the SEJF committee and working on grant ideas for the committee.

Sargun Handa, Senate Pro-Tempore stated that she is working on elections and there is 86 applicants at the moment.

XIII. Senate Reports

A. None

XIV. Other Business

A. None

Nicole Ballard, AS VP for Governmental Affairs, adjourned this meeting at 4:28 p.m.