



Western Washington University Associated Students

AS Executive Board

February 5th, 2021

MS Teams

Board Members: Present: Abdul Malik Ford (President), Keenan Kaemingk (VP for Activities), Zarea Lavalais (VP for Sustainability), Nicole Ballard (VP for Governmental Affairs), Carson Brock (VP for Student Services), Ranulfo Molina (VP for Diversity), and Sargun Handa (Senate Pro-Tempore).

Absent: None

Advisor: Annie Byers (AS Board Program Coordinator), and Eric Alexander (Director of the Viking Union).

Secretary: Sierra Templeton

Guest(s): Mariam Wolters, Chelsea Joefield, Noemi Bueno, and Hunter Stuehm.

Motions:

ASB-21-W-8

To approve the Western Intersection Lobby Day Agenda with an amendment to allow the WILD organizers to make clarification and grammar edits. **Passed.**

Abdul Malik Ford, AS President, called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes

None

II. Revisions to the Agenda

1. Handa stated that only ten minutes were needed for the BSO Demand #2 Information Item with Guests.

III. BSO Demands

1. Molina stated that interviews for the BSO Coalition Development Specialist were starting the following week. He added that throughout the month there will be celebration of Black History Month with online events and guest speakers.
2. Alexander stated that he is continuing to work on space allocation with Facilities Development and Capital Budget colleagues.
3. Brock stated that he attended the Black Affinity Taskforce meeting which is working on collecting student feedback on interior design and art in the new dorms.
4. Handa stated that both the PLEJ survey and the survey on the Huxley name change went out to students. The College of Fine and Performing Arts is working on a Black art project. Handa stated that quarterly BSO updates on the AS website need to be updated.
5. Ford stated that administration is working on creating a position dedicated to evaluating the decision process of a self-operated dining system, rather

than hiring a contractor. He stated that he is working on putting a budget together for the BSO demands, which currently has \$10,000 allocated.

6. Ballard stated that she has been working on planning a Administration Lobby Day, and trying to work in the BSO demands in their asks. SB 5227 surrounding DEI training for students and faculty received a lot of edits, so herself and Jude Ahmed are thinking about writing a statement of faith in how these DEI trainings would be effective on campus.

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

1. Templeton asked about the progress of the Chief Diversity Officer position at Western.
2. Ford responded that a letter with Molina, Stuehm and himself is being drafted in support of establishing this position. Ford stated that other offices on campus are making the same ask as well.

V. Action Items - Guests

A. Western Intersectional Lobby Day Agenda

1. Wolters stated that she is working with Chelsea Joefield and Daniela Rodriguez on condensing the material on the agenda, combing the introductory paragraphs from each the DOC, ESC, and SAIRC agenda for better flow.
2. Wolters, Joefield, and Rodriguez presented the agenda, which can be found in documents under the February 5th AS Executive Board meeting on the AS website.
3. Ford asked how long the agenda has been in the works. Joefield stated that the legislative session began January 11th, which is when bills started dropping, and they have been working on it since.

MOTION ASB-21-W-8 by Ballard

To approve the Western Intersection Lobby Day Agenda with an amendment to allow the WILD organizers to make clarification and grammar edits.

Second: Handa

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

VI. Information Items - Guests

A. BSO Demand #2

1. Handa asked what path the board wants to take if the Board decides to abolish the travel funds, and if there should be another account under FXXSBR AS Board until the Black Student Coalition is created.
2. Ford added that he had a conversation concerning this, he stated that the best approach may be to go through the grant process and to use reserves rather than creating an account and cementing the Black Student Coalition in the Associated Students. The group is trying to figure out the logistics of transferring funds from other budgets to the grant account.

3. Molina stated that the projected timeline is to create the foundation for the Coalition and then provide a 3-year grant and ask for university funding to meet the \$36,000 funding goal.
4. Handa asked if this should be done through GEARS. Ford responded that they would like it to be an institutional commitment rather than relying on government funds that may be temporary.
5. Bueno stated that currently there is \$10,000 dollars allocated to support the Black Student Coalition, and she suggests the grant process which will hopefully commence in the following weeks. Bueno stated that if the travel fund is abolished, it will go to the Black Student Coalition. Since the overall amount looks like it will be more than \$20,000 it will have to be approved by the Executive Board and the Student Senate.
6. Ballard asked if there's anything board member can do to support the grant writing process. Bueno responded that typically the process is between the budget authority and the student budget coordinator, however it is possible to have more input.
7. Ford stated that he is trying to abolish the Executive Board Discretionary Fund and making sure if these funds are available in a different manner.
8. Handa asked if there was a way to abolish the Federal Lobbying Trip Fund in order to go to the Black Student Coalition. Bueno responded that the board could commence in abolishing the fund, and since the funds are a part of the AS already, the money would be in limbo until allocated.
9. Ford stated that he was in favor of this, but he would like to make sure that funds are available in case they need to be utilized.
10. Ballard stated that the Legislative Action Council committee has a Legislative Action Fund account that comes from the student fee, and this could be utilized to fund a federal lobbying trip in the future if needed. Ballard added that the Washington Student Assembly may be tripling their fees, which may in the long term cause the LAF account to dwindle.
11. Handa stated that it is a BSO demand to abolish the Employee Development Fund reserve. Bueno stated that the fund sits under the Personnel Committee, not under the Executive Board.
12. Ford stated that the Workers' Rights Consortium budget is used to ensure that materials for clothing are ethically sourced. Alexander stated that the bookstore informed him that they are able to take this on, and the funding can go somewhere else.
13. Ford stated that talking to Kaylan Rocamora, AS Personnel Director, who stated their concern that the Personnel Committee was functioning mostly as oversight for the Personnel Committee, and they didn't see the point of the committee meeting. Handa added that she would be more comfortable if the entire committee disbanded themselves rather than one person deciding this.
14. Handa asked if students can go to the Student Enhancement Fund to travel to Olympia to testify and lobby. Alexander stated that the university cannot pay students to lobby for Western.

VII. Personnel Items (subject to immediate action)

- A. None

VIII. Action Items - Board

A. None

IX. Information Items - Board

A. None

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

A. VP for Sustainability Results- Ballard

1. Ballard stated that Zarea Lavalais is the new AS VP for sustainability.
2. Handa stated that there were over 700 voters in the Fall, and around 400 voters in the special election. She stated that in the Spring, she would like to advocate for more voter engagement.
3. Ballard stated that typically special elections have lower student engagement.

XI. Discussion Items

A. Committee Application Process

1. Brock stated that the Committee Council is revamping the application so that it would appear nameless to the Committee Council. Brock asked if the board is okay with the council taking over the application approval process or if the board would like to continue approving them.
2. Ford stated that the Committee Council approval is a good idea.

XII. Board Reports

Abdul Malik Ford, AS President stated that if anyone is interested in being on the search committee for the Director of Multicultural Student Services, let him know.

Keenan Kaemingk, VP for Activities did not have anything to report.

Zarea Lavalais, VP for Sustainability stated that she has been working on BSO demand six, to change the name of the College of Environment so it is no longer Huxley, by contacting club leaders and student senators connected to Environmental Studies. She stated that she met with Melissa Elkins, the Sustainable Coordinator for the co-op concerning a plastic ban on campus. Lavalais added that she will be attending the Washington/Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference on how to implement sustainability on campus, and stated that she would like to increase sustainability within the graduate program. She contacted NASU to try and connect them with funding to meet their demands from 2016.

Ranulfo Molina, VP for Diversity stated that the Undocumented and Mixed-Status student staff and faculty have met up to set up goals and aims with the new national administration.

Nicole Ballard, VP for Governmental Affairs stated that WILD registration closes the following Monday.

Carson Brock, VP for Student Services stated that he has been working with Career Services on connecting with employers and internships in the Spring. In the Spring, Kurt Willis from Residence Life will be coming to present on a budget and room prices for the following year. He has also been working on Fall Orientation and Advising planning.

Sargun Handa, Senate Pro-Tempore did not have anything to report.

XIII. Senate Reports

A. None

XIV. Other Business

A. Black History Month

1. Stuehm stated that the AS Communications Office are working on putting together a calendar of events going on for Black History Month to advertise to students.

Abdul Malik Ford, AS President, adjourned this meeting at 2:36 p.m.