

**Western Washington University**

**Legislative Affairs Council**

**April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

**MS Teams**

**Board Members: Present:** Nicole Ballard (VP for Governmental Affairs), Nathalie Wagler (Voter Recruitment and Engagement Coordinator), Mariam Wolters (Outreach and Representation), Jude Ahmed (Director of Legislative Affairs), Natale Szabo (Local Liaison), Ebon Oluchi (ESP Director), Daniela Rodriguez (ESC Representative), Breaker Chittenden (Student At-Large), and Kaeli McKinley (Student At-Large).

**Secretary:** Sierra Templeton

**Advisor:** Casey Hayden (Assistant Director for Student Activities)

**Guest(s):** None

**Motions:**

**LAC-21-S-2** To approve the meeting minutes from the dates of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, February 17<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, March 10<sup>th</sup>, and April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as amended. **Passed.**

**LAC-21-S-2** To approve the Ethics Board Funding Request as written. **Passed.**

**I. Call to Order**

**Nicole Ballard, VP of Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.**

**II. Additions and Changes to the Agenda**

None

**III. Approval of Minutes**

- A. February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021
- B. February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- C. March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021
- D. March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- E. April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

1. Wagler stated that in the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, Kristina Martens' name was incorrectly spelled.

2. Rodriguez stated that on the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes her name was not present under attendance

**MOTION LAC-21-S-2 by Chittenden**

To approve the meeting minutes from the dates of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, February 17<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, March 10<sup>th</sup>, and April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as amended.

**Second: Ahmed Action: Passed**

**IV. Action Items**

A. Ethics Board Funding Request- Ballard

1. Ballard stated that twelve student stipends of one hundred and fifty dollars were allocated for the Ethics Board At-Large students. Ballard stated that in the future there will hopefully be a more sustainable method of funding the committee other than the LAF.
2. Hayden stated that this allocation fits the purpose of the LAC funds- representation of students and ensuring ethics in governance.

**MOTION LAC-21-S-3 by Chittenden**

To approve the Ethics Board Funding Request as written.

**Second: Wagler Action: Passed**

**V. Discussion Items**

A. None

**VI. Reports**

**Natale Szabo, Local Issues Coordinator** stated that she started working on the Local Lobby Day agenda, has been analyzing survey responses, and posted the official flier for the lobby day online. Szabo stated that she will be continuing giving updates on the City Council meetings as well.

**Jude Ahmed, Director of Legislative Affairs**, stated that the Washington State legislative session is ending on April 25<sup>th</sup> and all LAC's major legislative priorities have passed. Ahmed stated that the EdTPA passed in the version that Western students have been advocated for, mandated DEI training, increased access to four-year and two-year universities for undocumented students, Juneteenth as a legal holiday, and support for foster youth and folks with disabilities all passed as well. Ahmed stated that the only lack of success was around housing initiatives which can become a bigger focus for Local Lobby Day.

**Nathalie Wagler, Organizing and Outreach Coordinator**, stated that the candidate filing for the AS Executive Board and Student Senate is still open.

**Nicole Ballard, AS VP for Governmental Affairs,** stated that she met with administrators and the Western lobbyist to talk about the funding Western received from the state. She stated that furloughs will not happen due to left over money in the budget. Ballard stated that the longhouse has been fully funded in the state senate but not in the house, the senate funded the Ethnic Studies Program, the House funded the Bilingual Cohort program, and SB 5227 funding passed as well. Ballard stated that she will be meeting with Melynda Huskey to talk about an administrative lobby day in the future.

**VII. Other Business**

A. None

***Nicole Ballard, AS VP of Governmental Affairs, adjourned this meeting at 1:39 p.m.***