



Western Washington University Associated Students

AS Executive Board

April 22nd, 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:

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

Secretary: Sierra Templeton

Guest(s): None

Motions:

ASB-21-S-11 To add the Ramadan Accommodations Resolution item to Action Items with Board. **Passed.**

ASB-21-S-12 To reaffirm the Ramadan Accommodations Resolution with the edits shown. **Passed.**

Abdul Malik Ford, AS President, called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes

None

II. Revisions to the Agenda

1. Handa requested to add the Ramadan Accommodations Resolution under Discussion Items, as well as the Senate Pro-Tempore name change under Other Items.
2. Kaemingk requested adding Fall Orientation Material under Discussion Items.
3. Ford requested adding Executive Board goals for the Spring Quarter under Discussion Items.
4. Molina requested adding the Black Student Coalition Development Specialist under Discussion Items.

III. BSO Demands

1. Handa stated that BSO demand #18 was passed by the ACC and is pending faculty approval to be added to the student handbook. This accommodation would give students observing fasting during Ramadan twenty-four hours before and after an exam to complete it.
2. Ballard stated that the Ethic Studies ask was fully funded in the Washington State house budget but was not funded in the senate. She stated that SB5227 was fully passed ensuring that professors, faculty, staff, and students must

complete DEI training before engaging in a classroom setting. The bill to regard Juneteenth as a legal holiday passed and will be recognized in Washington.

3. Lavalais stated that the Legacy Taskforce will be holding a meeting concerning the BSO ask #6 (the College of Environmental Studies name change). She stated that the meeting is not open to the public and there is a lack of diversity on the taskforce, which she would like the address.
4. Ford stated that the Finance Council will be having a meeting to address BSO demand #2. The AS Employee Development Fund was previously within the operating budget but was switched to the reserve budget. Ford stated that it is an ongoing conversation on how to allocate \$500,000 to the BSO by both the AS and the University.

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

None

V. Action Items - Guests

A. None

VI. Information Items - Guests

A. None

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

A. None

VIII. Action Items - Board

A. Ramadan Accommodations Resolution- Handa

MOTION ASB-21-S-12 by Ford

To reaffirm the Ramadan Accommodations Resolution with the edits shown.

Second: Ballard

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

IX. Information Items - Board

A. None

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

A. None

XI. Discussion Items

A. Ramadan Accommodations Resolution- Handa

1. Handa presented the Ramadan Accommodations documents that was previously approved by the Executive Board and asked for the board to consider passing a revised version this year.
2. Handa stated that changes to the document include: changing 14 hours of fasting a day to 16 hours, expanding the grace period before and after exams to 24 hours, and a new section recognizing BSO and ACC approval, and the ability to change the time of timed exams.
3. Handa stated that she will be meeting with other Executive Board members to write a letter to administrators concerning the resolution. Handa stated that reapproving this resolution leaves a paper trail and a legacy of support for Ramadan accommodations.
4. Alexander stated that the resolution is a legal document that will last for future years.
5. Ford stated that because Ramadan started a week and a half ago, it is important to release this resolution as soon as possible.

MOTION ASB-21-S-11 by Ford

To add the Ramadan Accommodations Resolution item to Action Items with Board.

Second: Handa

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

Yes:

No:

Abstaining:

B. Fall Orientation Material- Kaemingk

1. Kaemingk stated that he met with the Communications Committee concerning the Fall Advising and Orientation, and proposed the Executive Board creating a video or presentation to explain the Executive Board's role to be a part of this event. Kaemingk stated that the due date for this is May 7th.
2. Ford, Ballard, and Brock expressed support for the project.

C. AS Executive Board Goals for Spring Quarter- Ford

1. Ford asked Executive Board members on their goals for the rest of the Spring Quarter. Ford stated that he is focusing on BSO demand #3, to create a Black Student Coalition, as well as addressing the BSO development fund and allocation of space and talking to administrators concerning BSO demand #2.
2. Handa stated that she is working on BSO demand #18, talking to Brent Carbajal concerning the Ethnic Studies program, meeting with the Ethnic Studies Collection, helping the Honors College Students of Color Board create a plan for following years, training for the following year, and advertisement for Spring elections.
3. Ballard stated that she is focused on putting the Ethics Board together, setting up plans for and Admin Lobby Day for the following year, creating a

wrap-up of legislative actions, planning for advocating for the Ethnic Studies program, and collecting proposals for the WSA.

4. Lavalais stated that she is working on revamping the Sustainable Action plan, pushing for more diversity on the Legacy Taskforce, and helping out with other projects that other board members are working on.
5. Molina stated that he is working on supporting the BSO Coalition Student Development hires, making sure that the workgroup has a plan moving on from this year, ensuring that the Black Student space is allocated, and working on the AS WWU Diversity Advisory Council Charge and Charter.
6. Brock stated that he is working on creating an outline for the committee process for the following year, creating a thorough legacy document, working on a comprehensive plan for the BSO demand #4 concerning Aramark's funding, and creating a plan for mental health support.
7. Kaemingk stated that he is working on position descriptions, working with the VU Advisory Board document ready for Fall Quarter, restructuring clubs to a tier structure, editing program standards, supporting the transition to new board members, and facilitating conversations between new hires in the BSO and the program offices. Kaemingk stated that he created a legacy document template for Executive Board members and Senators.

D. Black Student Coalition Development Specialist- Molina

1. Molina stated that the BSO Development Specialist job description limits the position to the end of Spring Quarter. Molina stated that he wants to figure out how to extend the timeline on the job description. Molina stated that, out of respect for the BSO, he would like to look at places outside of the AS to fund this.
2. Alexander stated that if the AS is interested in extending the position, board members may want to look into grants and budget to fund this. He added that current funding is coming out of the Diversity Initiative Fund, and if this would be renewed a proposal would need to be drafted and talking to Greg McBride concerning this. Alexander stated that there is a difference between a long-term tie to the AS and temporary funding from the AS in order to support the BSO.

XII. Board Reports

Abdul Malik Ford, AS President stated that there is an employee vaccination program on campus as well as a campus vaccination program in progress.

Keenan Kaemingk, VP for Activities had nothing to report.

Zarea Lavalais, VP for Sustainability had nothing to report.

Ranulfo Molina, VP for Diversity stated that the MCC, ESC, LGBTQ+ Western, Western Success Scholars, and Black and Brown Resilience Men's Group have been collaborating on holding events to recognize and celebrate the AAPI Heritage month in May.

Nicole Ballard, VP for Governmental Affairs stated that the University Police Department came to the University Planning and Resources Council meeting to give a presentation on their budget and guidelines. Ballard stated that there was conversation on reevaluating the staff size and large budget. She stated that there has been a lack of training and DEI discussion, while they have been talking about integrating mental health professionals into emergency response at Western. She stated that there were no proposals from the police department, only discussions and beginning steps as well as a lack of momentum. Ballard stated that currently, police are being trained by other police instead of outside professionals. Ballard stated that the Ethics Board is being put together and is working on self-moderation and updating its own documents, the Campaigning Together event is happening, and the Washington legislative session is coming to a close. Ballard stated that the Hertz Grant is open for students to apply to.

Carson Brock, VP for Student Services had nothing to report.

Sargun Handa, Senate Pro-Tempore stated that the Student Senate officially endorsed the Community Reconstructive Collective (previously known as the Bootstraps Program).

XIII. Senate Reports

None

XIV. Other Business

- A. AS Senate Pro-Tempore Name Change
1. Handa stated that the name of her position is inaccessible language and isn't very descriptive of the position. Handa stated that at both UW and Central the position is called the Senate Speaker, other options being the Senate Chair and Senate President. Handa stated that she would like to put this change on the ballot for Spring Elections.
 2. Ballard stated that her concern with the Senate Speaker title would be that it gives the same connotation that Senate Chair does.
 3. Ford stated that he is leaning towards Senate Chair or Senate Speaker.
 4. Alexander stated that Senate President and President of the Senate give different connotations. He stated that though the VP for Governmental Affairs is not called the AS President Pro-Tempore, that is the acting duty in the role, which is something to consider when choosing the new name. Alexander stated that, on a national level, the president of the senate is the Vice President of the United States, which is something to consider.
 5. Handa proposed the wording of the AS Executive Board President versus the AS Student Senate President.
 6. Ford questioned how this wording would serve the AS Student Government system.
 7. Molina stated that if this wording were to change, he would feel unsure on having the Senate President at Executive Board meetings because there would be two presidents at the meeting both of which would be voting members.

8. Handa stated that seventy percent of senators the previous year voted for the Senate Pro-Tempore to stay on the Executive Board as a voting member. Handa stated that she would survey the senate on their opinion this year. She stated that as the Student Senate is so new and has been seen as a sub-committee of the Executive Board, it makes sense to have a liaison and added that other Washington colleges have the Senate Speaker on their Executive Boards. Handa asked why the AS President votes on the Executive Board while the Senate Pro-Tempore does not vote on the Student Senate, and chairs don't usually vote on their branches except in the case of a tie.
9. Ford stated that technically the Senate Pro-Tempore currently has more power than the AS President.
10. Ballard stated that removing the voting power of the Senate Pro-Tempore and AS President consolidates the power of other board members as only five would be voting members.
11. Ford stated that this issue is not something that will likely be changed by the end of the year, but that this should be outlined and addressed in legacy documents to be changed in the following year.
12. Alexander stated that in the original plan for the restructure, the Senate Pro-Tempore would have been a full and total member of the Senate, and the VP for Activities was planned to be removed from the Executive Board to the chair of the Student Union Board, leaving five members on the Executive Board.
13. Handa stated that her dream was to have a Student Union Board President, a Student Senate President and the Executive Board President to lead the AS and VU. Handa stated that Senate Speaker would be most consistent with other Washington colleges.

Abdul Malik Ford, AS President, adjourned this meeting at 4:59 p.m.