



# Western Washington University Associated Students Executive Board Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2022, 7:45 AM

## Attendees:

**Board Members:** Naira Gonzales Aranda (she/they), Brenner Barclay (they/them), Glory Busic (she/her), Jasmine Fast (she/her), Mallory Schaeftbauer (she/her), Eli Stanciu Jr. (he/him), Laura Wagner (she/her)

**Guests:** Teagan Hudson

**Staff and Assistants:** Annie Byers (she/her), Delfine DeFrank (she/they), Rue Blanchard (they/them)

## Motions:

**ASWWU-22-S-96** To approve the Local Lobby Day Agenda

**ASWWU-22-S-97** To approve the AS Vice President for Governmental Affairs Position Description

*Glory Busic, AS President, called the meeting to order at 7:46 AM*

## I. CONSENT ITEMS

## II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. Stanciu Jr. added a five-minute guest information item for the Executive Board at the Leadership Conference.
- b. Glory added a ten-minute information item for a Discussion about the AS Budget.
- c. Fast added a five-minute information item to discuss the new Provost.
- d. Glory removed the AS Elections Debate Moderator Guest Information Item.
- e. Stanciu Jr. added a five-minute guest information item for the Elections Timeline Update.

## III. PUBLIC FORUM

## IV. INFORMATION ITEMS – GUESTS

- a. Admin Lobby Day Updates – Huffman said that Admin Lobby Day will be held on Thursday May 26 with a panel discussion in AW 325. On Friday May 27<sup>th</sup> there will be meetings in reserved conference rooms in the VU, which Admin were invited to. Students can sign up to speak with Admin during this time. There will be the WSA

general assembly that weekend. Glory said that the group has been working on making documents as a legacy for this event for future reference.

- b.** Candidate Qualifications for Elections – The board discussed what the qualifications are for positions in reference to if Freshmen should be able to run for office. DeFrank said that article 3 of the Elections Code says that as long as students are enrolled by the summer, they can run whether or not they are Freshmen. She said that the question was if they wanted the position descriptions to be in line with Elections Code or if they wanted to add a clause in the description regarding the qualification. Stanciu Jr. said that the grade qualifications are outlined in the Position Descriptions. Ryan said that her concern is that most position descriptions are not available for students who are running for positions, and it may need to be put onto the filing form so applicants are aware of the grade qualification. Wagner asked if during the mandatory candidate meeting position descriptions could be presented. Ryan had discussed having Board members come to the mandatory meeting and table to better explain what the positions are.
- c.** Leadership Conference and Elections Timeline – The Board discussed the elections timeline and possible changes to it. If the timeline was extended to after the leadership conference, positions could be advertised there. Glory invited the WSA to the conference, which would be another way to encourage people to participate in Student Government. Ryan said that no matter what the deadline needs to be pushed back and there are two proposed timelines if they extend the deadline. The Leadership Conference is Friday May 13<sup>th</sup> so the new date would not be drastically different. Stanciu said that it's important to run opposed for the sake of students being able to have a choice. Ryan said that the previous year they had double the candidates before pushing the deadline back. Ryan said the timeline would need to be approved by the Board. She shared the options for the timelines. The first pushed the original timeline back one week. The second closed the filing on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> and the Candidate Meeting would be the following day. The campaign period would begin Tuesday at 9 am, and the voting would be Monday to Friday rather than Friday to Friday. Naira asked what her role was for encouraging people to run since she is in Germany and cannot physically table. She said that in response to an OCE email asking her to write down all of her accomplishments, she said that she would feel uncomfortable encouraging any students, especially students of color or students from marginalized and underrepresented communities, to run for her position due to the terrible experience she had with it. DeFrank suggested sharing her experience with admins and deans to explain the reality of the position and tell them to have anyone interested contact her. The Board will advertise her position in person. Naira said it is also hard to advise other students on a job that is changing. Ryan asked what timeline was preferred. The Board agreed on the second timeline, which would be brought as an action item to the Board the following week.

## **V. ACTION ITEMS – GUESTS**

- a. Local Lobby Day Agenda – Hudson presented the Local Lobby Day Agenda.

### ***MOTION ASWWU-22-S-96***

*Motion by Stanciu Jr.*

*To approve the Local Lobby Day Agenda*

*Second: Schaeftbauer*

*Motion passed 7-0-0*

## **VI. PERSONELL ITEMS**

## **VII. INFORMATION ITEMS – BOARD**

- a. SEJF Referendum Draft – Laura presented the SEJF Referendum. Fast said that she thought it would be beneficial to say that the fees can be decreased through a vote from the Executive Board. Stanciu agreed with Fast and said the Board should be trusted to lower the fee since they are elected Student Government members and should be trusted to run a Student Government. Barclay asked what the process for decrease would look like. Wagner said that would be a consideration for an amendment to the bylaws, but she thought that over the course of each year when the budget is being analyzed they could see if there is more money than needed and take that to the Executive Board.
- b. AS Budget Discussion – Glory said that as things currently are, next year the Associated Students would be 200k over the budget. The finance council was looking at not going more than 75k over. Glory asked what the Board's thoughts were on how much over budget they would be comfortable with. There have been discussions about proposed cuts, but they are very rough drafts. Naira said that they'd discussed the unevenly distributed workload which meant that cuts might not affect positions too much since one person may be working nine hours and another might be working twenty hours. Barclay said that the AS has been understaffed this whole time which could be part of the surplus. Glory said reduced lobbying efforts were also a component in this, and that should be considered. Naira said that finance council had told them and Glory that it was not a permanent cut, just an adjustment to what is being used. Wagner said that in the case of the Senate, the previous year there were a number of Senators going overtime, but in the current year it has been short-staffed.

- c. New Provost – Fast said that with Dr. Brad Johnson being the new provost she thought it would be a good idea to have a working document to be able to share with him as a “letter of accountability” to communicate how he can support what the Executive Board stands for.

## **VIII. ACTION ITEMS – BOARD**

- a. AS Vice President for Governmental Affairs Position Description – Eli presented the position description. The Board discussed the specification that incoming students must be enrolled over summer quarter to run. Barclay asked if there are issues with FAFSA covering summer quarter and if there were barriers to access because of that. Glory said that she did not believe that it did, and that summer tuition is more expensive. Fast said that there is funding over the summer that is not FAFSA.

### ***MOTION ASWWU-22-S-97***

*Motion by Schaeffbauer*

*To approve the AS Vice President for Governmental Affairs Position Description*

*Second: Stanciu Jr.*

*Motion passed 6-1-0*

Barclay voted nay because it would be preferable to not allow any first years to run for the position rather than just first years with the financial ability to enroll over summer quarter. Naira agreed that this was an issue with the position being accessible. Glory said that while this is an issue this year since it follows the Elections Code, it can be discussed the following year.

## **IX. BOARD REPORTS**

- a. Schaeffbauer reported that she went to the RCAC meeting, and they said that they are keeping the mandatory rec fee the same next year.
- b. Wagner asked if there were Senators willing to campaign for the SEJF Referendum. Barclay said there were three Senators who were interested. Leonard Jones approved the dining consultant coming to an Executive Board meeting. Wagner invited him to the following weeks meeting. She asked what the consultant wants to hear from the Board ahead of time, so they are prepared to respond. She said that the Shred and Contract and Students for Self-Operated Dining’s Earth Week booth went well. They collected student input and passed it on to Melynda Huskey, who felt that student input was important. Wagner said the first public meeting for the President Sustainability Advisory Council will be April 29th from 2:30 to 4:00 PM. The last 10 minutes will be student public forum.

- c. Stanciu Jr. reported that he had gotten confirmation that his, Barclay, Glory, and Huffman's rooms had been reserved for Pullman.
- d. Fast reported that May 13<sup>th</sup> 1:30 to 4:30 will be the children's art show and ribbon cutting ceremony for the Haggard Hall Family Workspace.

## **X. SENATE REPORTS**

- a. Barclay said there was nothing to report.

## **XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. Barclay said that throughout the course of this meeting there have been connectivity issues for the Board Members engaging in the meeting. They suggested the Board consider meeting online rather than in person due to this. Wagner suggested having one more meeting in person to see if it resolves.
- b. DeFrank said that she is leaving her position on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

***Glory Busic, AS President, adjourned the meeting at 9:03 AM.***