



**Western Washington University Associated Students
Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

September 29, 2022, 4:00 PM

Attendees:

Board Members: Seb Genge (he/him), Sargun Handa (she/they), Rahma Iqbal (she/her), Jesus Resendiz-Eyler (he/him), Noah Schexnayder (he/him)

Guests: Sabah Randhawa (he/him), Keara Ryan (she/her)

Staff and Assistants: Eric Alexander (he/him), Rue Blanchard (they/them), Annie Byers (she/her)

Motions:

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| MOTION ASWWU-22-F-1 | To table the minutes from September 7, 2022 |
| MOTION ASWWU-22-F-2 | To move the WWU President's Report Information Item to be the first on the list for Information Items – Guests. |
| MOTION ASWWU-22-F-3 | To add fifteen minutes to the AS Committee Council Charge and Charter Item. |
| MOTION ASWWU-22-F-4 | To move the Legislative Affairs Council Charge and Charter to an Action Item. |
| MOTION ASWWU-22-F-5 | To approve the ASWWU Legislative Affairs Council Charge and Charter. |

Sargun Handa, AS President, called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM

I. CONSENT ITEMS

- a.** Approval of Minutes
- September 7, 2022

MOTION ASWWU-22-F-1

Motion by Rahma

To table the minutes from September 7, 2022

Second: Schexnayder

Motion passed 5-0-0

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. Handa moved the WWU President's Report Information Item to be the first on the list for Information Items – Guests.

MOTION ASWWU-22-F-2

Motion by Seb Genge

To move the WWU President's Report Information Item to be the first on the list for Information Items – Guests.

Second: Resendiz-Eyler

Motion passed 5-0-0

III. PUBLIC FORUM

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS – GUESTS

- a. WWU President's Report – Sabah Randhawa, the WWU University President, said that he had recently presented the State of the University, which included reflecting on the previous year. He thanked students and staff for the patience and understanding with Covid and other changes. He then spoke on some matters that need addressed in the coming years. The first was enrollment, which has increased with the first-year cohort having over 3,200 students, but transfer enrollment has gone down, which is something that is being worked on. Retention rates have also been stagnant and have been at 80% for almost ten years. There is working being done on figuring out how to support students and improve this. Counselling and wellbeing services are an aspect of this, and efforts are continuing to be explored. Accessibility, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are also being focused on, and Dr. Jacqueline Hughes is to serve as a Chief Diversity Officer, who will hopefully discuss ADEI with the Executive Board. She and Randhawa have also been discussing how to provide broad coordination for programs in the Campus Community. The final matter is working with the legislature and better understanding the Executive Boards legislative priorities to include in advocacy efforts as he and the Government Relation Executive Director are talking with legislative leaders and individuals from the area and the state. Expansions of programs on the peninsula are being brought to the legislature. The other request is around student access and success, which is also connected to expanding programs. He asked if the Board had any input. Handa said that on the topic of retention, there are programs that are important to underrepresented student retention, including Student Outreach Services, the Multicultural Achievement Program, the new LGBTQ+ Affiliated Counsellor who

identifies as South Asian, the Western Black and Brown Male Success Collective, Brandon Joseph, and Jacqueline Hughes have all been good additions or ongoing programs, that will likely help retention if they are continuing to be funded. Randhawa agreed and said that with the addition of new people there were opportunities to address student needs moving forward. He said that there would be work on the design of the Longhouse as well and are hoping to begin construction in early 2023.

Schexnayder said on the topic of retention, a lot of the responsibility for getting in touch with supporting programs falls on students, and there has not been a lot of effort to introduce students to those programs. He said that with the Disability Access Center, there are a lot of ways that they can help students, but to get a meeting with them there is a whole back and forth and figuring out if an account can be made. Students who need these resources are the ones who often have more difficulties advocating for themselves, and Western could do a better job with making it easier for students to get in touch with those programs. Randhawa said that one thing that has been discussed was that advising is not required in the first two years of school, and a change in the advising structure is being considered so that students see an advisor on a regular basis. He will look into if that can include the support systems Schexnayder was talking about. Seb Genge asked about how Randhawa saw the Advisory Council for Sustainability and the Sustainable Action moving forward, as it has been five-years since the document was last updated. Randhawa said that he is hoping that over the next few months, they are able to identify the three or four things that the institution wants to focus on over the next few years. He also said that right now there are no University-wide metrics for sustainability, which need to be advanced. He is hoping that by the end of Fall Quarter there will be an agenda to focus on moving forward. Rahma said that she had similar thoughts to Schexnayder's on retention, and that she agreed that it was important to focus on mental health and student's needs in the coming year and taking it slow while recognizing that it is a big change to be back in person. Handa asked if there were any updates on Aramark. Randhawa said that it is the year to make the Request for Proposals for the coming years, with the understanding that the goal is to get to self-operated dining. There needs to be a few years to put in place the right structure, so the plan is to sign on for a shorter cycle. He suggested talking to Dr. Huskey for more information.

- b.** AS Committee Council Charge and Charter – Keara Ryan, the Office of Civic Engagement Director, presented the AS Committee Council Charge and Charter. Byers asked if the intention of the council was to take on the task of looking at the applications for committees or if that will remain a Board responsibility. Ryan said that she assumed that looking at the WIN applications would be the council's responsibility and can be clarified in the charge and charter. Alexander asked for a synopsis of the council. Ryan said that the council first came about because it was taking resources from the Executive Board members to spend time approving committee members. The hope was for the Committee Council to be created, which has taken several years. The

Committee Council is meant to deal with committees, including appointing members. Rahma asked if the council was operating at all the previous year. Ryan said that it was brought before the Executive Board the year before because there had not been anything done with it besides Executive Board approving members. Ryan has been trying to get in contact with committees and has a list of about ten committees seeking student membership. Resendiz-Eyler asked what appointing committee members would look like. Ryan said she is not fully sure of what that would look like, but the purpose of the council according to the charge is to appoint students to committees, organize aspects of the committee process, and enhancing the experience. Rahma said that it seemed like there were a lot of responsibilities in the charge and wondered if there need to be more people on the council to be effective. Ryan asked where the Board might think the membership should be increased. Seb Genge asked when the council plans to start meeting. Ryan said she was unsure, it partly depends on getting people appointed onto the council, but once that happens, it should move fairly quickly. Seb Genge asked if students apply to specific committees or committees in general. Ryan said that currently they apply for a specific committee, but can select up to three that they are interested in. Resendiz-Eyler asked how this interferes with existing charters that state that the Executive Board appoints members. Ryan said that she was unaware of the best route to resolve that problem, but currently the application process would be the same beyond that. Resendiz-Eyler asked why the council stopped being worked on for a while until now. Ryan said it was created at the end of 2020 or the 2020-2021 academic year, and was supposed to be picked up, but there was confusion about SGA's involvement in committees and nothing happened with it until now. Alexander said that previously there was a position called the Committee Coordinator that was involved in working with committees and funneling them to the Board to be appointed. It was then abolished. One of the Vice Presidents then took on connecting students to committees and put together a task force. Alexander suggested that a subcommittee discuss this before the next meeting. The AS Constitution puts the appointment onto standing and Ad Hoc committees in the hands of the Board and Senate which continues unless relinquished. Work needs to be done in knowing what committees are active and need appointments. Alexander said it is challenging for people to know how to appoint onto committees since the VP who appoints has to filter through all the applications to make a decision. Seb Genge asked what would be done in the meantime. Alexander said to follow the current process. Rahma said that having paid members on the council would be ideal since it's such a big task. Resendiz-Eyler clarified that the council was to keep track of active committees and appoint committee members. Ryan said that in the charge and charter there is an extensive list including creating training programs. Resendiz-Eyler asked why the expiration date was the end of the year. Ryan said that it was the same as the previous year, just with the expiration a year later. Handa suggested having a subcommittee with herself, Rahma, and Resendiz-Eyler. She said that she did not know if it was appropriate for the AS Committee Council to appoint for University

and AS committees, and it might be better to have the Executive Board appoint for University Committees. She also brought up the idea of the council being temporary to improve the process and act in a restorative way. Byers said that on the administrative part of committees, she is the one who does that work so that the Board is aware of who is in charge of that. She asked if, with AS Employees being on the council so they can be paid, there would be an issue with them voting if it's for committees they are on. Rahma said that is an understandable concern, and she was thinking about how there should be students who are more aware of the committees process on the council. She said that she also did not see anything on the charge and charter about the council appointing members.

MOTION ASWWU-22-F-3

Motion by Schexnayder

To add fifteen minutes to the AS Committee Council Charge and Charter Item.

Second: Seb Genge

Motion passed 5-0-0

- c. Legislative Affairs Council Charge and Charter – Resendiz-Eyler presented the Legislative Affairs Council Charge and Charter. Rahma asked if the Committee was still able to vote the year prior despite not being able to have a full membership. Resendiz-Eyler said that he didn't know, but that lowering the required number of students was suggested to him.

MOTION ASWWU-22-F-4

Motion by Seb Genge

To move the Legislative Affairs Council Charge and Charter to an Action Item.

Second: Schexnayder

Motion passed 5-0-0

V. ACTION ITEMS – GUESTS

- a. Legislative Affairs Council Charge and Charter

MOTION ASWWU-22-F-5

Motion by Rahma

To approve the ASWWU Legislative Affairs Council Charge and Charter.

Second: Handa

Motion passed 5-0-0

VI. PERSONELL ITEMS

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS – BOARD

VIII. ACTION ITEMS – BOARD

IX. BOARD REPORTS

- a.** Resendiz-Eyler reported that he has been working on the LAC Charge and Charter and making sure that they have membership. The Government Student Advisory Council is running and deciding what Graduate student they want on the committee. He, Handa, and other AS employees are going on a Washington State General Assembly trip and will be voting on proposals for what the WSA will be advocating for.
- b.** Seb Genge reported that he has been working on the SEJF Committee Charge and Charter and Rules of Operation. The Active Transportation Advisory Committee has started meeting and looked over and approve budgets. He has been connecting with students working on sustainability on campus.
- c.** Handa reported that she is working on the AS Vice President for Diversity Appointment Process with Casey Hayden and Resendiz-Eyler. She is also working on the website redesign for the Executive Board. She will also be attending the WSA General Assembly. She asked Alexander about updates for hiring an advisor. Alexander said that there has been an advisor hired and will be in office starting on the 17th of October.
- d.** Schexnayder reported that he has been working with the Club Hub. There is work being done to set up the Activities Council.
- e.** Rahma reported that she is working on the process for appointing Senators to committees. She hopes that she will be able to formally document that. She is working with the Student Technology Fee Committee and will hopefully have the Rules of Operation and Charge and Charter finished soon. She has been working on finding a College of the Fine and Performing Arts Senator and hopes to work with the Communications Director on that. The Academic Coordinating Commission Executive Board starts the following week which she will be a part of. For appointing Senators, Rahma is trying to create a list of Committees that need Senators on them with their Charge and Charters and do a ranking system for the Senators to fill out that she can work with to appoint from, as well as looking at who she thinks will be the best fit. For time sensitive Committees, she will do a shorter version of the process.

X. SENATE REPORTS

- a. Rahma said that the first Senate meeting would be the next week and there will be subcommittees they will be voting on reinstating.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Byers asked how the appointment process for the AS Vice President of Diversity was going. Handa said that she and Byers had discussed creating a WIN form for the position, and Handa was going to get a previous appointment form and edit it, which would hopefully be done the following day. Once it is approved, the hope is to have it out the following week.

Sargun Handa, AS President, adjourned the meeting at 5:49 PM