



Western Washington University Associated Students

Senate Meeting Minutes

October 19th, 2022, 6:00-7:30 PM

Attendees: Eric Alexander, Nely Vasquez, Sargun Handa, Joshua Kurz

Senate Members: Rahma Iqbal, Gabe Wong, David Nessa, Liam Pratt, Calvin Christoph, Lily Duong, Hailey Hartford, Meagan Danielle Brown, Pierce Bock, Sean Hakala, Jaimie Baxter, Miriam Gold, Justin McGlone, Sofia Trujillo, Dacey Durbin, Sofia Larrondo, Yasmin Lama Flores, Quincy Ingalls, Ted Topper

Guests:

Staff and Assistants: Eric Alexander, Nely Vasquez, Joshua Kurz

Motions:

ASWWU-22-F-4

To approve the October 5th, 2022 minutes

ASWWU-22-F-5

To add 5 more minutes to the Provost Academic Mission

Rahma Iqbal, AS Senate President, called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

I. CONSENT ITEMS

a. Approval of minutes

a. Remove R from Hartford's name

b. In the F section of the minutes, change wording on Vice chair involvement in the CFPV vacancy process. The wording will be they will help choose and not take over the process

Motion by Justin McGlone

To approve the October 5th, 2022 minutes

Second: Quincy Ingalls

Motion approved: 18-0-0

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

III. PUBLIC FORUM

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS – GUESTS

a. Provost Academic Mission

- a. Brad Johnson tells the Senators what his office is working on, such as setting up process' and a structure to be transparent of the University's internal working
- b. He also wants faculty to understand and be prepared how to serve students from various backgrounds
- c. Ingalls asks Johnson how he plans to fulfill BSO demand thirteen
 - i. Johnson says his role is administration and curriculum would be in the hands of faculty Senate
 - ii. What he can do is ask if there is way that the structure of the GURs can fulfill the demand
- d. Hakala if there is action already in place for Johnson to fulfill BSO demand thirteen
 - i. Johnson says he has rolled out a general guidelines and guideposts for pragmatically reevaluations of programs
 - ii. This is to promote growth and meet needs
- e. Brown asks if there are any plans to decrease tuition, so it is more affordable and accessible for students, and thus increase enrollment
 - i. Johnson is looking towards finding other places for revenue to cover costs of the institution
 - ii. Looking for investments in scholarships, programs, etc. can help offset tuition for students
- f. Baxter wonders if faculty will increase visibility on graduate programs since enrollment is decreasing
 - i. Johnson says that improving access and growing offerings to students is a major priority
 - ii. Several graduate programs are receiving decision packets
 1. If funded, there will be an evaluation at where to fill the gaps
- g. Iqbal is wondering if there are any efforts to work on the retention problem of marginalized, first-year, and Pell grant eligible students

- i. Johnson says he and President Sabah Randhawa are going to look on what the first-year programs are doing quantitatively
- h. Iqbal wonders if there is a way to promote to students the global humanities and religions department
 - i. Having students ask questions to faculty is a good way, but not everyone is comfortable asking questions
 - ii. He also says that is the purpose of the GUR's
- i. Ingalls wonders if there is a specific reason why the retention rate is dropping, specifically for students of color
 - i. A lot of students weren't talking to advisors or staff during their first year
 - ii. There is not mandatory advising for students during their first year
 - iii. Having a broader reach for advising students will help guide them
- j. Bock mentions having an open session where there were professors and advisors meeting students, and he says it helped him a lot
- k. Lily mentions her own peer experience and wonders if there are other colleges have peer mentor programs
 - i. Johnson says there are different formats of the peer mentor programs, but they aren't big enough

Motion by Justin McGlone

To add five more minutes to the Provost Academic Mission

Second: Quincy Ingalls

Motion passed: 18-0-0

V. ACTION ITEMS – GUESTS

VI. PERSONELL ITEMS

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS – SENATE

- a. Shred the contract
 - a. Wong explains the purpose of Shred the Contract and it is also a BSO demand
 - b. The current contract with Aramark expires in fall 2023, and the club is gathering as much support to transition to a self-operating dining hall
 - c. Hakala says the best bet is to have a five-year bridging contract, during which the university will work towards transitioning to self-dining

- i. Melynda Husky recommends the five-year bridging contract
 - d. A budget proposal will be made and sent out to Aramark and its competitors, and this will be during Winter 2023
- b. ADEI report
 - a. Iqbal says the purpose of the ADEI report is to begin collecting information what colleges are doing in ADEI
 - b. This helps the Senators with their advocacy
 - c. The before the meeting, the structural equity team, released their first report which gathered information across the institution
 - i. There are no specifics about ADEI stuff at each college
 - d. Iqbal says it is a good idea for each senator to talk to their deans about the report
 - e. Iqbal's intention is to have this as a base for the Senators academic advocacy work
- c. BSO demands assessment
 - a. Iqbal is hoping to have someone come in and talk about the history of the BSO demands and where it is now
 - b. She went through the list and pick out the items that tied the Senate
 - c. The purpose was to provide a framework of thinking when it comes to how the Senators do their advocacy and work with their deans
 - d. Iqbal reminds the Senate that they are there to support the BSO demands
 - e. Larrondo wonders if there is someone at their college, they could talk to about the BSO demands
 - i. Iqbal doesn't think so, but it is within the ADEI framework, and they could talk to the BSC necessary
 - f. Ingalls wonders if Nia from the BSC can come and talk about the BSO demands
 - i. Iqbal hopes so this can happen
 - ii. Topper has been talking with Nia, and says their conversation about the BSO demands looks like what advice do the BSC have in relation as to what they want the demands to look like, that the Senate has the authority to support
 - g. Topper has been working with the director of the American cultural studies to reconstruct the program because the course catalog is misleading
 - i. The goal is reorganizing the program, so it offers a wide variety of selection for students who are interested in ethnic studies and the ACS program

- h. Topper wonders how the limitations of the Senate will impact future work with the BSO demands
 - i. Iqbal says while the BSO demands tie into ADEI work, black students deserve support as black students and not be lumped into a BIPOC thing, along with other marginalized groups
 - ii. Since Topper is already working with Nia to fulfill the BSO demands, he should continue his work with her
 - iii. For the rest of the Senators, they should use the ADEI framework and documents released from other marginalized groups to help guide their advocacy work
- d. Vacant CFPA Position Update
 - a. There are two applicants
 - b. Iqbal is hoping to meet with the candidates late next week, along with the Vice-Chair and Brown
 - c. The Senate will appoint the new CFPA Senator next meeting

VIII. ACTION ITEMS – SENATE

- a. Vice chair
 - a. Alexander explains the process of voting for the Vice-Chair
 - b. Handa recommends having the Senators write down their answer, so they don't feel pressured to vote for others
 - c. Wong, Christoph, and Ingalls are candidates for the position
 - i. They each got two minutes to talk
 - d. Ingalls is elected as Vice-Chair

IX. SENATE REPORTS

- a. Topper has been working with Nia and the ESC to organize a general conversation for BIPOC students to get together and discuss where they fell in the Western community, and bring that conversation to the office of equity
- b. Topper has also been working with residency life and his college to alleviate some of the burden that disabled students are facing regarding parking and mobility around campus
 - a. There will be a meeting next week with transportation to spread out more of the handicap parking spaces

- c. Durban says the CBE are thinking of creating a new required class for business students, which will be about ethics and social justice
 - a. Durban will make sure to bring it up at future meetings, so it is not passed over
- d. The Woodring Senators will be having their office hours in Miller Hal 150, since that is where Center for Equity and Education is
- e. Hakala and Bock met with their new dean, and says they had a very productive conversation regarding issues within their college
 - a. One of the things they are working on is organizing an event trying to integrate the environmental studies and sciences sides as they are very split
- f. Sargun encourages the Senators to go to Mod Pizza to support the women's rugby team after the meeting
- g. Trujillo reports that her and Durbin will apart of the search committee for the new dean of their college
- h. An At-Large Senator reports that the four of them are wanting to table to reach out to students, and suggestions are welcomed from other Senators to help attract folks
 - a. Iqbal says that the Senate has a small budget for food, which could be used to get stuff that attracts people to the table
 - b. This would be used all year and be available to other Senators
- i. Ingalls tells the Senate there needs to be one Senator from each college in the Diverse Curriculum committee, when they vote on it at the next Senate meeting
- j. Iqbal suggests going to departmental clubs within each college to do outreach
- k. Gold reports that the graduate TA's and RA's are trying to unionize, and the Western Academic Workers United Union meeting are a good support for them
 - a. She also says that if the AS wanted to unionize, they would be good people to talk to
 - b. Baxter says she and Queen can add more to that conversation at another time meeting

X. BOARD REPORTS

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Rahma Iqbal, AS Senate President, adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM