



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

October 6, 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), Sophie Snyder (she/her)

**Guests:** Nia Gibson, Nafi Sibhatu, Mwangi Payton, Zinta Lucans

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

**Motions:**

ASWWU-EB-22-F-6                      To approve the minutes with the revisions

ASWWU-EB-22-F-7                      To approve the revision to the agenda

*Sargun Handa, AS President, called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM.*

**I. CONSENT ITEMS**

- a. Approval of the minutes  
-September 7, 2021  
Handa made the revision to correct spelling.

***MOTION ASWWU-EB-22-F-6***

*Motion by Schexnayder*

*To approve the minutes with the revision*

*Second: Resendiz-Eyler*

*Motion passed 6-0-0*

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- a. Handa moved the BSO Demands in Information Items - Guests to the first item in the category.

***MOTION ASWWU-EB-22-F-7***

*Motion by Rahma*

*To approve the revision to the agenda*

*Second: Resendiz-Eyler*

*Motion passed 6-0-0*

### **III. PUBLIC FORUM**

#### **IV. INFORMATION ITEMS – GUESTS**

- a.** BSO Demands – Nia Gibson (she/her), the Coordinator for the Black Student Coalition, Mwangi Payton, one of the Black Student Coalition Development Specialists, and Nafi Sibhatu, also a Development Specialist introduced themselves. The Board Introduced themselves. Payton spoke on the history behind the demands. He explained that the Black Community at WWU has been dissatisfied for years with WWU’s lack of support and they came together to create the Black Student Organization who created the BSO Demands to fix what has been broken for decades on campus and help create and more equitable environment for Black students and students of color. Handa said that there was a focus on her end to make sure that the BSO demands had their own place on the website, rather than just being added to the front page, so that updates can be more available. She said that the Executive Board has marked demand #8 as complete in regard to anti-racism training, but Senators have expressed that in person would be preferable, since many students will play other mandatory trainings in the background to get them over with and may do the same with these ones. There are other demands marked as complete that may not be entirely done. There are things in process like compensating Black students, renaming Huxley College, the anti-racism and anti-blackness training for students, Shred the Contract, and better communication with Administration and Staff, which has improved. Gibson said there is a lot of stake in the Multicultural Center Student Services aspect, because there are a lot of demands that are University wide and require collaboration. The BSC was established and made so it was not a burden on students to offer that space with a full-time staff member while centering student voices. They are working on taking elements of the legacy document and incorporating them. She said there are questions since the AS did a response to the demands and there were going to be quarterly assessments. She asked the Board about ideas around fulfilling the AS Response. Alexander said that it feels like there is a need for the ability to look at where things can move forward and review the responses to the original demand. He said he is interested in looking at where they are this year, and how to do things better now. Handa looked at the AS Statement and said that this was never forwarded on to the next Executive Board and was a statement by the Communications Office. She remembered it being considered performative when it was first released. There was no accountability factor in the statement. Schexnayder agreed that it feels like promises have been made but not achieved and need to be done. There have not been quarterly check-ins on the progress on the demands. Gibson said that

she is hopeful for reconciliation and moving forward and working with the Board to support each other and address and fulfill the goals and promises. Handa said this is on the top of her priority list for the year. Handa asked what relationship they would want going forward, and if regular meetings would be useful. Payton said a quarterly check-in sounded ideal. Gibson said that one-on-ones will continue to be a way to connect and other open communication. Rahma said that the Senate has tried to do some work on the BSO Demands and she is hoping they will be able to do more work on them with Western as a whole.

- b.** AS Committee Council Charge and Charter – Eric said that the idea behind the committee is good in that there needs to be a better pathway for getting people into the committees. The struggle is that the committee is trying to do too many things, so they broke it down into two or three different areas. The first is around the idea of the administrative components, and how people will be moved in the process. The other is around recruitment, education, and analysis. The third is around the actual process of appointment, who does the appointing. Ryan, Byers, and Alexander will work together on the first two segments, and then Rahma, Handa, and Resendiz-Eyler will work on the concept of how we do appointments. In the interim there is another process, which they would continue to do, with Vice Presidents charged with appointing those positions. Ryan said that there is the position of the OCE’s Civic Involvement Coordinator, which is one where they plan a couple of events, but many in the past have not been continued on, and they have been struggling to do work. They discussed that a lot of the work was advertisement, making committees more accessible, and trainings. These are things that OCE positions are trained to. It would work better if they were to have a position take over a lot of these rather than a committee or group of students, since a lot of it is departmental and Civic Involvement work. The Civic Involvement Coordinator has been looking for things to do with their position, so it would make sense for them to do what is in the charge. Handa said that her understanding is that there used to be a Committee Coordinator that did a lot of this work, so it makes sense for the Civic Involvement Coordinator to take some of this work on. The Committee Council will work as a search committee and then the Board will appoint. Handa said that she feels that the sole purpose of the Board is to uphold the constitution. The Board could also take their power out of the conversation, so there are different ways things could go. Rahma said that one of her thoughts is that the current appointment process should be made easier, more of a step-by-step process than getting the emails and being unsure of how to work with them. She said that the Civic Involvement Coordinator can solve a lot of issues in the future, and brainstorming the process now is important. Handa asked if Byers would still be working with the Civic Involvement Coordinator or if that would be Josh Kurz. Alexander said that that is something to be discussed and there is not a clear response yet. Handa said that her main confusion was what the point of the Council is if there is the Civic Involvement Coordinator involved. Ryan said that as the OCE Director and chair of that council, she

does not know what the benefit of having it would be for the process. It adds to the bureaucracy and sets them back more. Byers said that one challenge is using WIN for this. It's either all the applications or none, and it is not efficient since the applicants cannot automatically be sent to the proper people rather than to everyone.

Schexnayder asked what the process of fixing that might be. Alexander said that there might be another solution within WIN like an app or something else that is easier to use. Resendiz-Eyler asked if the Council is needed if WIN actually works. Handa said that she could see the benefits of having the Council, since there could be favoritism within the board for appointing people who agree with them, and it could be a way to hold the Board accountable. Schexnayder said that if there was a solution the way Handa suggested, there may be At-Large students sacrificed in the process, since currently in the Committee Council, there would be an at-Large student, but he doesn't know how they would be involved in another process. Alexander said that one way to get around that might be all appointments being brought to a Board meeting, since the agenda is public and that is a way for students to have their voices heard. It may be worth trading for more people being on the committee, since it is difficult to get at-Large students on committees. Handa expressed the concern that not many students know about public form and does not want to assume that people will put in their opinion.

- c. STF Operational Guidelines 2023-2026 – Diane Bateman presented the STF Operational Guidelines. She said that she worked with Diane Fuller and that the numbers were spot on. There is more to it than counting the students and multiplying it by the fee, as there are exceptions, which do not add up to a lot of people, but its significant enough to need to be aware that those exceptions exist. Money amounts will be different every year, but that fluctuation is expected.
- d. SEJF Charge and Charter – Seb Genge presented the changes to the SEJF Charge and Charter. Handa asked why it expires in 2024. Seb Genge replied that October was so it could be reviewed at the start of the year, and the year was so it is not a yearly change, since it feels unneeded. Lucans said that the rationale is that if it does not need to be updated yearly, then the Board does not need to vote yearly, but if it does not work it can still be changed and approved, but the goal was to not force the Board into approving things that don't need to be reapproved. Handa asked about the removal role of the ESC member in the committee with structural changes. Lucans said that Casey Hayden was in contact with them regarding the decision. Handa said she was concerned about taking away marginalized student voices, though she understands that ESC and SAIRC are no longer part of the AS. Alexander said that the two years wait for expiration was normal and voted on by a previous Board to be allowed. He also said that Litav Langley has been hoping to talk with the Executive Board about the restructure which can provide more insight. He suggested having a conversation outside of the meeting discussing how to include students on the committees from those areas. Lucans asked if the ASVP for Diversity could appoint someone to the committee. Handa

said that there will already be students appointed to the committee. She said that with the ESC and SAIRC no longer in the AS, it did make sense to remove them. Seb Genge said that as time goes on, positions can be added again. Rahma said that it would be important to be mindful of where positions for the committee is being advertised. Rahma asked if the appointed students would be chosen by Seb Genge and then brought as a Consent Item. Alexander confirmed that. Byers said that everyone got all of the applications for committees, so they can look at other committee applicants too. Rahma asked if the people responsible in the out of session process make the decisions that voting would and asked if Zinta Lucans is involved. Lucans said the rationale for the process is that if time-sensitive grants are brought up when out of session, they can still be approved. The goal is to not need the process, and they are considering creating deadlines to stop that from happening beyond small grants since those typically don't go to the committee as it is.

## **V. ACTION ITEMS – GUESTS**

## **VI. PERSONELL ITEMS**

## **VII. INFORMATION ITEMS – BOARD**

## **VIII. ACTION ITEMS – BOARD**

## **IX. BOARD REPORTS**

- a.** Rahma reported that the first Senate meeting was the day before, they discussed Senate expectations and upkeep, they got four people who want to be Vice Chair. There were two Charge and Charters on the agenda, one for Student Outreach Committee, which they plan to do a collaboration with the Executive Board to try to increase student engagement. Work has to be done to write the Charge and Charter and Resolution. Membership also has to be discussed. The other was for Diversifying Curriculum Committee. That project ties into the BSO demands. They are looking for a CFPA Senator still, and the applicant will be sent out again. The STF is something she has also been working on, and hopefully she will have a Charge and Charter done soon.
- b.** Handa reported that she went to the Washington Student Association General Assembly and was elected the Chair of the Board of Directors. The two Western Legislative Proposals that passed were the Scholarship Fund for Marginalized Students and the Permanent Program to Support Students Experiencing Homelessness. She wanted to work on the website redesign with the BSO Demands. She also wanted to look into why the AS doesn't have an ADEI Unit.
- c.** ASVP for Diversity Appointment Updates – The application opened on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and closes on the 13<sup>th</sup>, and the interviews will be from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. The appointment will be on the 27<sup>th</sup>. The goal is to have ten applications.

- d. Seb Genge reported that he had a meeting about a project about water bottles and water on campus. He also reached out to Sustainability Housing Facilities Assistant and the AS Recycle Center about composting on campus.
- e. Schexnayder reported that he had been working with the Club Hub to set up the Activities Council. They had their first meeting, which was a little rough around the edges, but they got work done. He also met with Alexander about the Student Union Advisory Board, and there is a meeting planned for that. Going forward, figuring out what can be done with the WIN applications is a high priority. He is also looking into BSO Demands and the AS statement that was made. He said that the Chair of the Student Publications Council talked to him and Handa about having AS Appointed representatives for that council.
- f. Resendiz-Eyler reported that he was working on LAC, which would start meeting the following week. He had reached out to people who will be there but hasn't heard back from many of them. He met with Alexander, Hayden and Naira Gonzales about Western Intersectional Lobby Day and Western Lobby Day. There is also a meeting planned with Handa, Naira Gonzales, Chelsea Joefield, Reika Sasano, and Shrija Gandhi about WILD and WLD as well, and possibly changing the dates, since many of the bills WILD would be lobbying for would be dead by the time the original date comes.
- g. Snyder reported that she met with Jasmine Fast, the previous ASVP for Student Services and discussed committees. She has been working on the police search and working with Litav Langley to get student leaders to the student interview portions of the interviews.

## **X. SENATE REPORTS**

## **XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Sargun Handa, AS President, adjourned the meeting at 6:02 PM.*