



Western Washington University Associated Students Executive Board Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2023 6:00 p.m. VU 567/You
Tube Live

Members:

Present: Keara Ryan (AS President), Erin Godwin (AS VP Governmental Affairs), Morgan Whitt (AS VP for Diversity), Sophie Snyder (AS VP for Student Services), Liam Pratt (AS VP for Sustainability)

Absent: Gabe Wong (AS Senate President)

Secretary: Rachel Kleffman

Advisor/Staff: Adam Lorio

Guests: Dacey Durbin, Trent Austin

MOTIONS

ASB-23-F-4	<i>Move to table appointment of Nathan Sim to Activities Council from Consent Agenda. Passed</i>
ASB-23-F-5	<i>Move to table appointment of Bryce Groen to Sustainability Equity & Justice Fund from Consent Agenda. Passed</i>
ASB-23-F-6	<i>Move to approve Consent Agenda items including: Appointment of Kate Conway to the Sustainability Equity & Justice Fund. Passed</i>
ASB-23-F-7	<i>Move to table Parliamentary Procedure information item. Passed</i>
ASB-23-F-8	<i>Move the Legislative Affairs Council Charge & Charter Action Item to an Information Item. Passed</i>
ASB-23-F-9	<i>Move the Finance Charge & Charter from an Information Item-Guests to an Action Item-Guests. Passed</i>
ASB-23-F-10	<i>Move to approve the changes as presented to the Finance Council's Charge & Charter. Passed</i>
ASB-23-F-11	<i>Move to table appointment of Nathan Sim to Activities Council. Passed</i>

Call to Order: Keara Ryan, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

I. Consent Items (subject to immediate action)

a. Appointment to Activities Council

5 minutes Ryan

MOTION: To table appointment of Nathan Sim to Activities Council from Consent Agenda		
Motion Made By: Ryan	Second: Godwin	ASB-23-F-4
Vote Count: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

b. Appointments to Sustainability Equity & Justice Fund

5 minutes

Ryan

MOTION: To table appointment of Bryce Groen to Sustainability Equity & Justice Fund from Consent Agenda		
Motion Made By: Pratt	Second: Ryan	ASB-23-F-5
Vote Count: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

- i. Pratt discussed the appointment of Kate Conway to the Sustainability Equity & Justice Fund. He stated that Kate is managing the WHOLE pantry this year. They have experience working with the outback, and food justice in general.

MOTION: Move to approve Consent Agenda items including: Appointment of Kate Conway to the Sustainability Equity & Justice Fund		
Motion Made By: Godwin	Second: Pratt	ASB-23-F-6
Vote Count: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

II. Revisions to the Agenda

MOTION: Move to table Parliamentary Procedure information item		
Motion Made By: Ryan	Second: Godwin	ASB-23-F-7
Vote Count: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

MOTION: Move the Legislative Affairs Council Charge & Charter Action Item to Information Item		
Motion Made By: Godwin	Second: Pratt	ASB-23-F-8
Vote Count: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

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

- a. None Presented

IV. Officer Reports

a. Chair Report

5 minutes Ryan

- i. Ryan stated that the role of Vice President for Activities is still vacant. To gain more interest, Ryan has been working with the Communications Office to advertise the position, along with emailing Deans, Department heads, and Professors, to inquire about potential applicant recommendations. So far, she has reached out to College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Fine and Performing Arts, and Science and Engineering. Until position is filled, Ryan is seated as the chair of The Activities Council. The Council has \$8,000 to spend per quarter, though there has been an influx in requests. At the first meeting, the council approved \$563.43 to be dispersed amongst clubs. In executive session, they approved another \$300 for various clubs. \$200 was approved for Management Information Systems Association, which is a CBE club that requested funds for food to encourage attendance. \$163.47 was given to the Women in Engineering club. The chair of the club, who is the only woman in their engineering program at Western, came and spoke at the Activities Council meeting about their intentions for a future club fundraising event. Molecular Biology club \$200.

b. Vice President Report

5 minutes Godwin

- i. Legislative Affairs Council continuing efforts for recruitment. The Vice Chair is reaching out to AEI units about filling seats, with all confirmation currently verbal. Godwin spoke to the Political Science department, and they sent out notifications about the Legislative Affairs Council. Godwin discussed Western’s history of holding two Lobby Days, which are Western’s Lobby Day and Western’s Intersectional Lobby Day. This year, there has been a decision made to only hold Intersectional Lobby Day, which will be February 18th and 19th, 2024.

c. Student Senate President Report

5 minutes Wong

- i. Dacey Durbin delivers Gabe Wong’s report to the Executive Board. Durbin announces that the senate approved the Finance Council’s membership adjustments. Durbin details how Woodring College’s senators provided them with a statement that they intend to give to their Dean about inclusivity and accessibility. There haven’t been any applications for the Graduate School seat vacancies, while there are a few applications submitted for the CBE vacancy.

d. Advisor Report 5 minutes Ryan

- i. Nothing to report

V. Information Items- Guests*

a. Finance Council Charge & Charter

10 minutes (Doc 1)

Ryan

- i. The finance council can’t meet until they update their membership, and they are adjusting their Student At-Large count from two down to one student.

MOTION: To move the Finance Charge & Charter from an Information Item to an Action item		
Motion Made: yes	Second: yes	ASB-23-F-9
Vote Count: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

b. Parliamentary Procedure

10 minutes (Doc 3)

Wong

- i. Tabled

MOTION: To approve the Sustainability Equity & Justice Fund Charge & Charter with changes to section 5. Rules of Operation, stating that the committee may adopt and amend rules governing its operation by consensus of the committee barring substantial changes, which are then subject to the review and approval by the AS Executive Board.

Motion Made: Ryan	Second: Pratt	ASB-23-F-11
Vote Count: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

**b. Sustainability Equity & Justice
Rules of Operation**

5 minutes (Doc 4)

Pratt

- i. Ryan noted that the Rules of Operation does not match the Charge & Charter. The Rules of Operation states that amendments being approved by the Sustainability office are then approved by the Executive Board, whereas the Charge & Charter states that it needs to be approved by the committee followed by being given to the Executive Board. Pratt suggested an adjustment to the Rules of Operation that states that the committee doesn't have to bring it to the Executive Board unless there are extenuating circumstances. Ryan, Pratt, and Lorio discussed wording adjustment to the Sustainability Equity & Justice Fund Rules of Operation section Amendments, stating This Rules of Operation document may be amended in accordance with Section 5. Rules of Operation of the Charge & Charter.

MOTION: To table Sustainability Equity & Justice Fund Rules of Operation		
Motion Made: Ryan	Second: Godwin	ASB-23-F-12
Vote Count: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

X. Other Business

- a. None Presented

Adjourn: The Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Western Washington University
Associated Students of WWU

Charter
(revised 2023)

The students of Western Washington University have the right and responsibility to participate in the shared governance of the university. For this purpose, the Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU) has been established. The ASWWU is charged by the President and by the students it represents with promoting the general welfare of students by electing a student government (AS Government) which:

- Represents student interests and opinions to the university administration, Board of Trustees, and appropriate governmental agencies,
- Fosters participation and inclusion of the student body in university governance and operations as appropriate,
- Communicates with the ASWWU membership about institutional matters which affect them.

Article I: Voting Membership

The voting membership of ASWWU shall include all full-time, part-time, graduate, and undergraduate students who are registered for at least one academic credit at any WWU campus.

Article II: Recognition

Section 1. The official student government of Western Washington University (AS Government) shall consist of the ASWWU Executive Board and Student Senate, with the privileges and responsibilities assigned to it by this charter. The ASWWU's authority to participate in shared governance of the university is established by the President of Western Washington University, with the consent of the ASWWU membership, and acknowledged by the Board of Trustees.

Section 2. The AS Government may only be abolished by a vote of the voting membership of ASWWU. In such case, the powers established in this charter become null and void at the end of the quarter in which the vote is held.

Section 3. The ASWWU may only be abolished by a vote of the voting membership of ASWWU. In such case, the ASWWU will be dissolved at the end of the quarter in which the vote is held.

Section 3. All amendments to this charter must be approved by the ASWWU Executive Board and the University President.

Article III: Duties

Section 1. The AS Government shall make every effort to represent the needs and concerns of students through its participation in shared governance.

Section 2. The AS Government shall hold annual elections open to all registered students for the purpose of selecting representatives and deciding referenda on matters of importance to the student body.

Section 3. The AS Government shall consult with and report to university bodies on matters of concern to students.

Section 4. The AS Government shall encourage student involvement in the development of university policies which impact students.

Section 5. The AS Government shall inform the university community of actions taken by the AS Government.

Section 6. The AS Government shall adopt bylaws and establish structures as necessary to govern its organization and carry out its responsibilities in a manner consistent with this charter and the regulations, policies, and procedures of the University. It shall review those bylaws and structures at least every 5 years.

Article IV: Granted Authorities

The AS Government is granted the authority to fulfill its duties within the provisions set forth in this charter and within the constraints of University regulation, policy, and procedure. In addition, the AS Government shall have the following special authorities:

Section 1. With regard to student fees, the AS Government has the authority to:

- a. Ensure that monies allocated to the AS Government by the Services and Activities Fee Committee are used to support continuous, safe, and efficient operations of the ASWWU,
- b. Provide recommendations regarding any increases and/or renewals of mandatory and voluntary student fees,
- c. Review all information pertaining to the expenditure and usage of student fee dollars,
- d. Ensure a majority of student voting members on fee committees overseeing mandatory and voluntary student fees, with the exception of operating and building fees,
- e. Exercise the right to appoint a student chair, with the concurrence of the University President or designee, on all committees overseeing and appropriating mandatory and voluntary student fee dollars, with the exception of operating and building fees.

Section 2. To fulfill its administrative responsibilities, the AS Government has the authority to:

- a. Obtain and review information on the affairs of the University,

- b. Appoint student representatives to standing University committees, and to other bodies as requested,
- c. Allocate funds to support the employment of student and permanent staff as needed to fulfill the goals and maintain the operations of the AS Government, consistent with the regulations, policies, and procedures of the university,
- d. Manage its allocated funds in accordance with regulations, policies, and procedures of the university and with fiduciary responsibility on behalf of students,
- e. Participate in the management of the AS Bookstore's net operating revenues, where applicable.

[Signature block]

Supporting Students in Light of the Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza

Dear Western Washington University Students,

As your elected ASWWU student representatives, we are committed to upholding the rights of free speech, academic freedom, and assembly on our college campus. We deeply respect diverse viewpoints, even when they are perceived as controversial, and we recognize these principles as essential components of our university community.

Due to the recent and horrific events in Gaza, there has been an increase in harassment and discrimination against Arab, Muslim, and Jewish students on our campus and across the nation. Students are facing online harassment which has very real impacts. No one should be harassed or fear for their safety. This situation is deeply concerning, and it is our shared commitment to ensure a campus environment characterized by respect, trust, and ethical conduct.

We wholeheartedly support our Arab, Muslim, and Jewish students and strive to promote the general well-being of all Western students. We will continue to defend your right to speak and organize freely. Our campus community must remain a safe space for all students.

We call on everyone in our campus community, including instructors, to be accommodating and empathetic to those affected by the attacks in Gaza. Global events can have major impacts on the mental health of our community members.

It's not the responsibility of those affected to keep others educated. We encourage all members of our community to take the initiative to educate themselves and engage in meaningful conversations. Please keep up to date with the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and take the time to understand the historical context surrounding the recent escalation in Palestine and Israel.

In times like these, we stand united in support of our Arab, Muslim, and Jewish students. ASWWU is dedicated to promoting the general well-being of all Western students and ensuring that your voices are heard. ASWWU represents the student body, and we wanted to spend time listening to our peers' concerns before creating this statement. We've tried to approach this carefully and with empathy, but we're not perfect and are open to criticism. Our primary goal with this message is to create an open space for dialogue, and we invite you to reach out to us.

[List of resources to be updated upon release]

Student Advisory Committee Appointment

Proposed motion: Appoint Liam Pratt, Associated Students Vice President for Sustainability, to the Student Advisory Committee.

Proposed by: Keara Ryan, Associated Students President

Context:

The Student Advisory Committee shall provide student opinions to the Western Washington University Administration and Board of Trustees. This committee will complement student voting membership on university committees by forming recommendations based only on student opinions. The Student Advisory Committee will advise and assist the administration of Western Washington University on issues (1) that affect the accessibility of education for students, (2) that affect the ability of students to be successful in their education, or (3) that are otherwise of great interest to students.

The Executive Board is charged with appointing a Vice President or Student Senator to serve as a voting member of the Student Advisory Committee. (Student Advisory Committee Charge and Charter Article 3, Membership).

Goal #2 of the University's Strategic Plan outlines the obligations of the university to sustainability and the environment. The Vice President for Sustainability as a voting member of this committee ensure that issues addressed by the committee consider the needs of students in a world that is continually impacted by climate change.

Student Advisory Committee Vice Chair Appointment

Proposed motion: Appoint Keara Ryan, Associated Students President, as Vice Chair of the Student Advisory Committee.

Proposed by: Gabe Wong, Associated Students Senate President

Context:

The Student Advisory Committee shall provide student opinions to the Western Washington University Administration and Board of Trustees. This committee will complement student voting membership on university committees by forming recommendations based only on student opinions. The Student Advisory Committee will advise and assist the administration of Western Washington University on issues (1) that affect the accessibility of education for students, (2) that affect the ability of students to be successful in their education, or (3) that are otherwise of great interest to students.

The Executive Board is charged with appointing a Vice President or the AS President to serve as a voting member and Vice Chair of the Student Advisory Committee. (Student Advisory Committee Charge and Charter Article 3, Membership).

The President is the lead executive officer of the Associated Students organization and serves as spokesperson and chair for the Executive Board. This is an elected position that is charged with serving all ASWWU students. Due to the connection of the AS President with both the Board of Trustees and administration, the AS President currently plays an essential role communicating issues and concerns of students to these bodies. Acting as Vice Chair of the Student Advisory committee ensures a timely stream of information from this committee to relevant bodies such as budget committee meetings, the AS Executive Board, WWU Board of Trustees, and WWU administrators.