



Western Washington University Associated Students Executive Board Meeting Minutes

February 29th, 2024 5:30 p.m. VU 567/Teams Town Hall

Present: Keara Ryan, Gabe Wong, Erin Godwin, Morgan Whitt, Liam Pratt, Sophie Snyder, Sebastian Mayotte

Absent: None

Advisor: Adam Lorio

Secretary: Rachel Kleffman

Guests: Malory Schaeftbauer

MOTIONS

ASB-24-W-54	To Move Ramadan Resolution to an Information Item
ASB-24-W-55	To Approve Consent Items with Stated Amendments

Call to Order: Keara Ryan, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:56 p.m.

I. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. Move Ramadan resolution to an Information Item

MOTION: To Move Ramadan Resolution to an Information Item		
Motion Made By: Ryan	Second: Pratt	ASB-24-W-54
Vote Count: Aye: 7 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

II. CONSENT ITEMS *(subject to immediate action)*

- a. Committee Appointments 5 minutes Ryan
 - First Applicant
 - o Applying to be a Student-At-Large for the Activities Council.
 - o He is currently the Ethics Board Coordinator.
 - o He is very passionate about funding clubs, and he wants to see how the process works.
 - o Can bring in experience from other committees within the AS.
 - o Sophomore political science major.
 - Second Applicant
 - o Applying for Student-At-Large position for the Elections Advisory Committee.

- He was previously working with the Elections Advisory Committee as a senator and wants to return to continue working with the committee.
- Ryan: Can you share what other committee the first applicant is on? I'm kind of worried about having the same At-Large student on multiple committees, especially while they're also an employee within the OCE.
- Schaeftbauer: They're also on the Academic Grievance Board.
- Ryan: That is not an AS committee. I don't have a problem with it, I just wanted to make sure it wasn't multiple AS committees.

MOTION: To Approve Consent Items with Stated Amendments		
Motion Made By: Pratt	Second: Mayotte	ASB-24-W-55
Vote Count: Aye: 7 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0		Action Result: Passed

III. PUBLIC FORUM (*comments from students and the community*)

None.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS

- a. Chair Report 5 minutes Ryan
 - On Monday, Ryan, Pratt, and two student senators met with faculty from Fairhaven, the manager the farm, and a few people who work on the farm for updates on what's been going on with the Outback Farm.
 - They were discussing the funding route for the Outback Farm.
 - There are different routes possible with funding, especially since the farm sits in an area between the Student Senate and Executive Board.
 - Ryan met with Wong, Godwin, and Dacey Durbin to talk about the constitution, which was the first informal meeting of the Conference Committee.
 - A final version has been agreed upon.
 - It needs to be passed next week for it to be on the student government elections.
 - Elections are approaching.
 - If current Board members are planning on running for a Student Government position, do not engage in advertising.

- b. Vice President Report 5 minutes Godwin
 - Western Intersectional Lobby Day happened last Monday on February 18th and 19th.
 - Logistics wise, it went well.
 - 55 people participated, not including the organizers.
 - 55 students did 40 meetings.
 - Students went to meetings with legislators, committee meetings, and to get their professional portraits taken in front of the Capitol.

- The agenda's length and variety of options got good feedback.
 - People outside of the AS said that students were well prepared and well trained for WILD.
 - o The Washington Student Association said Western's students had the most training, preparation, and knowledge.
 - Godwin is doing a debrief on what went well, what could have gone better, and any possible changes for next year.
- c. Vice President Report 5 minutes Mayotte
- Last meeting of this week was Rec Center Advisory Group.
 - o This was the first meeting of the year to plan funding.
 - o Discussing asking for 4% increase for student fees for Rec Center, which would be about \$5 per student.
 - o This increase would go toward student employee wage increases.
 - The Student Union Advisory Group is working on the Viking Union and what it means to students.
 - o Trying to revitalize it as an active community space, which includes turning the arcade area into a community living lounge.
 - Activities Council took \$2000 out of the grants for travel, which has led to improvements within the council.
 - Ryan: Do you know if the Rec Center fee is a separate fee or is it taken out of s&a fee?
 - Mayotte: They're separate fees.
 - Ryan: Was this request reflected in the fall projected rates of what tuition was going to be?
 - Mayotte: Yes, this is reflected in their projection. We haven't voted yet, that'll be next quarter.
 - Godwin: So, it's an additional \$5, not a total \$5?
 - Mayotte: Out of what we pay, an extra \$5.
- d. Vice President Report 5 minutes Pratt
- On February 27th, there was a Sustainability, Equity, & Justice Fund (SEJF) meeting where the committee voted on five projects.
 - o The committee approved:
 - The Sustainable Lab Certification Program. \$13,000 to provide research labs with the means to conduct their research in sustainable ways.
 - \$5,000 grant for the Western Worn Community Closet to act as a closet for students that need more basic clothing that Western doesn't currently offer in the Career Closet.
 - Urban Farm Project. \$139,000 to acquire and operate the City Sprouts Farm on behalf of Western.
 - The President's Sustainability Council is continuing to work on the Sustainability Action Plan.

- Since it has only been Pratt and another AS representative working on the action plan, they are going to add a preface saying there hasn't been meaningful student involvement so that it's not misrepresentative of the student body.
 - A student that works for the Sustainability Engagement Institute approached Pratt with an idea to create a Western Student Sustainability Coalition.
 - This Coalition would fall under Pratt's position and the SEI. They would act as facilitators for this group.
 - Ryan: If the coalition is going to be under your position, it would normally be chartered through the AS. If that does happen, I would prefer it to be a chartered task force, council, or committee so it is physically chartered through the AS.
 - Pratt: It will either be launched under my position or through the OCE. Either way, with it being an AS organization, there will be guiding documents.
- e. Vice President Report 5 minutes Whitt
- Whitt checked in with the ADEI Unit.
 - The ADEI Unit changed to the center's leadership team, which is housed under the MCCC, the DAC, the LGBTQ Center, and the Undocumented Resource Center.
 - They meet every week to we go over what they can be working on.
 - Whitt will be helping with student involvement and working to up attendance for all the events.
 - They got a new Latina Retention Specialist that will be joining in April.
 - Whitt has a meeting with the Social Justice Equity Committee on May 1st.
 - The committee met once or twice last quarter.
 - They will be going over co-coordinators for the Spring quarter.
 - They will also be looking at if we are going to run a Social Justice and Equity festival and possible allocation of more money to the grant fund.
 - Last week, Whitt had a meeting with the OCE and Blue Group for voting resources for Western's students that are undocumented. The OCE said they don't have a ton of resources for students during elections, which is something that Whitt wants to implement.
 - Whitt had a connection with the Dean for the Environmental Studies College.
 - They talked about getting involved with their diversity coordinator to discuss diversity programs for next year.
 - Whitt has also been working on the Immigration Advisory Board Resolution.
- f. Advisor Report 5 minutes Ryan
- The Elections Advisory Committee is working on elections code for both governing bodies. They will have those documents ready so that the board can start on elections outreach.
 - Looking to bring elections numbers up and voter engagement numbers up on campus.

- Lorio is continuing to work on updating job descriptions, so people know what positions they're running for.
- There was a process update meeting about revisiting budgets and reducing budgets. Once revised to align with available resources, these budgets will go to finance council. Our updated deadline has been pushed back to March 18th.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS- Guests*

None presented.

VI. ACTION ITEMS – Guests

None presented.

VII. PERSONNEL ITEMS (subject to immediate action)

None presented.

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board*

- a. Student Trustee Selection Committee 5 minutes (Doc 1) Ryan
- Within this position, you can't be Student Trustee and an elected official at the same time.
 - Ryan will be leading the Student Trustee Selection Committee with a student president and a few other people.
 - The committee doesn't report back to the Executive Board or Student Senate.
 - The committee chooses 3-5 students that are forwarded to Governor's Office for selection.
 - Ryan is working with the President's Office for outreach.
 - o She will be going to open talks and doing class visits with the Student Trustee.
 - o Ryan recommends talking to Max Stone, the current Student Trustee, if a student has interest in the position.
 - Godwin: Is this a new committee?
 - Ryan: No, it has been a committee since pre-COVID. Talking with the President's Office and Trustee's Office, the committee may change how it operates in the upcoming years, switching from an AS committee to a president's committee.
 - Wong: From my understanding, it's a statutory requirement that Student Government recommends the list of potential Trustees.
 - Ryan: Right now, we have it where it's advised by our Student Government Advisor, and it's supposed to be advertised by our Student Government Advisor. We're in the process now where it's still advised by somebody in the AS, but in the future hopefully it will be advised by the secretary to the Board of Trustees. Since we choose the people, send it to the President's Office, then we send it to the Board of Trustees office, this could lessen that. I'm not saying that Student Government won't be involved.
 - Godwin: Do we want to include someone from OCE in the membership?

- Ryan: This committee did have OCE membership previously, but it was taken out last year. To do that, the committee needs to go before the Student Senate and Executive Board. I don't think that's possible before this committee needs to be operable.

IX. Action Items- Board*

- a. Ramadan Accommodations Resolution 10 minutes (Doc 2) Wong
 - Wong changed the date to say, "around March 10th."
 - There is an added statement about residential dining halls not being open before sunrise for the second half of Ramadan and not having regular dinner service for the entirety of Ramadan.
 - Added encouraging Muslim students to reach out to their instructors in spring quarter since Ramadan doesn't end until a few weeks into the quarter.
 - Added in an ask, requesting that dining services accommodate Ramadan, including full food services hours before sunrise and after sunset.
 - o A concern is that that it would require more student workers and could result in food waste.
 - Could think about possible to-go options since the sun rises so early.
 - Ryan: I like the idea of asking Chartwells to be open later because it would accommodate most students who are observing Ramadan. At the same time, Chartwells is struggling to meet basic operations. Instead, I was wondering if it might be more impactful to ask for them to provide to-go containers.
 - Snyder: have you reached out to the head of dining services to ask about this? Is there a deadline we would need this passed by?
 - Ryan: Ramadan starts on March 10th, which is a quick turnaround for this ask. Asking for to-go containers doesn't work for the morning. An inquiry I've made is students getting prepackaged meals for the following morning.
 - Wong: I would still push for the extended hours and mention to-go containers because I'm opposed to negotiating yourself down when you know extension of hours is a good thing.
 - Ryan: If we're doing that, would it be possible to put the ask, "this year and future years" that way we're not just asking this now, but it's expected in the following years.
 - Lorio: The impact of resolutions can be questionable. What is going to be important is the action around it. There is nothing stopping you from taking the actions now. Don't wait to pass a resolution to make those requests now.
 - Snyder: Next week I'm supposed to go to a listening session with Chartwells, but I feel like reaching out to the head of dining services directly would be beneficial if we need this faster.
 - Ryan: Bringing it up at the listening session would be good because we could get more ears on it. I'm also meeting with Melynda Huskey on March 5th to talk about it.

X. Other Business

None.

Adjourn: The Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.