ASWWU Student Senate Meeting Minutes
April 24th, 2024, 5:00-6:00 PM, Teams Hown Hall

Members:

Present: Gabe Wong (Chair); James Dinh, Lauren Johnson (At-Large); John Hardgrove, Zoe Absalonson (CSE); Devin Moreno, Dacey Durbin (CBE); Ellen Esteves (Graduate); Emily Carsten (Fairhaven), Melissa Bernal, Lola Thompson (CENV); Yasmin Flores, Miguel Acuna (CHSS);

Absent: Miguel Esteves (Fairhaven); Lily Duong (Woodring); MJ Dizon (CFPA); Mariana Flores (At-Large); Milla Miller (Graduate)

Advisor: Leona Friedman
Secretary: Nely Vasquez

Guests:

MOTIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Motion Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEN-24-S-47</td>
<td>To approve the Consent Item with the edit to Lauren Johnson’s attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEN-24-S-48</td>
<td>To amend the referendum language in this modified document to put through to the student body</td>
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</tbody>
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Call to Order: Gabe Wong, Student Senate President, called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

I. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA
   a. Move AI Workgroup Report to a Discussion item
   b. Give extra 10 minutes to the Amendment to the food security referendum item

II. CONSENT ITEMS (subject to immediate action)
   a. Minutes of April 17th, 2024

Johnson mentioned she was not at the last meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOTION:</th>
<th>To approve the Consent Item with the edit to Lauren Johnson’s attendance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motion Made By:</td>
<td>Dacey Durbin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second:</td>
<td>James Dinh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEN-24-S-47</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vote Count:</td>
<td>Aye: 13  Nay: 0  Abstain: 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Action Result:</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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III. PUBLIC FORUM (comments from students and the community)
IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests*
V. ACTION ITEMS – Guests*
VI. PERSONNEL ITEMS (subject to immediate action)

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Senate*

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. AI Report

Hardgrove gave a report on the accuracy of using Turnitin. He said that based on ATUS’ research and the University of Washington’s decision, Turnitin is not a feasible option over concerns of false positives. The Senate agrees the university should not be paying for it using student funds.

IX. ACTION ITEMS – Senate*

a. Amendment to the food security referendum

Thompson presented a modified document from last week's meeting. Changes made to the document were decreasing the quarterly fee from $5 to $4.5 and adding clarifying/specific language. This is to avoid potential issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOTION: To amend the referendum language in this modified document to put through to the student body</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Motion Made By:</strong> Yasmin Flores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vote Count:</strong> Aye: 11  Nay: 0  Abstain: 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

X. SENATE REPORTS

a. Reports from:
   - College of Business and Economics
   - College of Fine and Performing Arts (by proxy)
   - College of Humanities and Social Sciences
   - At-Large
   - SGA Report

There was a motion to extend the meeting time, but it failed.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS
Adjournment: Gabe Wong, AS Senate President, adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m.
A RESOLUTION OF THE
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY:
Sen. J.Res. 2023/24-04

“In Support of Educational Student Employees’ Reasonable Bargaining Proposals”

WHEREAS, Educational Student Employees (ESEs) have been negotiating with the University Administration over the terms and conditions of their labor, including wages, hours, and working conditions for the past 8 months, and

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU), in February 2023, unanimously agreed to a resolution entitled “Recognize and Negotiate with Western Academic Workers United” (E.B. J.Res. 2022/23-01), and

WHEREAS, in that resolution the ASWWU stated that [educational] student employees do much of the academic labor that makes WWU a prestigious institution and educates the students of Washington state and beyond, and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Democrats, on April 27, unanimously agreed to a resolution entitled “Resolution Supporting Educational Student Employees Bargaining their First Contract with Western Washington University,” and

WHEREAS, in that resolution the Whatcom County Democrats stated that Educational Student Employees play a crucial role in supporting the academic mission and operations of WWU, and

WHEREAS, in that resolution the Whatcom County Democrats further urged Western Washington University to prioritize fair wages, tuition assistance, affordable healthcare, adequate job security, and equitable working conditions for all student employees, and

WHEREAS, in an open letter to the Western community, Western Academic Workers United (WAWU-UAW) laid out their reasonable bargaining proposals which were developed through an “open and participatory dialogue with [their] 1,100 members,” and

WHEREAS, these ESEs go on to say that throughout the bargaining process they have “responded to the Administration’s concerns, modified our proposals, and made a huge number of compromises, especially to make our proposals more affordable,” and

WHEREAS, despite this, WAWU-UAW says that the University administration has condescended, stalled, and ignored the needs of working students, and

WHEREAS, the proposals that WAWU-UAW has passed to University Administration have aimed to offer basic workplace protections to ESEs, wages and compensation that allow ESEs to live where they work, and standard benefits like those that other WWU employees and ESEs across the country receive, and

WHEREAS, WAWU-UAW has informed the ASWWU that the University has been refusing to offer fee assistance by hiding behind “the students” and claiming that they cannot waive or credit fees like the Active Transportation Fee or Student Technology Fee just because students voted on them, and

WHEREAS, without tuition and fee assistance, ESEs essentially pay to work, and

WHEREAS, without fee assistance, ESEs end up paying for standard benefits that the University already provides to classified and professional staff, and

WHEREAS, educational student employees have organized and are prepared to strike if the University does not offer a fair contract; and

WHEREAS, WAWU-UAW has made it clear that ESEs will only strike as a last resort;

WHEREAS, the University can avert a strike by offering a fair contract.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY:

THAT, the ASWWU believes the proposals put forward by WAWU-UAW are more than reasonable;
THAT, the ASWWU asserts that the University is fully empowered to waive fees imposed by the students including but not limited to the Active Transportation Fee, the Legislative Action Fund Fee, the Student Technology Fee, and the Sustainable Action Fund Fee;
THAT, the ASWWU is in favor of the University waiving fees for Educational Student Employees, including those approved by the membership of the ASWWU;
THAT, the ASWWU supports educational student employees, who make up around 8% of the ASWWU membership, in their contract campaign;
THAT, the ASWWU calls upon all students and community members to support WAWU-UAW in their contract campaign including by refusing to cross picket lines and not doing ESE work;
THAT, the ASWWU urges the University administration to negotiate in good faith without condescending, stalling, and ignoring the needs of student workers;
THAT, the ASWWU further urges the University Administration to offer a fair contract to ESEs.

Introduced May 1 in the Student Senate

cc: [recipient, title]
[recipient, title]

Appointment Process Discussion Questions

Please reflect on the current appointment rubric to answer the following questions:

- Do you think these interview questions are relevant to your work?
- Do you think the hiring committee could determine how good of a senator someone could be based on their answers to these questions?
- What question(s) would you add, remove, or change?
- Should there be a question specific to the college they are applying to represent?
- Should the questions be more specific?

Current interview rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate Name:</th>
<th>Committee Member:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Why are you interested in working for the Associated Students as a Senator?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. What does Access, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion mean to you?</td>
<td>Social Justice and ADEI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Tell us an example of when you have practiced the principles of social justice or mutual aid in your life.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Tell us how you would address a situation where there are varying opinions between multiple groups?</td>
<td>Conflict resolution and leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. How do you think you can effectively represent students?</td>
<td>Representation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Give us an example of a time you felt excessive demands were placed on you. How did you handle the situation?</td>
<td>Time management and organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Give us an example of a personal goal you have set for yourself and achieved.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Are you able to attend the Senate meetings at 5:30p.m.-7p.m. on every other Monday in VU 567</td>
<td>Logistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Do you have room in your schedule to attend committee meetings?</td>
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