ASWWU Student Senate Meeting Minutes
May 1st, 2024, 5:00-6:00 PM, Teams Town Hall and VU 567

Members:
Present: Gabe Wong (Chair); James Dinh (At-Large); John Hardgrove, Zoe Absalonson (CSE); Devin Moreno, Dacey Durbin (CBE); Milla Miller, Ellen Esteves (Graduate); Emily Carsten (Fairhaven), Melissa Bernal, Lola Thompson (CENV); Miguel Acuna (CHSS); MJ Dizon (CFPA);
Absent: Miguel Esteves (Fairhaven); Lily Duong (Woodring); Mariana Flores, Lauren Johnson (At-Large); Yasmin Flores (CHSS)

Advisor: Leona Friedman
Secretary: Nely Vasquez
Guests: Sophie Snyder (AS VP for Student Services)

MOTIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>motion_number</th>
<th>motion_description</th>
<th>motion_status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEN-24-S-49</td>
<td>To move the College of Fine and Performing Arts report to Other Business. Passed</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEN-24-S-50</td>
<td>To approve the Consent Item. Passed</td>
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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. Wong gave the opportunity for the senate to table the ESE resolution because of the conflict of interest concerns that were raised, no motion was made, that item stayed on the agenda.

b. Move the College of Fine and Performing Arts report to Other Business

|MOTION: To move the College of Fine and Performing Arts report to Other Business|
|---|---|---|
|Motion Made By: Dacey Durbin| Second: Melissa Bernal| SEN-24-S-49|
|Vote Count: Aye: 11 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0| Action Result: Passed|

c. Add 5 minutes to Other Business for a visit from AS VP for Student Services, Sophie Snyder

II. CONSENT ITEMS (subject to immediate action)

a. Minutes of April 24th, 2024

|MOTION: To approve the Consent Item|
|---|---|---|
|Motion Made By: John Hardgrove| Second: Zoe Absalonson| SEN-24-S-50|
|Vote Count: Aye: 11 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0| Action Result: Passed|
III. PUBLIC FORUM *(comments from students and the community)*

IV. SENATE REPORTS

a. Reports from:
   - College of Business and Economics
     Moreno and Durbin gave a report on their current projects and committee work.
   - College of Humanities and Social Sciences
     Acuna gave a report on what projects and committees he and Yasmin are working on.
   - At-Large
     There were no At-Large Senators present.
   - SGA Report
     Vasquez asked the Senators to turn in their agenda items by the deadline.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests*

a. WWU Student’s BDS (Boycott Divestment and Sanctions) Campaign

   Wong says that students are planning on launching a campaign calling on the University to boycott, divest, and sanction the state of Israel. Moreno wanted some more clarification on who the University would divest from. Wong says there is a list of companies the BDS has made for boycott and some for divestment.

b. Supporting ESE Bargaining Resolution

   Wong says the main concern Adam Lorio raised was that, if the Student Government decided to adopt the resolution presented at the meeting there could be a conflict of interest because the Student Government is represented by the bargaining committee. She said that she doesn’t believe there really is a conflict of interest because often times student interests are also Senator’s interests. Friedman recommends for the Senators to hear back from the Assistant Attorney General first before deciding anything. Miller suggested that Wong respond to the students who raised the issue, she agreed to.

   *Dizon joined the meeting at 5:50.*

c. Get out the vote tabling

   Friedman tells the Senate that OCE would like for some of the Senators to table for this year’s elections. It will be from May 13th-May 17th.

VI. ACTION ITEMS – Guests*

VII. PERSONNEL ITEMS *(subject to immediate action)*

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Senate*

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS
a. Senator Appointment Process

Durbin would like to table this item because she would like the full 15 minutes to discuss this. Friedman gave a quick explanation and told the Senators to come with feedback for next week’s meeting.

X. ACTION ITEMS – Senate*

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

a. College of Fine and Performing Arts Report

Dizon worked on an event where BIPOC students and students with disabilities talked with the Dean of the college. She encouraged the Senate to do the same. Dizon is working towards making a black and brown theatre collective in CFPA to increase retention and create a safe community.

b. A visit from Sophie Snyder, AS VP for Student Services

Snyder asked the Senate if they wanted to participate in a project she is leading. This entails participating in a video similar to the format from Vogue’s “73 questions with...” She says anyone interested should message her.

Adjournment: Gabe Wong, AS Senate President, adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.
I. CHARGE

The Conference Committee is a permanent body chartered to resolve differences between the Executive Board and Senate and ensure joint governance. The delegations from the Executive Board and from the Senate shall represent the views of their respective bodies rather than their personal views. The Conference Committee is required to come to consensus on,

- Any action on the same subject that passes or adopted by the two bodies in different forms;
- Any action that passes in one body but fails in the other;
- Disputes in the appointment of a student to a university or non-university body or committee;
- Resolutions articulating the official opinion of solely the Executive Board or Senate that the body would like to publicly share with the student body;
- The ASWWU Budget;
- The division of responsibilities between the Executive Board and Senate, where ambiguous;
- Amendments to or the creation of governance documents at the discretion of the committee;
- Consent to amendments of the elections code prior to the official presentation to either body;
- Initiatives and referenda prior to the official presentation to either body;
- And any other disagreements between bodies.

Once the conference on an item concludes the co-chairs are responsible for creating a conference report that presents the formal language to which the conference committee has agreed that will then be presented to the Executive Board and Senate for approval. When an item has been previously presented to either body or at the direction of the conference committee, the co-chairs are responsible for creating a joint explanatory statement that outlines the changes made and the process of reaching consensus.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Membership from AS Executive Board:
President (co-chair)
Executive Board Vice Chair, as designated by the Executive Board Bylaws

Membership from the Student Senate:
Senate President (co-chair)
Student Senate Vice Chair, as designated by the Senate Bylaws

If there is a vacancy in a position, the current acting Chair of each body must appoint an interim member of the conference committee at the next following meeting of the body. Interim membership shall cease when the vacancy is filled.
Non-voting Membership:
   AS Student Government Advisor
   Student Government Assistant, as needed

The Conference Committee reserves the right to bring in any content experts as needed.

III. CHAIR
   The President and Senate President shall be co-chairs. They shall convene the meetings, develop agendas, preside over all meetings, and create the conference report and any joint explanatory statement.

IV. MEETINGS
   The Co-chairs must agree on the time and place of all conference committee meetings. The committee shall generally meet every other week with a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours’ notice.

   Meetings shall follow the Open Public Meeting Act when taking official action on behalf of the student government and as required by RCW 42.30.

V. VOTING
   If the conference cannot come to a consensus among a majority of the voting membership on any matter within a reasonable timeframe, the conference shall refer the item back to both bodies and content experts, if needed, before bringing the item back to the conference for further deliberation. If a consensus cannot be reached after this point, then the item must be tabled until the first conference committee of the following academic year for possible consideration.

   In the case where a budget cannot reach consensus among a majority of the voting membership of the conference then it shall be referred to the co-chairs and the Associated Students Fund Financial Manager to reach a final budget. When a budget is not passed by both bodies, the co-chairs must create a joint-explanatory statement that is attached to the final Associated Students budget.
VI. QUORUM
The attendance of the entire seated voting membership shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum is not present, the Co-chairs will adjourn the meeting and reschedule to a new day and hour.

VIII. RULES OF OPERATIONS
Conferences are negotiating forums, and the conferees decide for themselves how best to conduct their negotiations. They are expected to address only the matters outlined in this charter.

IX. AMENDMENTS
This Charter may be amended by the consent of the Conference Committee and a majority vote of the AS Executive Board and Student Senate.

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

**Conflict resolution and leadership**

**Representation**

**Time management and organization**

**Logistics**
A RESOLUTION OF THE
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE:

“AI Detection”
The Associated Students of Western Washington University (ASWWU) Senate represents the academic interests of students in our campus community. We recognize Western’s mission of pursuing academic excellence, academic freedom, and effective student engagement. We believe Western’s policies and practices must reflect this. In recognition of these values, the ASWWU Senate opposes any AI detection software adopted by WWU.

WHEREAS, The WWU Strategic Plan and Mission lays out the basic values of our community as “Commitment to student success, critical thought, creativity, and sustainability. Commitment to equity and justice, and respect for the rights and dignity of others. Pursuit of excellence, in an environment characterized by principles of shared governance, academic freedom and effective engagement. Integrity, responsibility and accountability in all our work;” [1] and

WHEREAS, ATUS has released guidelines for the Academic Uses of AI for students. This website defines AI terms and provides guidance for academic AI use. For a student to be allowed to use AI for their classes “Students must have absolute clarity from their instructors of appropriate use prior to using AI generators for course work;” The website provides clarity and definition to how the university views AI use by students; [2] and

WHEREAS, A previous AI detection software was available through a free trial which expired December 31st. This service was provided via Turnitin Simcheck, a canvas integrated plagiarism detection software which the university has used for several years; [3] and

WHEREAS, Turnitin claims a1% false positive for 20% or more AI content. The rate of false positives for sentences is 4%;[4] and

WHEREAS, the University of Washington rejects adopting Turnitin Originality AI detection software over concerns of false positives “The company initially reported “a <1% false positive rate,” but has since confirmed that the false positive rate is higher. Turnitin/Simcheck has not disclosed the new rate, but the sentence-level positive rate is approximately 4% (D’Agostino, 2023”); [5] and

WHEREAS, A study from Stanford asserts that “GPT detectors are biased against non-native English writers”;[6] and

WHEREAS, On the 10 Jan 2024 CHSS faculty released a statement urging WWU to implement new AI detection software following the end of the free trial. The memo argues that students using AI to complete their assignments in 100 and 200 level classes will not be able to build foundational writing skills necessary for upper-level classes. [7]
WHEREAS, 13 Mar 2022 WWU publishes Short-Term Saving Strategies laying out steps Faculty can take to help the university save money. For the 2022-23 Fiscal budget a 3% cut across the campus was announced. The university continues to experience a budget shortfall and expenses continue to be offloaded to student tuition. [8]

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE:

THAT, The ASWWU Student Senate opposes any WWU proposed AI detection software; and

THAT, The ASWWU Student Senate opposes any WWU proposed AI detection software funded by student tuition or student fees; and

THAT, The ASWWU Senate believes the possibility of false positives in AI detection software is unacceptable, the possibility for essays written by nonnative English speakers to be flagged as AI detections software's is unacceptable; and

THAT, The ASWWU Senate sympathizes with the concerns of professors regarding the disruptive effects AI can have on the classroom; and

THAT, The ASWWU Senate believes it is in the best interest of WWU to work with AI rather than against it, faculty should try to involve AI in the classroom, when possible, to demonstrate its benefits and limitations; and

THAT, The ASWWU Senate believes WWU should provide guidance for faculty to create assignments that discourage or prevent AI use; and

THAT, The ASWWU Senate understands the importance of students developing foundational writing skills in 100-200 level classes, and alternatives to traditional take home essays may be offered in class to discourage AI use; and

THAT, this resolution be forwarded to the Western Washington University Board of Trustees, President Sabah Randhawa; all Vice Presidents; Provost and Executive Vice President Brad Johnson; Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Jack Herring; the Faculty Senate; all College Deans; and all Department Chairs to distribute to all Professors.

PASSED AND RECOMMENDED by the [relevant committee/subcommittee] at their [special/regular] meeting on [Month DD, YYYY]. [#] yeas, [#] nays, [#] abstentions
PASSED AND APPROVED by the [Executive Board/Student Senate/Other Voting Body] at their [special/regular] meeting on [Month DD, YYYY]. [#] yeas, [#] nays, [#] abstentions
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ATTESTS:

Chair, [relevant committee/subcommittee]

Chair, [Executive Board/Student Senate/Other Voting Body]

Chair, [Executive Board/Student Senate/Other Voting Body]

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

Appendix

https://president.wwu.edu/mission-strategic-plan

https://atus.wwu.edu/academic-uses-ai-students

[3] AI Detection at Western | ATUS | Western Washington University. (31 Dec 2024.).
https://atus.wwu.edu/kb/ai-detection-western


https://itconnect.uw.edu/tools-services-support/teaching-learning/canvas/canvas-help-for-instructors/assignments/simcheck/faculty-guidelines-plagiarism-sw/

[6] GPT detectors are biased against non-native English writers, Weixin Liang, Mert Yuksekgonul, Yining Mao, Eric Wu, James Zou, 10 July 2023.

[7] FAC Memo AI Detection, Faculty Affairs Council, College of Humanities and Social Sciences. 10 Jan 2024