

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Board of Directors Meeting**

Friday, February 3, 2012

VU 567

AS Board Officers: *Present:* Anna Ellermeier (President), Fabiola Arvizu (VP Academics), Mario Orallo-Molinario (VP Activities), Deng Duot (VP Diversity), Iris Maute-Gibson (VP Governmental Affairs) and Sara Richards (VP Student Life) *Late:* Travis Peters (VP Bus Ops)

Student Senate Representative: Kendall Bull, Chair

Advisor(s): Kevin Majkut, Director of Student Activities

Guest(s): Victor Celis, AS Student Senator, Alex Pratt; Students for Rob McKenna for Governor; AS Outback: Roby Ventres-Pake, Riley Gabriel, Stephen Harvey; Natalie Eberts, In support of AS Book Ban & Marriage Equality Resolutions: Robel Paguio, Ethnic Student Center; Nadia Saldaña-Spiegle, Ethnic Studies Book Ban; Patrick Stickney, Laura Diaz, Ethan Glemaker, Michelle Marsura, James Fitzmaurice, Maddy Vonhoff

MOTIONS

- ASB-12-W-8** Approve Section 3, Item a. This would transition the AS Outback Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator to the calendar year beginning January 2013. *Passed*
- ASB-12-W-9** Approve Section 3, Item b. This would provide approximately \$3,681.63 this year to the Outback OELP for the establishment of the Summer Apprenticeship Program in 2012 from the Combined Fund Balance in a one year pilot pending approval of the job descriptions by the AS Board. *Passed*
- ASB-12-W-10** Approve Section 3, Item c. This would offer AS approval for the expansion of cultivated area to the Outback's South Field and institution of a Bellingham Food Bank donation program in 2012. *Passed*
- ASB-12-W-11** Waive section 6.01 of the AS Employment Policy, for this situation, to allow the Personnel Director and the Vice President for Business and Operations and area supervisor to hire for the Publicity Center and Veterans Outreach Center Work Study positions. *Passed*

Anna Ellermeier, AS President, called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Remove Information Item Board A and Consent Item A.

- A. Club Hub Task Force (10 minutes) Orallo-Molinario Doc. 4
Orallo-Molinario was one hour late turning this in but feels he will only need 5 minutes.

Process MOTION 1 by Richards

Move Revisions to the Agenda Item A to the Information Item-Guest B.

Second: Duot Vote: 6 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

- B. Resolution Opposing Arizona Ban on Ethnic Studies (20 minutes) Maute-Gibson Doc. 5
Maute-Gibson said this item was moved to an Info Item last week. They weren't sure specifically how to develop the information. It took a little longer to create something.

Process MOTION 2 by Arvizu

Move Revision to Agenda B to Information Item Guest C.

Second: Duot Vote: 6 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

- C. Employment Policy Waiver (10 minutes) Duot Doc. 5
Brockman is asking for a waiver to help hire 4 different employees and the departments. He apologizes for having it in late but feels that it would negatively affect the AS and students if it were not on the agenda this week.

Process MOTION 3 *by Richard*
 Revisions to Agenda C to Personnel Item A
 Second: Maute-Gibson Vote: 6 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

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

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests*

A Marriage Equality Senate Resolution (20 minutes) Maute-Gibson Doc. 1
 Maute-Gibson said that the Marriage Equality Bill passed the Senate 28-21 on Wednesday. Amendments to send it to the residents of Washington as a referendum failed. It will likely be challenged by the courts and then go to a ballot vote. The Board would not be able to speak on this if it on the ballot, but at this point they can lobby on behalf of the bill. The University President has issued a statement and utilized university relations to lobby for this bill. Faculty Senate voted in support. Western is the only college who has spoken out on this issue. Legislative Affairs Council voted unanimously to take a stance in favor of marriage equality authorizing the AS Legislative Liaison to lobby on behalf of the bill. She urges everyone to listen to the debates from Olympia. The people who changed their mind and voted in favor had their minds changed by young people, many who are students, who convinced them that this was the right thing to do. She is given hope by this because students have a voice that is making a difference. Students organized a separate Lobby Day for marriage equality. She is given hope for students that they will be able to look towards other issues that affect the LGBT community because when the laws change society begins to change. She hopes that this will change the hearts and mind of citizens and the students. She feels that it is young people who will lead the way. Crowther feels this is a student issue because it affects the financial ability to attend college for queer students and students with same-sex parents. There is no federal recognition domestic partnership. If Washington passes this bill then it is just the Federal Defense of Marriage Act that stands between same-sex couples and full legal equality and therefore full access and fair affordability for higher education. It would be wrong to limit this discussion to financial terms. He read a quote from Hillary Clinton "Progress comes from changes in laws. In many places including my own country, legal protection has proceeded, not followed, broader recognition of rights. Laws have a teaching effect; laws that discriminate validate other kinds of discrimination. Laws that require equal protections reinforce the moral imperative of equality. Practically speaking it is often the case that laws must change before fears about change dissipate." He feels the Board was elected to represent the students and any social justice issue affects and is in the interest of students. He does not feel that anything but a yes vote on this will support the queer students at Western. He hopes that they will stand up and say that homophobia and oppression has no place on Western's Campus or in state law. Arvizu asked if any other student groups have looked at this resolution other than Senate and Legislative Affairs Council. Crowther said that nationally speaking 71% of freshman support marriage equality. Richards asked if any other AS Boards in Washington have taken a stance. Maute-Gibson said it is coming before the University of Washington AS and the Washington Student Association voted in support of it. Duot said that human rights are important. Desmond Tutu said you are a person if you recognize another as a person. Bull said that one person abstained from voting in Senate, but other than that it was unanimously supported. The religious groups that he spoke with had religious stances on this issue, but not a civil stance. Faculty Senate passed a resolution about a week ago, they are unable to lobby, but can educate. President Shepard took at stance of support that was sent to the Governor and sponsors of the bill. Ellermeier would like to clarify the university stance, it is a rather lengthy statement and she is not sure that there was actually support for the bill. Majkut said that this has been forwarded to the Board from the Senate. They can edit this document or use language from this to create a new resolution. Majkut also asked them to look at the language for domestic partnership because there are different rules for people over the age of 60.

- B. Club Hub (5 minutes) Orallo-Molinario Doc. 4
 Maddy Vonhoff would like to put Inter Club Council (ICC) on hold for this year and use a Club Hub Task Force. ICC has two representatives from each category and they discuss the needs of clubs. For the past three years there are the same requests being made that are tangible projects included on the second page of the document. Unfortunately there is no one assigned to do these things. The Task Force would be composed of 4-5 unpaid Interns who would work on these projects. Many of the ICC members would like to volunteer as interns. Hoffman said that a great example was the Campus Showcase, which was bigger than ever because they were able to have volunteers join. Richards said that task forces are not meant to last forever, she wonders what will happen if ICC starts again next year. She wonders how this is going to be sustainable. Vonhoff feels that there might be a need for ICC in the future, but it was created because there wasn't a Club Coordinator or the Assistant Business Director. She thinks that eventually they will have more volunteers, but they don't have the model for this yet. They are trying this as a trial basis. This is just informational for the Board. Ellermeier asked that they work with the Personnel Director to make sure that procedures are followed for volunteers. Majkut feels that the Board should vote on suspending the ICC.
- C. Resolution Opposing Arizona Ban on Ethnic Studies (20 minutes) Maute-Gibson Doc. 5
 Maute-Gibson said that there will be an amendment to the resolution. Sherry Burkey, from the university thinks that they should send this to the Governor and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Maute-Gibson will be sharing this resolution with the Washington Student Association tomorrow and will be forwarding it to the United States Student Association. Thaw and Glenmaker said that there are a few typos that will be corrected before next week. Richards requested that they send the links for the banned books. Duot thanked everyone for coming to support the students who are suffering because of this decision that he doesn't understand. He shared this quote from Chief Sealth, "You must teach your children that the ground beneath their feet is the ashes of your grandfather. So that they will respect the land, tell your children that the earth is rich with the lives of our kin. Teach your children what we have taught our children that the earth is our mother. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. If men spit upon the ground, they spit upon themselves." He feels this is the education that Chief Sealth was talking about; he feels these books give children a chance to compete in a global market today. Espinoza-Gonzales thanked the Board and the students involved and present. He feels that for many students into Arizona this is the difference between going to college and becoming part of a community that doesn't recognize or support them. He feels that Western's talks about having courageous conversations about race, ethnicity, religion, etc. and they should stand with the students in Arizona who were having these conversations. These students are only being given two choices to remember or to forget. He doesn't feel either of these are good solutions. He has family in Arizona and he finds this resolution very hurtful and seeing the people here in opposition to this resolution mean a lot to him. Ling Schulman said that if students don't know how to deal with their resentment towards institutional and societal oppression then it will be an internal struggle, instead of looking at the growing and changing world. She asked that people see this as the blatant racist legislation it is. She has seen a lot of migrant workers in this area suffer under the stereotypes that exist. These students who are being called lazy are the people who are picking the organic food that sits on tables in Bellingham, when their families hardly have enough to eat. This legislation impacts all of us because these youth are the backbone of our society and we need to show our love for them. Nadia Saldaña-Spiegle said that one of the banned books was written by Bill Bigalo, the last time that it was banned was in South African Apartheid. The author knew knows what they were afraid of then, he wonders what they are afraid of now. What are they afraid of, students graduating and going to college with a critical perspective? She feels that we have been privileged to come to Western and we need to help others. Laura Diaz finds it surprising that books, something that

educates, could mean something so bad. She has seen videos and read articles and feels that supporting those students is really important and wants us to stand the ground with them. She feels that speaking out might make other states reconsider this type of bill. Elaine Muhari is part of the graduate school. She feels that this raises a lot of issues about how the US thinks about education in general, whether it is about producing students who swallow facts and regurgitate them out for standardized test or people who question and look beyond facts. The students in Arizona were being taught critical thinking skills, finding multiple perspectives and to be discerning about the facts that are being handed to them in history books. She thinks that they learn what kind of active role they want to take in society. She thinks that if they don't support that kind of education, then the US should rethink its national identity as a democracy. Alex Pratt asked if the resolution is opposed to the law itself or the superintendent's interpretation. In looking at it he doesn't think the law itself is bad, but the interpretation is the problem. Thaw said they are opposing the interpretation of the law which says that the Mexican Studies program is in violation of the law. Arvizu asked if the statement that she made is fully reflected in the resolution. Maute-Gibson said that as the resolution is evolving this will become more deliberate. Ellermeier encouraged people to use her email AS.President@wwu.edu to send any more comments. Maute-Gibson asked people who would like to work on the text of the resolution to contact her. Orallo-Molinero thanked everyone and Professor French for attending. Richards clarified that Doc.2 is just to back up that this is how the organizations represent themselves on paper, it is supplemental information. Epinoza-Gonzales said that this group is not going to walk away from the conversation. He quoted from La Kesh, "You are my other me, if I hurt you I am only hurting myself. If I love and respect you, I love and respect myself." This is what they are teaching the children in Arizona and it should be taught up here. He loves everyone.

Peters joined the meeting.

The Board took a short break and the meeting reconvened at 4:08 p.m.

V. ACTION ITEMS - Guests*

- A. Outback OELP Restructure Proposal (20 minutes) Peters Doc. 2
 In response to Majkut's concerns Ventres-Pake thinks that the production is a refining of the program and will not be an undue burden. He thought about how to integrate the Coordinator into the AS and feels that there are ways to work around the different start date. He will continue to work on this. The second choice is to start in the fall and end at the end of summer. Peters is concerned about the significant gap between the end of summer quarter and fall. Ellermeier thinks that fall through summer would be preferable because this follows the cycle of the student. She feels that having it transition in January would eliminate a lot of the students who may be very qualified for this position. Majkut said that you can continue employment over the summer even if not attending summer quarter, unless you graduate in the spring. He feels that all of the proposals have little kinks in them and it is just deciding what is best for the Outback and the students. An amendment to start in September failed.

MOTION ASB-12-W-8 by Arvizu

Approve Section 3, Item a. This would transition the AS Outback Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator to the calendar year beginning January 2013.

Second: Duot Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

Arvizu had concerns with motion 2 because the apprenticeships are kind of like jobs, she feels they should go to the Personnel Office and Committee before it is approved. She understands that even if they create a job description, there will still be time to hire the students for this position. Majkut said that this is mostly about direction. He suggests that they approve the concept of the program at this point. Arvizu doesn't feel comfortable approving it as a money amount. Peters said that the AS has funding for this, but wonders how they prioritize use of the funding that they do have available. He feels that all of the different processes make it hard

because they are not comparing this need to other area's needs. He is concerned about changing a lot of things at one time because he feels that each change affects the program and might even lessen the need. Ventres-Pale said that it is clear there is an excessive burden on the coordinators during the summer. Maute-Gibson thinks that if they believe in the values of community and sharing then this is a tremendous way to do that. She feels that this is a priority for the AS. Duot dittoed. Maute-Gibson said the AS spends a tremendous amount of funding on programming for students, but they don't spend a lot of money on relationships with the community. Mayor Linville was asked to speak on behalf of Western. But she couldn't do that because they have to focus on the high homeless rate in Bellingham. The city has a 1% vacancy rate in housing versus 3% in many other areas. The Food Banks and other social services are very overtaxed. Maute-Gibson feels that giving back to the community is a good way to use funds. Majkut feels there is a real concern about the Outback Coordinators being overburdened, it is easy to take little things and think that it is not much to add, but it is and passion can cloud the judgment of burden. He thinks that it is great to have the Food Bank food production. There are 15,000 students here during the academic year and 3,400 students during the summer that are not all here at the same time. He thinks that if they are going to produce, additional support is required and he doesn't feel they can rely on volunteers. He thinks that Peters comments about jumping procedure and not having this as part of the budget procedure is important. He thinks that they could fund this out of the combined fund until they get through this pilot year and see how successful it is. He does understand that this pushes off the budget decisions. Arvizu said that if she votes no for this motion as is it is not because of the values, but she thinks that they have a process, job descriptions don't only say how it is valuable for the organization and what the students will get out of this. The fact that this is undefined before funding is secured is concerning to her. She is willing to look at this as a pilot or ask for job descriptions. Orallo-Molinario said that the summer apprenticeship program is really about learning and maintaining. Maute-Gibson feels that it is micromanaging to expect a job description. Duot asked what past coordinators thought on these subjects. Ventres-Pake has never received a formal legacy document but has spoken with all of the previous coordinators but one. Duot said that he trusts they know what is happening in the Outback and things they should work with Brockman and Peters on the job description.

MOTION ASB-12-W-9 by Maute-Gibson

Motion 2: Approve Section 3, Item b. This would provide approximately \$3,681.63 this year to the Outback OELP for the establishment of the Summer Apprenticeship Program in 2012 from the Combined Fund Balance in a one year pilot pending approval of the job descriptions by the AS Board.

Second: Orallo-Molinario Vote: 6 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

Maute-Gibson left the meeting.

MOTION ASB-12-W-10 by Duot

Motion 3: Approve Section 3, Item c. This would offer AS approval for the expansion of cultivated area to the Outback's South Field and institution of a Bellingham Food Bank donation program in 2012.

Second: Richards Vote: 6 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

Richards is super excited as a Human Services major that this kind of collaboration is happening. Majkut needs to have written authorization from the Dean of Fairhaven before cultivation begins. They will also look into Risk Management. Ellermeier wonders if formally acknowledging the need for a permanent staff member is necessary because it was included in the TAP Report that was approved by the Board. Ventres-Pake would like to keep this in the mind of the AS and feels having the support of a new Board would be helpful. Majkut feels that this is a significant increase from what was requested. There are three or four areas in the AS that are looking at professional staff needs. Peters said that he is concerned because they can identify places where you could put in a full time staff person who could do the job better, but

the AS values student workers being in these positions. He is concerned about pulling back jobs from students. Ventres-Pake agrees but a full time coordinator would help maximize growth and education. He feels this is at the core of this request. There was no motion #4 made.

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

A. Employment Policy Waiver

Duot

Brockman said there is a 4-5 week process to hire a work study and get them working in the office. There are work study students who have awards and no jobs. They have offices with a need for work study students. The old employee policy allowed the Personnel Director to appoint students to positions. He is asking for a suspension of the process so that people can start applying. He has offered many different options in a handout given to the Board. Arvizu is concerned about suspending this rule for two quarters. She is struggling with the many requests for suspension of policies. Brockman said that there is no limit on the amount of work study students they can hire and during spring quarter 4-5 weeks would be at least half of the time that the student could work. The AS has the longest hiring process. Majkut said that overall the AS has the most organized and consistent student hiring process. He said that work study is a rarified group and is a little different than hiring for other positions. Peters said that the AS prides itself on the statistic that less people get into the AS then get into Harvard. Everyone can be proud that they earned their position, opening the doors seems to go against this. Arvizu's biggest concern is that there are students without jobs who have awards. She is hearing that the argument is that the AS should get there first. Brockman is unsure how many positions are open in other areas. Richards asked how they found out about the work study students. Brockman said there was a resignation, there was a veteran who has work study and is interested in working at the Veterans Outreach Center (VOC), there are also two club members without work study positions who wanted to work in the AS. Majkut said that Veterans Work Study is an even smaller subset group; it is almost individualized and is not through the same process as federal or state work study. Duot said that a student asked about work in the ESC because they have work study but nowhere to work. They want to work in a place where they feel free, like in the AS versus looking in the university. Arvizu feels comfortable with hiring for the Publicity Center and VOC. Peters said that there is a bigger issue with the photographer, because it is a temporary solution. Richards said that the first two seems like there were two students who asked for positions, versus the other areas needing someone for a position and the specific nature of the Veterans Outreach Center. An amendment to limit the positions that will have the waiver passed 5-1-0.

MOTION ASB-12-W-11 by Orallo-Molinario

Waive section 6.01 of the AS Employment Policy, for this situation, to allow the Personnel Director and the Vice President for Business and Operations and area supervisor to hire for the Publicity Center and Veterans Outreach Center Work Study positions.

Second: Peters

Vote: 6 - 0 - 0

Action: Passed

VII. ACTION ITEMS - Board*

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board*

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

X. STUDENT SENATE REPORT

Student Senate Meeting Information- there was no report given due to the length of the meeting.

XI. BOARD REPORTS

President

Anna Ellermeier reported that the Services and Activities Fee Committee had it first meeting of the year this morning. Ellermeier is excited to attend Elect Her this weekend.

VP for Academic Affairs

Fabiola Arvizu reported that the Student Tech Fee Committee is done reviewing proposals and members have begun their site visits. She went to Fairhaven College, it was very informative and a great opportunity to see all the great work done by students volunteering at the Outback for academic projects! This week she met with a student interested in running for Academics this spring which has been a good reality check on how fast this year is coming to an end.

VP for Activities

Mario Orallo-Molinaro reported that he has been working with Casey Hayden and Maddy Vonhoff regarding Club Hub space and Utilizing the ICC task force to prioritize the needs of the newly created office. They are working on getting a logo, furniture and a program standard. Activities Council met and is low on the traveling conference fund. The council will brainstorm ideas to try and meet that very important need.

VP for Business & Operations

Travis Peters reported that he continued work with the Viqueen Lodge Vision setting. He spent quite a bit of time working with the rough drafts of the Board recommendations that appeared at SPAC and will be coming to the Board after another week of revisions and then one week dedicated to voting. A significant amount of time has gone to working with some of the ground work with our budgeting process & hiring process – both of these items will be coming to Management Council in the next meeting for organizational input as well as for the sake of transparency and awareness for our employees. He was out of the office for most of Friday at a scholarship lunch.

VP for Diversity

Deng Duot reported that he worked with the Robel Paguio, ESC Public Relations Coordinator on a proposal requesting a computer for the ESC Public Relations Coordinator. So that he can do his work using an AS computer instead of his personal computer. He is working on the Women of Color Empower Dinner. The Black Student Union heritage dinner is finalizing their event. He is working with South Asian Student Association on the heritage dinner and African Caribbean Cultural Club on a steering proposal. He is work on the ESC Coordinator search committee: reading and evaluating applications.

VP for Governmental Affairs

Iris Maute-Gibson reported that Legislative Affairs Council voted to prioritize revenue bills; particularly a bill that would ensure a 5 year sunset clause on all new tax loopholes and require an intent section on the bill, to include how it would benefit the state. This will eventually go to the voters if it passes at which point the AS will no longer be able to support it. Elect Her is Saturday, Feb. 4th, 10:30-4:30pm all are welcome. The Statewide Washington Student Association Lobby Day is Monday Feb 20th, all welcome - contact her if interested in joining. Most policy bills, especially shared governance bills have been killed in policy committee.

VP for Student Life

Sara Richards reported that Senate has gotten back to her about ASTAC master plan and will be getting student feedback on Feb 15th. Richards needs to know if the board has any comments on CHSC's discussion on a smoke free campus.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Board reports must be emailed to Cindy Monger by Monday at 5 p.m.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 5:00 P.M.