

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

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

VU 567

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

**Student Senate Representative:** Kendall Bull, Chair

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

**Guest(s):** Benjamin Brockman, Sasha Parsley, Kimberly Absher, Ethan Glemaker, Bill Campbell, Natalie Eitel, Jamie Hoover, Patrick Stickney, Andrew Taylor, Ben Crowther

**MOTIONS**

- ASB-12-S-36** Approve the minutes of Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012. *Passed*
- ASB-12-S-37** Approve the resolution as stated in Doc. 5 with the title change of “Resolution urging the university and its contractors to stay neutral in regards to unionization drives by its employees”, striking last five whereas clauses and the last be it resolved. *Passed*
- ASB-12-S-38** Approve Resolution regarding Students’ Purchasing Power Resolution with the stipulation that the second be it resolved is stricken and striking “and find an alternative solution” from the last be it resolved. *Failed*
- ASB-12-S-39** Approve the AS Assessment Schedule. *Passed*
- ASB-12-S-40** Approve the Women’s Center Vagina Memoirs Facilitator job description as stated in Doc. 8 with the stipulation that the next AS Board reevaluate the need for this job description after the 2013 Memoirs. *Passed*
- ASB-12-S-41** Approve Assistant Director II job description with stated changes and moving all of the points from “foster an inclusive environment” on the original description to the new one. *Passed*
- ASB-12-S-42** Approve Consent Item A repair and replacement. *Passed*

**Anna Ellermeier, AS President, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.**

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*MOTION ASB-12-S-36 By Maute-Gibson*

Approve the Minutes of April 25, 2012.

Second: Arvizu                      Vote: 7 - 0 - 0                      Action: passed

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Travis Peters asked to move Information Item A to Consent Items because the proposal was already heard by Facilities & Services Council. He feels that they are charged with reviewing documents and the Board could pass it as a Consent Item. The change was made through acclimation. Ben Brockman asked that since Action Items A and B are about the same topic and are mutually exclusive if the Board could discuss both at the same time. Arvizu said that they are a little different; one is in opposition to unionization and the other is talking about neutrality to the unionization process. She said that she would like to keep them separate.

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

Student Bill Campbell said Happy Independence Day to South Sudan and thank you to our Board Member who gave up the celebration in Seattle to attend this meeting.

**IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests\***

A. Rental Housing Safety Resolution    (10 minutes)                      Arvizu Doc. 2

Kendall Bull said that this came to the Senate via Andrew Taylor. Bull said that this failed in the City Council, but there have been changes in the council and with the mayor so there is a new effort to get a Rental Housing Agreement passed by the City Council. This resolution will include urging the City Council and other departments within the City of Bellingham to implement a Rental Housing Agreement. Ellermeier said that she reread the resolution that had come to the Board from LAC to the Board in June 2010. Ellermeier clarified that resolutions are current until the Board has taken action against it. She asked why they would want a new one instead of one that has already been passed, because the latter still carries the same weight of the Board. Bull said that it would represent a new push and effort with the new people in power. Patrick Stickney said that they wrote this resolution partly to reflect changes in how they are going to address the issue. They are calling it a safety issue now and this was not reflected in the previous resolution as much. He said that they wanted to target discussions that are happening at the end of the summer with the City Council. They amended the document to add some action to the resolution. Maute-Gibson asked how the changed language about safety would come to fruition in conversations and action. She said that it seems ineffective to create a resolution if there was no plan of action to follow. Stickney said that at the club level, after this happened, they would go to the City Council and give testimony and state that students still feel that it is an issue and it is important that students are protected in their rental properties. He added that from conversations with the Neighborhood Association, they discovered that the City Council will be discussing this topic later on this summer. Stickney said their main plan of action is to have students attend city council meetings to testify on the issue. Sara Richards asked if there was a difference between company and personal rentals. They are not seeking to make a distinction because they are looking at safety, so they want to make sure that anyone who is renting out space makes sure that everything is up to code. Stickney added that renting is a business and people should have a license in order to provide that service. Maute-Gibson added that licensing purchase is something that anyone, not just a company, could afford. She still wasn't sure about the necessity of the second resolution, but this is the first time that the mayor has been in support of landlord licensing. She said that across the state cities and municipalities have moved towards having landlord licensing. She added that they could probably get assistance from the technical and community colleges as well. She said that this should be a priority of the Associated Students next year. Arvizu asked the Senate what it would look like if this resolution was part of the Legislative Agenda next year, instead. She said that sometimes a resolution isn't the best solution until it is looked at where some of these issues can be better addressed within the Associated Students. Taylor said that they are going through this process to get as broad support as possible. He added that they would definitely bring this to Legislative Affairs Council next year, but they wanted to mostly recommit the efforts of the AS because it is a continuing problem affecting many students and community members. Arvizu said that when LAC drafts an agenda and the Board passes it, the agenda becomes part of the AS and its goals.

B. 11-12 Marketing Plan

(10 minutes)

Orallo-Molinero Doc. 3

Natalie Eitel, AS Communications & Marketing Office Coordinator said that an overview is on page 3. She intends this to be a living document that is meant to serve the employees, Board and students. It is intentionally designed to be open. There is strategic information to align the mission and objectives of the AS, Western, and the community. It contains attainable goals for next year. She noted two typos that will be addressed before next week. Orallo-Molinero noted that every coordinator and director will have this available for them. This will create a universal voice which will be essential next year and for years to come. Majkut thinks that it is a great document. It contains some data, recommendations and things that offices should do. The Board needs to decide if this is conceptual or if there are sections that the Board really wants to mandate for the AS. Eitel said that an addition, since the Board work session, was the

collaboration between the Comm Office and the Assessment Office about assessment data, etc. Peters said that in Strategic Implementation VU tours have normally been given by AS or VU staff and they suggest not doing that anymore. Eitel said that Transitions and Summerstart were a large part of what she did last year. She is looking for ways that they can streamline these duties. There are already campus tours given and they could just add to those tours instead of having separate ones. The plan was written as recommendations so that there are choices for the next staff. It is definitely just to give as much information as possible, so that informed decisions can be made. Maute-Gibson wants to think about how they can strengthen this in the future and how to pair this with the goals of the AS. She said that a cross tabulation of what the AS is trying to do and the effectiveness would be something to work towards.

C. Voter Education & Registration Coordinator (10 minutes) Peters Doc. 4

Peters said that they are just trying to get some more resources for election year voters. Brockman said that he has concerns because there is so much about assisting the REP Associate Director. He feels that they should be more autonomous and the REP Director can support and supervise. Arvizu would like to see the position description expanded to include what the education part entails. Arvizu wondered what the relationship is with Western Votes. Maute-Gibson said that the REP Office is not organizationally tied to WV. They try to keep them separate and just advisory. They have about 100 hours that they will be adding for voter registration staff. The Elections Coordinator is in charge of one voter education event per quarter and will work with this position. Richards is curious as to where the need for this is coming from. Maute-Gibson said that this comes from a need for timeliness and it is really hard for the REP director and VP of Governmental Affairs to run a voter registration drive during the summer. The best resource they have is people and the best on top of that is paid staff. The current Voter Registration staff work mostly during the Info Fair and Western Card Lines in the early fall. Western has registered over 500 more students than other universities in WA. Maute-Gibson feels that this age group is the least registered and engaged in voting. Stickney said that they are trying to get the Washington bus up to train the employees. The extra hours would not only go towards training, but also the creation of voter registration tactics. They feel that the effort has expanded and having an employee would be a huge benefit. Since western cannot advocate on ballot issues, then Western is not prioritized for outside funding for training. They will also be able to use the pledge cards to help recruit for Viking Lobby Day.

V. ACTION ITEMS - Guests\*

A. Collective Bargaining Rights Resolution (15 minutes) Arvizu Doc. 5

Ellermeier said that they have heard from a large number of students on this issue and because there has been ample opportunity for input she will be restricting this primarily to the Board. Arvizu thanked Stickney, Bull and Andrew Taylor for being so proactive. They would be supportive of some of the whereas statements being removed. Strike the 7<sup>th</sup> whereas clause to the 11<sup>th</sup> which is the last five whereas statements. They are now asking Aramark to stay neutral without having any pros or cons about unions. Richards asked why they took out the last be it resolved. They feel that Shepard has an important symbolic role, but there is a logical explanation for him staying out of this. Arvizu wondered if they had discussed a possible name change such as "The right to choose for Aramark employees." Peters had the opportunity to speak to a student who sent in an email and there was confusion about the way that the Western Front framed it as pro-union. He would like to have neutrality in the title for clarity's sake. Duot suggested "opportunity" instead of "right", Maute-Gibson thinks they should just use language from the be it resolved statements for the title because it is easier to understand. It was renamed the "Resolution urging the university and its contractors to stay neutral in regards to unionization drives by its employees". Arvizu thinks that President Shepard has already addressed this issue and she doesn't understand why they would urge it again. She suggests

taking off the last be it resolved because it hinders the longevity of this document. Ellermeier agrees with removing the last “be it resolved”. Ellermeier believes that the Board members are advocates for the student voice whatever it may be saying. She has heard from students who have legitimate points on both sides. She thinks this does not belittle the strong passion and belief that people have about this. It is to make it more powerful, she thinks there is a lot of ways to support students by utilizing the resources and using contacts with people who can affect change. A Resolution is not always the solution. Stickney thinks that sometimes the students need to take stances and oppose the university when it is necessary. Stickney said that what they are trying to do with this resolution is provide a fair process and should stand in solidarity with other groups trying to do the same thing. There are universities that seek to repress the voice of students. As the students seek to have their voices heard, they should speak out for other marginalized groups. Stickney thanked everyone who has supported this and started this discussion, especially the Aramark employees. He thinks it is important to try to help other people have what they would like to see for themselves.

*MOTION ASB-12-S-37 by Maute-Gibson*

Approve the resolution as stated in Doc. 5 with the title change of “Resolution urging the university and its contractors to stay neutral in regards to unionization drives by its employees”, striking last five whereas clauses and the last be it resolved.

Second: Peters                      Vote: 5 - 2 - 0                      Action: Passed

*The Board took a break at 6:25 and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.*

B. Students’ Purchasing Power Resolution                      (15 minutes)                      Arvizu Doc. 6

Arvizu thanked Brockman for providing supplemental information. Brockman was upset that the other resolution was voted on before this as they could not both be passed. Brockman said in order to make it possible to pass this he would like to strike the second be it resolved clause. What is left is the three economic statements and the be it resolved asks them to explore all options to address the ethical treatment of employees. Brockman thinks that non-economic solutions can be solved in other ways such as externally seeking out mediation, internally having the VP for Student Life address issues; these are not economic issues that can be solved without a union. He thinks that still being neutral is fine, but they really need to explore all issues. He feels that these economic concerns need to be addressed. Maute-Gibson thinks that it is important to remember that the resolution is not ranting or taking away any rights of any person. Before the last statement was taken away the resolution said that a legal right of an individual should be discouraged. She thinks that it is not the Board’s right to say whether someone should, of their own accord, exercise their rights. Peters said that since they were able to eliminate the whereas clauses on the previous resolution, his concern about statements that were created to be educational, almost having an air of being pro-union. Peters said that the current resolution’s educational statements are negative union and would need to be stricken. Arvizu said that the order of the resolutions was in the order received, it was not arbitrary. Brockman said the whereas clauses relate to Western. Brockman said that passing both sends a clear message of supporting workers but saying all options should be explored. Maute-Gibson doesn’t feel that there is evidence that this would happen in terms of people going hungry. She said that this is not a comprehensive statement, because they are all fiscal statements. There is nothing about paying a fair price versus cheap. She thinks that there is more that exists than these statements, to support the contract, and employees. She feels the Board’ responsibility is more than just financial. Ellermeier thanked Brockman for bringing this and having important discussion. Crowther said that as a student who wanted to testify on these important issues he is disappointed that he was not able to speak.

*MOTION ASB-12-S-38 by Arvizu*

Approve Resolution regarding Students’ Purchasing Power Resolution with the stipulation that the second be it resolved is stricken and striking “and find an alternative solution” from the last be it

resolved.

Second: Duot

Vote: 0 - 7 - 0

Action: Failed

C. AS Assessment Schedule

(10 minutes)

Peters Doc. 7

Von Volkli said that the Legal Information Center will be added to the first year. The Child Development Center has been removed and the OC Bike Shop has replaced it which will make it 7 offices per cycle. Since the CDC is an accredited area and there is an Office of Assessment he is willing to provide a process for them that is more beneficial for them. Over the summer and early fall they will come up with a new type of assessment. They will be working with the staff in the CDC to see what will serve them best. It could be yearly or less. Brockman suggests leaving the Recycle Center on the schedule to see how the changes go. He feels that there is a lot of value and opportunities for students to have all areas on the schedule. Von Volkli said that the RC and CDC will still be working on assessment but not in the same way as the rest of the AS. Richards said that they should write a legacy document encouraging following up with these offices. Brockman feels that they shouldn't be stricken before they come up with a process. Von Volkli said it is always possible to add them back in but he is confident in coming up with a process over the next year.

*MOTION ASB-12-S-39 by Orallo-Molinaro*

Approve the AS Assessment Schedule.

Second: Richards

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0

Action: Passed

D. Vagina Memoirs position and process

(15 minutes)

Duot Doc. 8

Ellermeier said that they have seen this a number of times before. Parsley said that there were some changes to the document and job description. She feels that they cannot teach someone in the Women's Center how to facilitate this type of program in a month. But they would like to add that the hired facilitator helps with volunteer facilitators training and with the Women's Center (WC) staff. The WC has a lot of traffic during the memoirs time and the more that the staff knows, the better. Maute-Gibson asked if a past cast member is the strongest benefit or if it is a liability, in the sense that neither Womencare shelter nor DVSAS hire anyone who has used their services. She also thinks that it can also lead to making the memoirs more like it was the year before. Parsley said that being a cast member doesn't give you the type of experience needed for facilitation. They are trying to move away from cast members facilitating and feel that there is a whole group of talented people who could facilitate and are not getting that experience. Brockman said that they often have people who have no experience in an office and do phenomenal jobs. Richards is still struggling with who is usually in charge of it. Parsley said that she ended up facilitating it this year because of her outside experience at a summer job and she was in the memoirs. Lisa Rosenberg has kept from making it a required program because of the immense strain on the staff. Ellermeier thanked the WC for going through such an extensive evaluation of the program, having been in the Memoirs she has enjoyed seeing it from the other side. However, she feels that they do have a responsibility to ensure the safety of the program. Duot dittoed. If they don't pass this proposal, it doesn't mean that they don't support the program. There are a lot of ways to support a program and the recommendation outlines many ways to support this valuable program. Ellermeier thinks that they should make the recommendations and pass the job description for one year and assess how it goes. She thinks that they can't always hire their way out issues, but she thinks that it will be great to see how this goes with all of the important changes they have outlined. Peters said that the supporting documentation was really what he wanted to see. He thinks that looking at making the way they bring on facilitators is a great idea and providing more debrief time. His concern is that in section 1a and 2a where it talks about the presence of counseling staff and follow-up meetings for facilitators. He feels that these should be required, not recommended. He would rather look at doing things correctly before expanding the position. He has extreme concerns with the disconnect of the facilitators and cast members from the WC and he understands that

this is what they are trying to achieve. But he doesn't think they can hire their way out of this. Maute-Gibson thanked the WC for their time working with her individually and getting her to a place where she understands the need for cast members, WC and community members to participate in someone else's healing experience without losing the ability to understand why they are participating. There is a causational relationship between solutions they are presenting and the end goal. She is still struggling with hiring someone. She doesn't think that there is clear evidence that hiring someone will fix the issues. They have not had a stable process to track what works best. She feels that making reforms in the current system will help see what is getting the AS closer to meeting those needs. There are many different options for trainings and staff support. She feels that making this job description without the reforms that might be necessary could have a negative effect. Arvizu dittoed. Maute-Gibson feels bad voting against this because the Board asked for a task force. She feels uncomfortable because this is not what they want to have happen when they have been directed by the Board; but she still has significant concerns about this. Majkut said that the Board could table this item come back to the Board following the next memoirs for consideration and they could recommend that the recommendations be enacted. Duot thinks they should always be committed to what the board says and empower students. He thinks voting against it is not acknowledging what the office has said. If there is a need then next year's Board can change it. He thinks that voting against it is not recognizing what they stand for. Arvizu clarified that the task force was created to look at creating a safe program and not necessarily about passing a job description. Richards is in favor of passing this but thinks maybe they should pass it this year and then see if the position is actually necessary with the lowered amount of programming. Duot said it is micromanaging. Maute-Gibson said that this is a safer plan but still thinks that this isn't the best solution. She feels it is not micromanaging to ensure the safety of students at one of the largest programs on campus. Peters doesn't see it as micromanaging to see how a new position works out. Arvizu dittoed. Absher thanks them for their appreciation of the process. She thinks that having a paid staff person would be very helpful in having compliance and safety as their number one priority. Absher will have them assess both the volunteer facilitators and the paid facilitator.

*MOTION ASB-12-S-40 by Richards*

Approve the Women's Center Vagina Memoirs Facilitator job description as stated in Doc. 8 with the stipulation that the next AS Board reevaluate the need for this job description after the 2013 Memoirs.  
Second: Arvizu                      Vote: 5 - 2 - 0                      Action: Passed

E. AS Personnel Office Assistant Director II                      (15 minutes)                      Peters Doc.9

Brockman said that this is primarily a salary change. The job descriptions are the same thing that was unintentional. The second position is the currently existing position. The Assistant Director II is more about recognition. One revision to note is that the 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet under position responsibilities should be stricken, there is a list of points in the original job description under "foster an inclusive environment" that should be included. Brockman said that this is important because in order to test for Human Resources certification, employees have to be in a salaried position. Also hourly employees in HR don't qualify for loan forgiveness.

*MOTION ASB-12-S-41 by Richards*

Approve Assistant Director II job description with stated changes and moving all of the points from "foster an inclusive environment" on the original description to the new one.  
Second: Orallo-Molinaro      Vote: 7 - 0 - 0                      Action: Passed

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

**VII. ACTION ITEMS - Board\***

**VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board\***

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

A. Publicity Center Repair & Replacement (5 minutes) Peters Doc. 1

Peters said that they can discuss this if there are concerns.

*MOTION ASB-12-S-42 by Maute-Gibson*

Approve Consent Item A PC Repair and Replacement.

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

**X. STUDENT SENATE REPORT**

Kendall Bull said that the Student Technology Fee Forum is tomorrow at 5 p.m. in CF 120.

**XI. BOARD REPORTS**

**VP for Diversity**

Deng Duot reported that the Women of Color Empowerment Dinner, the Low Rider Show and the Hui 'O Hawaii Heritage Dinner are all this weekend. These are the last dinners of the year.

**VP for Governmental Affairs**

Iris Maute-Gibson reported that American Campaign Transparency is filming about personhood versus corporate personhood in the club hub tomorrow.

**XII. OTHER BUSINESS**

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 7:33 P.M.**

*Note: Minutes approved by Kevin Majkut, Director of Student Activities and Ethan Glemaker, AS President 12-13.*