

# Western Washington University Associated Students Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 VU 460

**AS Board Officers:** *Present:* Belina Seare (President), Zachary Dove (VP Academics), Israel Ríos (VP Activities), Hannah Brock (VP BusOps), Abby Ramos (VP Diversity), Patrick Eckroth (VP Governmental Affairs), and Emma Palumbo (VP Student Life).

**Advisor(s):** Eric Alexander (Advisor)

**Guest(s):** Darin Rasmussen (WWU Police Chief), Brian Sullivan (Assistant Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs), Carol Berry (Campus Conservation and Sustainable Transportation Program Manager), Dreya Williams (AS ESC Program Coordinator), Osman Olivera (AS Business Director).

## MOTIONS

**ASB-15-SU-1** Approve changing the position AS Assistant Business Director to the title of AS Club Business Director which would increase the hours from 15 to 19 hours and to a Director Classification pay, and not to it will be a one year grant until it goes through SPAC in which they will review this change and decide if it continues. Supervisor change will be to AS VP for Activities and would move their office to the club hub. *Passed*

*Belina Seare, AS President, called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.*

### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

Belina Seare said she would like to start with introductions. She prefers she/her/hers pronouns and she is serving as the AS President. Hannah Brock said she prefers she/her/hers pronouns and she is serving as the AS VP for Business and Operations. Israel Ríos said he prefers he/him/his pronouns and is serving as the AS VP for Activities. Emma Palumbo said she prefers she/her/hers pronouns and is serving as the AS VP for Student Life. Patrick Eckroth said he prefers he/him/his pronouns and is serving as the AS VP for Governmental Affairs. Zach Dove said he prefers he/him/his pronouns and is serving as the AS VP for Academic Affairs. Abby Ramos said she prefers she/her/hers pronouns and is serving as the AS VP for Diversity. Osman Olivera said he prefers he/him/his pronouns and he is the AS Business Director. Eric Alexander said he prefers he/him/his pronouns and he is the Associate Dean of Student Engagement and Director of Viking Union. Dreya Williams said they prefer they/them/theirs and they are the AS ESC Program Coordinator this year. Brian Sullivan said he prefers he/him/his pronouns and he is Assistant Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs. Carol Berry said she prefers she/her/hers pronouns and she is the Campus Conservation and Sustainable Transportation Program Manager. Darin Rasmussen said he prefers he/him/his pronouns and he is the WWU Police Chief and he sits on the Transportation Advisory Board.

### IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests\*

#### A. WTA Bus Fee Increase- Information Session

Palumbo yields to the guests. Brian Sullivan had a meeting with WTA, they have a small increase coming up. It's two fold process because first there is an increase coming and second to plan on the increase next year. They will be planning for next year around winter quarter. Then they will give the recommendation to the student body. A year ago they started having conversations with WTA and they notified them of the increase. They

will want the student feedback knowing they are going to be negotiating on the price. He sits on the Board talking to WTA. Berry said there was a slight correction to the information they provided. It's paid in 3 total amounts, not quarterly. There is an adjustment to fares with student enrollment adjustments. They base the fare off of the number of students enrolled and used a certain rate, and if the enrollment goes down, they pay less. So they have been paying less than they agreed because numbers weren't as high as they projected they were going to be. Sullivan said WTA has not had an increase in fares in 7 years. Olivera asked how much they are requesting, is it \$19,000? And is it a onetime payment? Sullivan said \$16,000 and it will be in installments. Sullivan said they have to look at student enrollment, because more students means more money. Olivera asked if the AS is paying them that money? Berry said out of the Alternative Transportation Fund. All of the expenses from this fund are paid from this fund including WTA contract, the late night shuttle and more. This is an information item saying that they will likely be paying more from that fund. Brock said so it would be coming out of those reserves for that fund. Olivera said it would be paid out of the reserves, no student increase in fees? Berry said no student fee, there is no need for it with this small of an increase. Sullivan said they wanted to give them a heads up that by the end of winter quarter they will be looking at the fund, see how much it is and then go into the contract with WTA. If there is a student fee increase it would be voted on by this group, then to the Board of Trustees. Palumbo said this is for the 80x increase. Ramos said what about those who don't use the 80x? Berry said it would be covering all students. Even if you only use it once a week, once a month, once a quarter or not at all. Sullivan said they did some analysis to come up with the amount of students and the increase in the 80x. Berry said she suggests the committee meets this summer so they can be entering into the year full of information.

#### B. Closed Cause Space Proposal

Ramos said she is in full support of this and yields to Williams. Williams said this is their first couple months in the ESC. They have only put on a couple events per quarter in past years. They put on events and they have okay turn out. They are focusing on lasting connections and sustainability for students of color on this campus. This event would be happening monthly with two other facilitators and herself. This will be advertised as an event. They will be going over things such as race theory, queer theory, reading and writing poems, watching videos and more. They will be coming together talking to their life experiences. It is to have a space to be around people of color. It won't all be in English either which is a unique opportunity. They are requesting only have it to be people of color in the group and they will have some sort of registration process to filter it out. It's important because there is no spaces on campus just for students of color on campus and it will help because those students won't feel tokenized, targeted or feel the need to educate others in this space. Ríos said it was a great idea. Where are they getting their literature? Do they need any funding? Williams said they have materials due to their major and they have at least 100-150 documents already put together. Dove said it is great. He thinks a closed caucus space is a good idea and has heard a lot of good things. Olivera said he thinks it is great. There are no budgetary implications? Williams said all cost will be at the ESC such as food and printing fees. Eckroth said would those costs taking away from other programming? Williams said yes, but it's an event and they try to put on events throughout the year. It's one publicity center poster for the year instead of multiple different posters for different events. Brock said where is it going to be held and how often? Williams said they have been thinking about that. They aren't sure on how big it is going to be so they will have to figure out a room based on the size. It will be meeting about 1-2 times a month. They don't want it in a conference room because it isn't appealing to talk about racism around a conference table. They have thought about the ESC. They have thought about VU 714, but it's way too small. Brock said because they are looking at the ESC remodel they may want to include that feedback with the architects. Ramos said the heritage dinners come out of ESC Steering. The ESC doesn't put on many events, maybe 3 total. And those are large scale events. It's not going to cost much for this event. If there ever needs to be food, it could come out of ESC Steering Committee. Olivera asked if they thought about hiring a guest speakers. Williams said they don't think so. It's not highlighting the brilliant and resilient folks on this campus. They think lifting student voices is important. They

have enough of a history to heal together without bringing in someone else. Alexander said in his former institution when they created caucus space, there are some challenges they came across and they would like them to be aware of those. Some folks who presented with white skin privilege who identified as a person of color and folks found it hard to answer “how do they know if they are a person of color”. Some folks who presented as white pledge there in the student of color caucus. Or the opposite by identifying as mixed or bi-racial and being in the white caucus. Williams said they have been thinking about that. There will be the registration process that will ask them what they identify with, and they can’t make that decision for them. They aren’t in the business of policing. It’s going to be an intentional space and keeping people accountable. The registration process will help. There is room for error, but it’s going to be an intentional space. Brock asked what the pre-screen question would be and if they would be using Orgsync. Williams said their conference uses org sync so they will probably be using orgsync as well. Eckroth asked when it becomes a problem if this isn’t approved. Williams said around October 6<sup>th</sup>. They have time but they want to build the agenda.

## V. ACTION ITEMS - Guests\*

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

#### A. Assistant Business Director Changes.

Brock said this is an item they have been working on since she was the Personnel Director. The proposal is to change the Assistant Business Director to a Director. They have proposed a good name but open to any changes. They thought AS Business Director for Clubs was appropriate because they work with the clubs. This proposal is also to increase the hours from 15 hours a week to 19 hours a week and include 40 summer planning hours. It would changing their hours and increasing the pay rate to Director level pay instead of Assistant Director pay. For some context, after the last two years the Assistant Business Director said he was over worked and was doing completely separate work than the Business Director and their only reasons to communicate where the mandatory check-ins. They had proposed not to have this position report to the Business Director but to report to the AS VP for Activities because mainly their work is to manage all of the clubs 200 plus clubs’ finances, such as financial needs and request. 40 summer planning hours comes into because there is not enough to time to catch up with info fair and checking in with clubs who’ve contacted that position over the summer. Clubs are still active over the summer and emailing the Assistant Business Director and no one checks that email. Total fiscal impact amount would be \$2,749. Increase from \$6,118 to \$8,867. This office is going through SPAC so she proposed this be a grant for a year and seeing the review in SPAC. Olivera said they have spoken to Raquel Wilson the Dean of Student Finance Manager and she approves this change as well. Last year the Assistant Business Director was working the same amount of hours as him. And he had no idea what was going on with clubs and the Assistant Business Director didn’t know anything about the Business Directors position. Instead, he would think AS VP for Activities to be a better supervisor. He is open to name changes. They want this to be a 4 quarter position. It’s a lot of changes so he understand wanting to try it out. He has talked to the incoming Assistant Business Director and he is willing to do those hours. Brock said they don’t have to use all the 40 hours. They could be less than that but the proposal is for a “not to exceed” limit of 40 hours. Ríos said with the change of this position and not having over sight, he wonders is this position should move to club hub, they have space. That way it is a one stop shop for clubs. Olivera said he didn’t think about that. That would be great too. Eckroth said tried to help a club put a banner up and they had to go back and forth a lot. It would make it a lot more accessible to have it grouped together. Olivera said would he be considered part of the AS Business Office then? Eckroth suggested the name be AS Club Business Director that way it fits under the clubs. Brock said the work study position could have that desk if they moved too. Ríos pointed out that in the proposal it said “fall winter summer” and it needs to change to “fall winter spring”. Brock asked how much of a time

crunch this proposal has. Olivera said he would like to give the incoming person as much time as possible to work. Palumbo said she thinks it is a good idea. Would feel comfortable voting on it today. Ríos said if they do pass it. Would the job description be updated? Olivera said if this gets approved today then yes. Brock said this would be a grant coming out of discretionary funds that has about \$200,000 in it right now. It would be a yearlong grant going to SPAC. Palumbo said asked if they should be talking to anyone in the club hub before making any final decision. Ríos already talked to Casey Hayden, Coordinator of Student Activities, and he said cool.

***MOTION: ASB-15-SU-1 by Brock***

Approve changing the position AS Assistant Business Director to the title of AS Club Business Director which would increase the hours from 15 to 19 hours and to a Director Classification pay, and it will be a one year grant until it goes through SPAC in which they will review this change and decide if it continues. Supervisor change will be to AS VP for Activities and would move their office to the club hub.

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

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

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

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

**X. BOARD REPORTS**

**President**

Belina Seare reported that she had a talk time with Bruce Sheppard and it was interesting. She will be hoping to engage with all of them and other students for engagement on those meetings. Karen Lee and Sue Sharp told her that the Board of Trustee will be conducting the Presidential search. She wants to start structuring a framework on how they want to communicate as a Board.

**VP for BusOps**

Hannah Brock reported that she has been working on a lot of projects and starting to rework the Reserve Policy. They have \$500,000 in the Rainy Day Fund which is 25% of operating fund. A healthy reserve is 10%. They have \$206,000 in the Discretionary Reserves. The rest of the reserved are accounted for. She has been looking at how to structure that and access to that. They have thought about an e-sign grant fund request form. But there is so many different forms available and already complained about. They are thinking about using the same form, but adding a checked box.

**VP for Academic Affairs**

Zach Dove reported that he has emailed chairs of committees to schedule meetings with them before the fall when he will be busy. He is working on a proposal for a taskforce or committee that will gain better experiences representing themselves on university committees. It would see the student challenges on committees.

**VP for Activities**

Israel Ríos reported that he has been working with people to see more about his position like Casey Hayden, Jamie Hoover, and learning the club system. He has been looking at and talking about re-doing the club system to make it more accessible. He has also been looking at the Large Event Loan. He has also been working on Connection Days which is the day before school starts. He is trying to

figure out what the AS part is going to be. They are meeting Friday at 1:30-2:30pm.

**VP for Diversity**

Abby Ramos reported that she has been working with the Ethnic Student Center (ESC) remodeling that will be happening. They have been looking at some restructuring with the ESC Coordinator. They have been updating the student salary position and all the job descriptions.

**VP for Governmental Affairs**

Patrick Eckroth reported that his time has been planning the United States Student Association (USSA) National Student Congress trip. They are sending 10 students as delegates to University of Nevada- Las Vegas. That's all taken care of now. And now he will mostly focus on Washington Student Association (WSA) Board of Directors retreat and finalizing those plans.

**VP for Student Life**

Emma Palumbo reported that work with Green Energy Fee (GEF) and the Sustainable Action Fund Taskforce. They had a GEF meeting and they will have a taskforce meeting. They have been doing research around other schools that have similar fund and seeing how to best start this discussion.

**XIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

*The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 3:54 p.m.*