

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

Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 VU 567

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

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

**Guest(s):** Brandon Quackenbush (AS Veterans Outreach Coordinator), Sophie Ranis (Women's Center Assistant Coordinator), Elva Nitereka (AS Women's Center Coordinator).

**MOTIONS**

**ASB-15-F-41** Approval of the October 21st, 2015 with written edits. *Passed.*

**ASB-15-F-42** Approval of the Committee Appointments. *Passed.*

*Belina Seare, AS President, called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.*

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*MOTION ASB-15-F-37* by Palumbo

Approval of the October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with written edits.

Second: Brock Vote: 4-0-3 Action: Passed

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

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

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

**A. SPAC information with the Womens Center and Veterans Outreach Center**

**Veterans Outreach Center**

Brandon Quackenbush, the Veterans Outreach Coordinator of the Veterans Outreach Center (VOC). VOC operates in VU 530 and they offer Peer Guidance and nonjudgmental Safe Space for the Veteran community around campus. The office also does outreach and event programming throughout the year. Some of the events they will be doing are the Veterans Day Event that will be on November 9th 2015 in the VU Multipurpose Room at 11am. Stories Deployed helps kick off Patriots week is another event they do. As for the Structure and Programs Advisory Committee (SPAC) process they are looking to make revision to mission statement. He also wants to look into less events and making them better, instead of more events and they come out worse. He would also think it would be beneficial to report to the head of the Veterans Services Office on campus and help coordinate and target events to their community. This would help create more of a liaison role from the VOC to be part time in the Veterans Services Office. He is also working on an AmeriCorps position that would be in the Veterans Services Office which would help focus on the Outreach in his office. His office has had that in the past. Eckroth asked about reporting to the Veterans Services Office on campus, does he mean more of a supervisor or maybe it could be more collaborating and share information? Quackenbush said yes, like weekly check in and bring them into the conversation on any events they may be planning or the way they are spending their funding and getting their input.

## Women's Center

Sophie Ranis is the Women's Center Assistant Coordinator. The AS Women's center is committed to supporting, educating, empowering, and connecting all people on campus around gender related interests and issues as well as other marginalized identities. We provide a safe space to share experiences, resources and referrals, and programs that raise awareness and spark and foster dialogue. The WC promotes gender equality, solidarity against violence and a healthy, inclusive culture for people of all identities. One of their largest events in the Memoirs that use to be referred to as the Vagina Memoirs. Last year there were recommendations for changes. One is the Take back the night event went terrible last year and that has been dissolved and the money went into the greater Women's Center budget. Women's Health Night didn't happen last year and it won't be happening this year. They have educational expectation informing students on consent. They do need to have a better internship program. They have it currently but it needs to be better structured. It is essential that they have interns even when the Coordinators are less experienced. They want to change the Women's Centers name to be more inclusive. They have unofficially changed the word women to have an "X" instead of an "E". They would also like to transfer relevant resources to the AS Webpage. They have underutilized technology resources that they have in their office. There was advice to give Women's Center staff training to be able to handle and create a safe space to students. They would need it to keep to doing peer advising they need training, although many folks don't use that peer advising. They feel underequipped to respond to folks. Some current events that their office puts on is a Cultural Appropriation event which is taking place tomorrow. They have an event for sustainability and food sovereignty coming up. They will also be holding an event for the community to gauge what they can change during the SPAC process and see what they are missing. This would be so they can find the future and direction of that center. Currently the resources they have are limited. The resources they have right now is limited because it relies on staff knowledge. Goals reorganization of the space would be a good idea. They have one of the more staffed offices in the Resource and Outreach Program. It would be great to have a larger space that was more accessible.

Elva Nitereka (AS Women's Center Coordinator) entered at 6:22pm

Nitereka said they were talking about expanding their resources. The resource library in the Women's Center is very white and cis and narrates those experiences. They are trying to have a section for non-English speakers and other languages to outreach to international population on campus. They want more books with authors of color and those who hold other marginalized identities. Honoring marginalized identities and cultures and languages of communal healing in their community. Take that knowledge that isn't routed in academic learning and bring that into the space. They could attempt to do that by bringing speakers from the community and activists in. and Allowing their events to be a space of communal healing for people of cultures who still navigate post-colonial trauma. It's really important in this institution that they recognize that. Their office hasn't done that work and they want that. Ranis said really like a supply office for all of ROP instead of each individual office having to store their own supplies. She would like to be more adverse in local communities in the community by using local community goods such as arts, photography, and goods from local people. Nitereka said they have another event they will be putting on in the winter which is trying to bridge urban and rural knowledge. Food is different in Bellingham than in Seattle. Students are personally being affected by that. Ranis said the last thing is about how interns and work-study work in the ROP offices. It is not a feasible or efficient having interns hired by the advisor and the director, who are always busy. It may be easier to have their office hire their interns. It would streamline the process. It would help get support much faster in their office. Palumbo asked about name change and if they had any suggestion? Nitereka said when they were hired they were asked because it was brought up before in previous years. They are still in discussion. They don't know the right naming process for that. Ranis said whatever the direction the center is going towards will most likely affect the name. Eckroth said as for hiring the positions, is there anywhere that said it had to be done that way? Brock said interns would be under volunteers, not employees. Unless it's a paid internship.

Work-study is a different classification because they are paid and they do have to go through that process. Ranis said the internship and work-study form is on orgsync she thinks Casey Hayden created it. Eckroth said either way, could they be getting interns now? Brock said yes and hiring for a work-study doesn't state that there has to be a formal committee for those. Ríos said they hired an intern in the Social Issues Resource Center (SIRC) last year unofficially. They didn't need the ROP director involved. They told them it was going on but they weren't in the process. Brock said the Director should be involved but they can delegate it out. Dove said why is peer advising underutilized? Nitereka said their office targets privileged identities, people from middle class backgrounds. They haven't had many people of color in that office. It's very clear who their office is targeting, they only have white authors. There isn't a person of color in their office. More people to come to assist instead of getting assistance. Seare said there isn't a clear cut reason why they aren't being used. Folks would think they would be use it, but it was empty in their SIRC last year. Ranis said someone did come in once with a question about gender identities, but that was more clarification than peer advising. Brock said the ROP needs to look into getting a marketing coordinator for the ROP because students don't know what the offices are offering and other areas in the AS get marketing help. Ramos said they should bring into the AS Structural Review Committee (SRC). AS Productions (ASP) have two marketing positions and ROP has more events, and those events are required to do marketing than ASP. Brock said she knows the Environmental and Sustainability Programs (ESP) is thinking about having a marketing coordinator. Nitereka said another SPAC item was about the 4-8 event requirement a quarter and she thinks it is a little too much. They don't know how effective it would be to have 6-8 events. It takes time, energy, money to build an intentional event and they can't do that 6-8 times a quarter, especially on their budget. If they are going to be assessed on the 4-8 time period, it's not fair to their office. Brock said yes, let's take a look at that on both SPAC and the SRC. Brock said she worked in a programming office and that's a lot of events, too many events.

Belina moves to have an 8 minute recess starting at 6:40pm

Belina called the meeting back to order at 6:48pm

## **X. BOARD REPORTS**

### **V. ACTION ITEMS - Guests\***

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

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

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

#### **A. Legislative Affairs Council Budget Policy**

Eckroth said they have seen this all before. The Board needed to pass it before for the mandatory fee process. After they passed it, he did some work and realized the reserve policy needs to be changed a lot. Previously it was an opt-in process and not mandatory and now the structure should change. Right now they have to have put money into the reserve until 125% of the nondiscretionary is in there. The nondiscretionary includes their membership dues at the United States Student Association (USSA) and the Washington Student Association (WSA) and the Viking Lobby Day position. Which means a little less than \$25,000 is what they need. They are looking to reduce the reserves to 50%. Technically, all their summer expenses comes out of the reserves so they do need to have a little more than normal in there. The way they do their budgets doesn't align with how they negotiate membership dues. 50% of non-discretionary would be about \$10,000-\$11,000. Right now the reserve fund is at 87% of the nondiscretionary costs. That extra money they would have if they dropped it to 50% could go towards this year and next year's activities. That would be helpful for next year's presidential election. Alexander said

high reserve is around 20%. Eckroth said it was okay before to have that amount in reserve when it was an opt-in fee but now that it's mandatory, they know roughly how much money they will be getting. The Legislative Affairs Council has already seen this and they approved it.

## **B. Text.com, Textbook Exchange**

Dove said last week himself, Brock and Osman Olivera, the AS Business Director, had a conference call with a person from text.com. They got to see the Demo on the software and the webpage. He wants to share the demo video with all of them and the WWU site because it is already made. They can facilitate the buying and selling of textbooks from student to student instead of the bookstore for a much less price to students. Dove then showed the presentation. Seare asked if this was done through Orgsync? Dove said no but it looks very similar. The service is already to go though. They can't sign a contract themselves. It would have to go through the normal process to get a contract signed. Alexander said the institution has a contract office. A lot of offices have to go through it, such as AS Production. If they want it to happen, it's about going through that process. Dove said this would be at no cost and they would send a free publicity package. It would be up to the AS to publicize it for students to know about it. Ramos said could they all get a copy of the contract? Dove said he can't see why not. Text.com is waiting for the Board to get back to them with an answer and then they can request the contract. Brock said for next steps, need to talk to the AS Bookstore, to make sure they aren't stepping on anyone's toes. She wants to make sure, as the AS Bookstore Liaison, that the AS Bookstore is okay with it. The Bookstore is part of the AS. They don't want to do something that is going against it. She is really in favor of this. It would mostly be used by students who want to sell to each other. People are still going to use the bookstore. If students want to just buy all their books on their student accounts, they can still do that. The same students who are doing that will continue to do that. But those who are looking to sell to each other will use this market. Ríos said when is Brock said planning on talking to the Bookstore? Brock said they wanted to see if they are all in favor of it before reaching it out. They only told them all about it, but now they can actually discuss it. Palumbo said before they talk about it, she would like to talk with the bookstore and get their thoughts. Alexander said is there any licenses that they would have on how it looks or how it's set up? Do they get control of that? Dove said he would ask them next time they talk to them. They can change the picture. It would be good to know too much control they would have in that.

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

### **A. Committee Appointments**

#### **Academic Coordinating Commission**

<b>Rachel Heggie</b>	<b>Liberal Studies</b>	<b>Junior</b>
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#### **Academic Honesty Board**

<b>Gabriel Ibanez</b>	<b>MIS</b>	<b>Junior</b>
<b>Elizabeth Yarbrough</b>	<b>Geology</b>	<b>First Year</b>
<b>Courtney Telloian</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Senior</b>

#### **Academic Technology Committee**

<b>Gabriel Ibanez</b>	<b>MIS</b>	<b>Junior</b>
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#### **Activities Council**

<b>Erin Johnson</b>	<b>Dance</b>	<b>First Year</b>
<b>Nikola Bocko</b>	<b>Sociology</b>	<b>Senior</b>

Bryce Hammer Sophie Wiseman	History/Sociology	Junior Senior
<u>Alternative Transportation Fee Committee</u>		
Neal Dickinson	Urban Planning	Senior
<u>Bookstore Advisory Committee</u>		
Rebecca Solem	Archiving the Reemergence of Polytheism in America	Senior
<u>AS Budget Committee</u>		
Mason Hawk	Finance	Sophomore
<u>Campus Dining Committee</u>		
Angela Wissmar	Public Reactions/Education/Community Health	Sophomore
<u>Counseling, Health, and Wellness Committee</u>		
Phaolan Class	Biology/Anthropology	Sophomore
<u>Department Related Activities Council</u>		
Victoria Steed	MBA	Grad Student
<u>Disability Advisory Committee</u>		
Phaolan Class	Biology/Anthropology	Sophomore
<u>Elections Advisory Committee</u>		
Gabrielle Cole	English	Junior
<u>Faculty Outstanding Service Award</u>		
Annalise Csicsery	Business	First Year
James Molyneux-Elliot	Political Science	Junior
<u>Legislative Affairs Council</u>		
Briana Dearing	Economics/Political Science	Senior
Sarah Berglin		
<u>Parking and Transportation Advisory Committee</u>		
James Molyneux-Elliot	Political Science	Junior
<u>Parking Appeals Board</u>		
Mary Moeller	Economics	First Year
<u>Residential Advisory Committee</u>		
Annie Brunson	Kinesiology	Junior
<u>Sehome Hill Arboretum Board</u>		
Ellen Zocher	Biology	Senior
<u>Senate Library Committee</u>		
Rebecca Solem	Archiving the Reemergence of Polytheism in America	Senior
<u>Service and Activities Fee Committee</u>		
Rachel Heggie	Liberal Studies	Junior
<u>Structure Review Committee</u>		

<b>Hannah van Amen</b>	<b>Political Science</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>
<b><u>Student Publications Council</u></b>		
<b>Angela Wissmar</b>	<b>Public-Relations/Education/Community Health</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>
<b><u>University Sustainability Advisory Committee</u></b>		
<b>Maddie Gavigan Martin</b>	<b>Environmental Education</b>	<b>Senior</b>
<b>Alice Lazzar-Atwood</b>	<b>Environmental Science</b>	<b>Junior</b>

*ASB-15-F-42* by Palumbo

Approval of the Committee Appointments.

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

## **X. BOARD REPORTS**

**Zach Dove, VP for Academic Affairs** reported that the grade replacement policy did pass in Academic Coordinating Commission (ACC). This passed the policy to make the last class students took to get factored into their GPA's. They will use their only the last grade, but students can always petition the Registrar if they wanted it to be their first grade. Next this policy will go to Faculty Senate. They aren't looking at a phase in with this. It will start in Fall of 2016 and that's when it will apply. WWU's first year class will now be on an even playing field because transfer students could retake classes they already took and have the last grade count on the GPA and now first year WWU students can too.

**Patrick Eckroth, VP for Governmental Affairs** reported that the Viking Lobby Day event is on the way. He reserved 30 hotel rooms which will have about four people per room. That's a good first step. The Monroe Seminars are going on. They have two representatives on campus and it was great so far. Josie Ellison and him had a meeting with Becca Kenna-Schank and Joe Timmons from WWU Governmental Relations to go over WWU's official agenda. The University has two operational budget request and two capital budget requests. One of those requests is the Student Success Package. WWU didn't get it and all other regional schools did. They supposedly think WWU is already the poster child of other regional schools. They didn't see a need for it. They are underfunded in advisors, their students do better than other schools who are more funded, supposedly. Another proposal is upgrading the wireless internet and computer labs on campus. Right now it takes about \$30 of the \$35 Student Technology Fee. The student agenda can collaborate on the Student Success Package with the university. Some of the agenda items LAC proposed so far is New and Dedicated Revenue, Voter Access, Rights and Engagement, Faculty Issues and helping support their salary increases. They are also looking to decouple the Services and Activities (S & A) fee from tuition. He is also looking into getting some data collection for marginalized student identities. He went to ESC Presidents Council and ESC Steering and he got feedback and hopes to take that back to LAC. December 17<sup>th</sup> 2015 the Washington Taskforce on Campus Sexual Violence will be on campus.

**Hannah Brock, VP for Business and Operations** reported that mid quarter training will be happening next week and she realized that she can't make it to either training. Speakers have been slowly responding to the Personnel Office which made it difficult to schedule. If they can't make it to the second training, they won't be able to make it to any of them. If they would like to brainstorm another way to make up the trainings, she would be willing to do that and help support that. Eckroth said he has gone through enough training especially because its event planning and none of them are planning events, he thinks it should be okay. Brock said please talk to her and she will bring it up with the Personnel Office. She has been working on the Structural Review Committee. She needs to do some outreach because she needs one club representative to sit on it and one ESC club representative on it. They need to meet soon and get this going. Still looking for Facilities and

Services members too. Budget committee will be meeting next week. They are hiring for seven AS positions right now, so please spread the word.

**Belina Seare, AS President** reported that the Presidential Search Advisory Committee (PSAC) selection has been hear-say but she knows of two students asked to be on the committee by the Board of Trustees. She is disappointed with the communication between the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors. They wanted to find out who they were offering a spot on the committee, so they can find a way to notify the other students who hadn't been selected. There was miscommunication somewhere. There was an oversight on both parts and she is sorry for that. She will be sending out Thank You's and other ways to engage students who weren't selected but make sure it is clear that they value their work. As far as the newsletter in the AS Review, she met with the Western Front Editor. They talked about how the Western Front wants to be more engaged with the Board. The AS review would publish the newsletter and the Western Front will talk about why they are doing it. She will be scheduling a work session for the Board, so she will be emailing them all about those sessions. Veterans Day is Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and because they won't be having a Board meeting that week, they can plan a work session for that week. Her goal would be two work sessions this quarter. She will be sending an email to club hub about the sexual violence investigation going on next week.

**Abby Ramos VP for Diversity** reported that she followed up on the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) coming to campus and she had that meeting with Palumbo, Eckroth, Dove, Alexander, Sue Guenter-Schlesinger and Mohammed Cato. They made it clear that OCR is only here for sexual violence and assault and anything else they would like to say outside sexual violence, they can report it to the resources on campus. Which is disappointing because students felt it was an opportunity to bring up discriminations on this campus. The Equal Opportunity Office (EOO), said they aren't running this investigating and OCR is in charge of everything. They had a workgroup last Friday and they have a Facebook page. It's a source for information, dates and times, and a way for students to get in touch with the Board if they have questions. She is running that Facebook page. There should be an email going out tomorrow that will unpack what the email earlier said. Seare, Andrea Thompkins and herself had a meeting with Paul Dunn and Karen Dade about the Presidential Diversity Taskforce. It's still up in the air for the process. They talked about the primary goals of the taskforce. Halloween is this week, so she wanted to remind everyone to please be critical of portraying a culture or a person. She had a meeting with a bunch of admin for the Martin Luther King (MLK) event that will be happening next quarter. They want to make it more student oriented and not having it on the backs of students. Andrea Thompkins is finding the co-chair for that. They are wondering if it's a WWU event or community event and still determining that.

**Israel Ríos VP for Activities** reported that he went to Departmentally Related Activities Clubs (DRAC) started this morning. In Activities Council (AC) they approved two clubs. He was doing some research and found that AC use to have conference funding that was open for all students' not just clubs, but since the funding got reduced it limited it only to clubs.

**Emma Palumbo VP for Student Life** reported she met with Leonard Jones and a couple others and talked about housing to re-evaluate the assignment process. Right now they have the lottery system and it is causing lots of stress. They are starting to look at new ways to do that and is fair and efficient. If folks have ideas, let her know. They will be working on that for a little while. Sustainable Action Fund Taskforce (SAFT) is coming to an end and they will be coming to the Board to show them all the work they have been doing. They currently have five students who sit on that committee and they will be having a training to be on that committee. The training was inspired by the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) conference and there will be food provided for those folks.

## **XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Belina Seare, AS President, adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.*