

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

Friday, April 22nd, 2016 VU 567

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

Guest(s): Emma Opsal (AS Assessment Coordinator), Stephan Magnuson (Outdoor Center Coordinator), Alzeta Davis (AS Challenge Course Coordinator)

Advisor: Eric Alexander (Associate Dean of Student Engagement and the Director of the Viking Union Facilities)

MOTIONS

- ASB-16-S-16** Approve the March 4th 2016 and the April 1st 2016 AS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. *Passed.*
- ASB-16-S-17** Approve the SPAC Recommendations for the Outdoor Center Challenge Course to Move to an Action Item. *Passed.*
- ASB-16-S-18** Approve the SPAC Recommendations for the Outdoor Center Challenge Course with the Amendment to the Second to Last Sentence. *Passed.*
- ASB-16-S-19** Approve the ESC Executive Committee Charge and Charter to an Action Item. *Passed.*
- ASB-16-S-20** Approve the ESC Executive Committee Charge and Charter. *Passed.*

Belina Seare, AS President, called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: ASB-16-S-16 by Palumbo

Approve the March 4th 2016 and the April 1st 2016 AS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.
Second: Ríos Vote: 6-0-1 Action: Passed

II. PUBLIC FORUM

III. INFORMATION ITEMS- Guests*

A. SPAC Recommendations- Outdoor Center Challenge Course

Opsal said after last Board meeting where they brought these recommendations, they were asked to reformulate some of these recommendations. They went back and made the changes. The first recommendation is to explore the possibilities to fund and build a covered area at Lakewood for programs and trainings. There are a lot of programs out there and they do live in the Pacific North West and it's hard to do things outside when its rainy. This recommendation would be exploring

where the money could come from. It would be reserved via the Viking Unions EMS system. Magnuson said the important thing is that both Jeff Davis, the Lakewood Manager, and Frederick Collins, the Assistant Director of the Viking Union Recreation, be in part of those conversations. This would be to find here the funding would come from. Would it be coming more from the Viking Union or more from AS funding? Some assistance around where it could come from would be great. Opsal said the second recommendation is to explore the possibilities to build and fund a new high element for the course. It currently has 10 elements total, 7 low elements and 3 high elements. It would bring new excitement to the course if folks have already done it. The Challenge Course is an AS program but a VU facility so it gets tricky here as well. Magnuson said they just had their annual inspection. They will discuss with the inspector the possibilities of a new element and get some estimated costs. Brock said she would like to vote whether they support this or not today. Opsal said one big change since last time was the removal of the Assistant Coordinator position. The third recommendation is exploring different venues of challenge course accessibility. They are looking to make sure the challenge course facilitators are trained on creating a safer space for those participating. Magnuson said there are limitations of the course for physical limitations. However, the power of the course is great. There was someone who had cerebral palsy and they participated in the Challenge Course and they even got this person up on a high element. There is only one high element that could participate in, the high swing. The person cried from excitement that it brought them. The power of the Challenge Course for people who have limited mobility can be very impactful. That one case was more inspiring to make it more accessible overall. He would like to continue to explore that. In regard to trainings, there is a lot of change that needs to happen. They are looking into bringing in specialized trainers to make sure they are more accessible to all people. Some trainings may be him or Jeff Davis going to training to bring back as well. Opsal said previously the facilitators would be hired randomly throughout the year and now they are hired at one time, a set amount are hired, and all go through trainings similar to the AS. Palumbo said if they were going to get a new element, would it be an accessible one? Magnuson yes they have some ideas already of ways that they can make a high element accessible. Dove said the second to last sentence “we need to use correct and appropriate discourse” and he suggests changing it “to inclusive and appropriate discourse”. Palumbo said would they be voting just in favor of these? What about Budget Committee? Brock said they can move forward with this as approving the recommendations but they don’t have exact figures as of right now. Magnuson said he has a meeting with the inspector and will get some new figures but they won’t have a total because they have to come look at the environment and landscape. Brock said it wouldn’t be a decision package. It’s not an operating expense. She sees it coming out of Discretionary Reserves because it is a onetime purchase. They are already in the process of looking at the decision packages. If they were to approve it today, it would be that they agree that they should look into this. They won’t be forced to approve it once the numbers come back either.

MOTION: ASB-16-S-17 by Palumbo

Approve the SPAC Recommendations for the Outdoor Center Challenge Course to Move to an Action Item.

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

MOTION: ASB-16-S-18 by Palumbo

Approve the SPAC Recommendations for the Outdoor Center Challenge Course with the Amendment to the Second to Last Sentence.

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

IV. ACTION ITEMS - Guests*

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

VI. ACTION ITEMS - Board*

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board*

A. AS Program Standards

Brock said this will be a short discussion. This is a project that Management Council is working on. They only got through a couple pages of editing and they will continue to edit the rest. She is asking them to look at their particular departments they oversee and they can bring suggested changes. Thinking of getting rid of the AS Recycle Center and Child Development Center. It doesn't make sense to have in program standards. They operate so separately than the other AS programs. They need to change the Green Energy Fee (GEF) to the Sustainable Action Fund (SAF). They need to change "neutrality" to "nonpartisan". She just brought this for them to be aware they are doing it and to look through it on their own time and bring any suggested items. Eckroth said the Representation and Engagement Programs section needs to be updated. Some of them are programs and some of them are positions. Brock said if they all could look at the sections that they oversee that would be great.

B. Student Enhancement Fund

Seare said this week she talked to Lisa Rosenberg the Assistant Director of Student Activities and Raquel Wilson the Finance Office Manager and had a talk time with Eric Alexander about this. They talked about how they will assess the applications and how important that will be. They talked about how to prioritize funding and the need to describe why it makes sense to use student dollars for this. Found the conference fund that use to be here in 2001 and looked at how it was structured. It's really digestible. They looked at how Oregon State University's funds these and they thought that was really accessible. They need to go back to the AS values and that will help guide this process. Her talk time with Rosenberg and Wilson was informative because they have a good understanding on how it would work creating a position. Currently once there is an approval of a trip, they connect with an advisory and then that person works with the finance office and they get everything paid and then the student goes on the trip, hopefully a good one, and then there is an evaluation process. They need to find where in this process would that person fit. Brock said the advisor who makes the most sense for policy and funding Alexander or Wilson. Seare said it is more collaborative process instead of being ridged. Wilson said although she is busy her being the advisor makes sense if this student position is under the business office. She is meeting with Rosenberg and Yuliya Rybalka, the AS Personnel Director, next to help create the position description. Brock said what if they were advised by another person in the finance office, could they check in with the finance office? Alexander said before this year they had a staff member in the Finance office who processed AS Travel. Once that person is hired they could see if they could be this person's advisor and Wilson could be there to support that. The way their budget authority works, the

AS business Director needs to approval all travel and then it makes it up to Alexander. They are trying to find the quickest system here. Seare said she was thinking this would start out as an hourly position in fall quarter and see how it goes. If there are any questions, she would be happy to take them.

C. ESC Executive Charge and Charter

Ramos said she won't be in her position next year but didn't want to take a spot of the students at large. She thought about adding a Board appointed position. Palumbo said she doesn't know about that because she likes that it's an external body making that suggestions. Ramos said they didn't know any other way. Eckroth said awkward power dynamic other VP for Diversity. Seare said Ramos would be working less with administration. Palumbo said dittos Eckroth. They also may just keep going to Ramos instead of the current Board member. Ríos said he thinks they should apply through the students at large positions.

MOTION: ASB-16-S-19 by Brock

Approve the ESC Executive Committee Charge and Charter to an Action Item.

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

Ríos said better to have 7 anyways because it is an odd number.

MOTION: ASB-16-S-20 by Brock

Approve the ESC Executive Committee Charge and Charter.

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

D. Resolution Regarding Student Labor at WWU

Dove said has everyone read the recent article pertaining to labor at WWU and trainings at WWU? Dove said for certain opportunities on campus, there are parts of trainings that are required in order to get a job that they must take a class and pay tuition for and they aren't paid for that training. That is the federal and state law that they have to get paid. The reasoning behind this is this course is that benefits students for the rest of their life, but it's unpaid labor. Also appears that if they are paying tuition, they are paying more than they receive in the position. This is specific for student employees going through this. This practice is not in line with labor laws. The student debt "whereas" isn't as relevant but he put it in there. He is surprised something hasn't come up about this previously. Alexander said he has seen it a lot on other campuses. If they already have a certain amount of credits they don't pay more for tuition. Tuition costs would be good to put in this resolution. Dove said regardless of what they are paying for, they need to be paid. Alexander said they should also think about giving credits for sitting on the potential senate. Ramos said the RA's are compensated for it. Ríos said not during their trainings though. Seare said during the Residence Hall Association (RHA) meeting, they voted against a raise in student stipend amount. Martin asked what is the importance of a resolution? Dove said it's a formal stance that the Board is taking. Seare said should it go out to more students before making it a Board resolution? So they can get more input from students? Eckroth said that the average student debt listed on the resolution seems low. Seare said there was a student who came into her office about the same concerns last quarter. Brock wants to have that person come to the Board so they can hear from students.

Ríos said the last be it resolved, is not as connected as the others. Dove said it's pretty critical. Eckroth said he thinks its relevant because the university has a way of stifling students organizing. Palumbo said the way it reads right now is awkward, they should think about rewording it. Palumbo said some of the whereas's could be combined.

E. Queer Trans Students of Color

Ramos said she went to the Queer Trans Students of Color Conference at Portland State University (PSU). Their conference was really well organized. The workshops were good. There was a couple folks including herself that wished it was more identity based. Everyone did really appreciate the workshops though. She looked at their Student Union and their Associated Students (AS). Their resources are under the Enrollment and Management Services and not under AS. She took notes talked to Casey Hayden about putting it into legacy documents. She looked at positions at PSU. She checked out Women's Center and Queer Resource Center. There was full time staff. Almost none of the folks who went to the conference are graduating this year. They want to bring a Queer People of Color (QPOC) conference here. They want to get the club started again as well. Being the delegation leader was not so fun. Overall it was a great experience.

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

IX. BOARD REPORTS

Belina Seare, AS President did not give a report.

Zach Dove, VP for Academic Affairs reported that he slightly misrepresented the grade replacement. The one course repeat is only for those people who already passed the course. They can take it as many times they want if they fail. There is no longer averaging between the scores, it's just that last grade. The Registrar's Office is open to petitions though. It will be implemented in 2017-2018. His feeling is that it will pass. Academic Coordinating Commission (ACC) may want it before May 10th. They are planning a free pizza and math discussion night. He is not entirely sure what is going on in the world of math and they are trying to figure out how to get students into that conversations. That will be ongoing. He is working with Molly Ware, the Faculty Senate President to talk about students getting on the agenda. They are working on how to bring transparency to the existing processes.

Patrick Eckroth, VP for Governmental Affairs reported that Washington Student Association (WSA) General Assembly is that weekend. They will be looking at proposals. WSA seem to bring the same variation of the same proposals every year so they are looking for different ones. He wants to bring those to the Board before going to WSA. United States Student Association (USSA) Power Submit reflections are done. He is trying to make sure they bring that back because not everyone did. They will be having a discussion about that organization in general. The Federal Lobby Day Trip went well. They got to meet with Jesse Moore, an alumni of WWU. The meetings on the hill is very interesting. There are other alumni working in the White

house and doing great work and they haven't been as publicized. There were a lot of actions taken place outside the capital and the supreme court house.

Hannah Brock, VP for Business and Operations reported that she is really excited, as of yesterday the Structural Review Committee Survey has had 181 responses. She would love to have 1000 people respond but she will take what she can get. She compiled the information. There were 80-90 long responses about what they can do to be better, feelings about a potential senate, how to be represented better. They asked a question asking what people recognize. They were aware of the Resource and Outreach Programs, KUGS, AS Productions (ASP), the Outdoor Center (OC), and Clubs was the highest. It's really relevant information. She will be sharing it with the entire AS. she is taking it to AS Management Council. She will be shutting the survey down on Monday. As for budgeting she was here yesterday at 7am for Services and Activities Fee Committee. They presented their base budgets. Athletics are asking a huge increase as well. If they approved everything it would be \$230,000. There is a big weight on her shoulders. This is the last year they are decoupled from tuition. If they raise it, it could be the last time they could raise it for a little while. A lot of their increases are the mandatory salary and fridge benefits. Right now they pay \$197 per quarter. The AS did not request an increase last year or the year before. They kind of have to make up for that. They can't operate from their reserves.

Abby Ramos VP for Diversity reported that the ESC Executive Committee will be selecting some students on Monday. They had to re-open the application because there was some misinformation and some folks didn't think they could apply so they will be reopening it. the ROP is having weekly staff meetings on Monday to discuss the restructuring of it. Not many people showing up to those though. She thought about asking the offices to do their own presentation about how they would like to see the restructure happen. University Planning and Resource Council (UPRC) is voting in two weeks. She will bring those decisions to the Board.

Israel Ríos VP for Activities reported that AS Presidential Forum's were Wednesday. He was graced with moderating it. There were good student questions and good answers. It was an actual debate. It was good. Activities Council (AC) approved the Dog Club which is a club for people who like and own dogs. Seare asked if they will be bringing all their dogs? Ríos said they have to follow all campuses dog protocols. Dove asked if there is a cat or turtle club? Ríos said no, but they can create one. Ríos said they rejected a request from the Large Opportunity Fund. They felt that it was Back to Bellingham taking advantage of AS dollars. They thought they coursed ASP into helping. It wasn't a good use of AS funds. With any big requests that come to AC he will help bring to the Board if they are out of funds. He is thinking only large requests though. They have a lot of money in their Bookstore Fund though.

Emma Palumbo VP for Student Life reported that there was a Lock Down Drill on Wednesday. There were certain areas that did the full drill. They will be moving forward on analyzing what happened. A couple weeks ago people had brought to her attention that they are feeling unsafe on campus. After letting folks know students didn't feel safe, they wanted to wait until after the drill. She is helping with the Student Faculty Staff collaborative dialogue. She is going to facilitation training. There is a Taskforce to address Anti- Semitism on campus and Herself and Alexander are on it. There are 13 people total on that. Dove wants to see the charter. Palumbo said the Equal Opportunity Office (EOO) is working on it.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Belina Seare, AS President, adjourned the meeting at 10:24 a.m.