

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

Friday, January 15th, 2016 VU 567

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

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

**Guest(s):**

**MOTIONS**

**ASB-16-W-4** Approval of the Minutes from January 7<sup>th</sup> with written edits.  
*Passed.*

**ASB-16-W-5** Approve the SAF recommendations except the new ESP marketing positions.  
*Passed.*

**ASB-16-W-6** Approval of the Committee Appointments. *Passed.*

*Belina Seare, AS President, called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.*

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

***MOTION ASB-16-W-4 by Palumbo***

Approval of the Minutes from January 7<sup>th</sup> with written edits.

Second: Dove Vote: 4-0-2 Action: Passed

**II. INFORMATION ITEMS- Guests\***

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

**A. Board Recommendations for New Integrated Payment System**

Dove said one of the documents is a Consumer Report which is a report about products to make sure they well-advertised and brings light to all the ins and outs of the product. They created a report called "Campus Banking Products College Students Face Hurdles to Accessing Clear Information and Accounts That Meet Their Needs" and the most important part is on page 13. It talks about the fees and they wrote down all the different fees in a chart. The second document is a "Safe Student Account Scorecard" and the Safe Student Account Scorecard is a tool for institutions of higher education to solicit critical information on the fees and the features of financial products before selecting a financial institution partner and this is a tool WWU can use to solicit information and hopefully bring more transparency to these decisions. He thinks it would be good to talk about process. It's definitely an issue that affects a lot of students. He was thinking some sort of taskforce that can get some outreach and do the research for recommendations could be helpful. Brock said depending on how much time they have the Board can create a list or vote on a list of recommendations. Are there any initial thoughts? Seare asked if this was because HigherOne's contact is almost up. Brock said yes. Dove said they signed an eight year contract with HigherOne and it's almost done. Seare asked how long the next company would be contracted for. Dove said he didn't know but probably a while so they have to make sure WWU choses a good one. Brock said Becky Kellow brought this up to her asking for input. They want input and they can follow

up and ask questions. They want an evaluation and they want them to be involved in the evaluations. They want them to be part of selecting the top two to three candidates to make presentations and then with the final decisions. This needs to be list needs to be to them by February 1<sup>st</sup>. Seare said this is so soon, how long did they know about this? Brock said she doesn't know but they got this email on Monday. Dove said they have two weeks and they can do some work on it. Brock said they have two weeks to come up with a list. The problem comes with getting more student input. They can email a bullseye asking for others. They need to put it in easier to understand terms because she had a hard time reading it. She thinks students will recognize what it is and its importance. Dove said he should say potentially replace HigherOne because it's not off the table just yet. Brock said she was looking at some of the others and she thought some of the items were good. Usually it's higher cost to the university and lower cost to students. It should be in the students' best interest. HigherOne isn't the worst, there are others that have bad fee structures, but it's the middle of the pack. Seare said she agrees, so say HigherOne changes when would it take affect? Dove said probably next year. Seare said if students aren't engaged with this process it could cause a disrupt next year if problems arise. Brock said they already know email isn't the best way to reach students but they have two weeks to get this information out so they may need to email students. They can sit out in red square too. Seare said they did a video for the presidential search and that got some attention so they could try that again. They could do a Bullseye email too. If there was a Youtube component explaining what's going on, it may engage students more. KVIK could be used for that. Brock said as long as they follow through then that would be great. If they can work with KVIK that would be great too. Dove said it does say in the email "please note this can carry over into the next academic year" so it could be for next year too. Dove said he is thinking about a planning meeting. Brock said is everyone interested in helping out with this? Seare said a good idea for all of them to do, or whoever wants to. Also it would be good to have a one paged document that describes this for students to understand. That way they can delegate and each of them can do sections. Brock said they can schedule this to get it going. Ríos said on page 16 on the Consumer Report has a great summary. Were these documents sent by the university? Dove said no he found it. Ríos said wants to find out the other side. What's the university costs? It could be an indirect cost to students if it raises the cost on the university side. They need to get that information from the university. Brock said she will follow up with Kellow. Ríos said they have Bank of America on campus, if they change the bank would it disrupt other contracts which would then cost more? What about credit unions? If US Bank is really 0\$, as it says in the Consumer Report, what's the catch? They still have costs, who's getting those costs? Brock said they can get those. Dove said when they start the process they may give us that information. It would be worth getting information from WECU. They need a good security structure though and for being a smaller Credit Union they may not have it. Brock said she's asked about credit unions previously and she thinks it's because they don't have the capacity to do that. Seare said it would be great to have the best holistic view. Students may want to assess the banks ethical practices before making any decisions. Some of these corporations are investing in areas that students don't want to contribute to. But with two weeks make her feel like it's a curtesy and not really wanting their opinion. Palumbo said the final isn't within two weeks so there would be more time to get information out too. Rosenberg said if it's a big enough topic, perhaps they get Kellow at the next meeting and they can ask those questions. Dove said the deadline in two weeks is important. The board member will be involved in the evaluation afterwards too. Eckroth said they should get something ready for Sunday's Viking Lobby Day trainings about this too. Dove said what are they thinking, perhaps a feedback card they can get back? Eckroth said they are already doing that about the local agenda so it could work out well.

## B. Conference Funding Discussion

Seare said she has talked about this before but not formally. She was in a meeting and talked about this idea on how complicated it can be to get conference funding if a student is not part of the AS. She doesn't think they have anywhere on this campus, that is solely dedicated to going to conferences. She has talked to other students about it and they said they would utilize this. Every year students are paying over \$1000 in Services and Activities fees and for the AS holding most of those fee's, and not everyone is engaged in the AS. She think it would be great to have this. She was thinking it as a grant process by spring quarter and it could take longer than that. She is willing to do the work. She thinks they can get it done. She doesn't know where this money would be coming from just yet but they can figure that out. For example if they chose \$25,000 in a grant for next year that could be roughly 25 students a year going to conferences. That way Students can feel they are getting use out of their S and A fee. Eckroth said Seare should talk to him and Ríos because both of them have conference. They can help with the policy and structure. Ríos said \$14,000 of the Activities Council (AC) is dedicated to conferences but AC is for clubs. There is a soft limit which is \$150-700 for conference. Activities council use to be open to everyone when the budget was larger, and when budget restraints happened they limited it down to just clubs. He thinks Activities Council could be the body who oversees this. The \$14,000 budget usually gets used by mid spring quarter. Brock said was talking with Eric and they are predicting a lower number of students coming to Western next year so putting this into an Operating Budget would be hard because enrollment will be a lot less. Something like this could be a grant. They have a lot of money in reserves but grants usually becomes part of operational budget. Brock suggested that every year they can look during summer and they can decide on the amount on a year to year basis instead of a set amount. There is about \$750,000 in reserves for everything, not just unallocated but she will get that more concrete for next time and she will be bringing back to the reserve policy. Seare said she agrees. She wasn't thinking putting it in the operating budget right now because they don't know how successful this is going to be. Brock said they could do a trial for the rest of this year or next year. Eckroth said he agrees with trial. If they are going to have a more specific than the other conference funding options, they would want some good guidelines. They already have clubs specific and legislative specific conferences. Seare said they wont pass this for spring quarter and tell their close friends, they would do a lot of advertising to make sure if it gets passed this year, the student body knows about it. Last quarter someone asked for conference funding and during the meeting, they talked all about the policy and it caused stress on the student coming to ask for money. Brock said she likes \$25,000 amount. It could make sense having them come to the Board to get approval. It could have students come to the Board meetings more too. It could be first come first serve. It could be similar to Sustainable Action Fund (SAF). They would need good policy. Seare said this will come back as an information item next week and she wanted to get initial thoughts from them all and then have a presentation. Brock said they should talk to Raquel Wilson about this too. Seare said she will create a presentation for next week. Rosenberg said previously with AC there was an academic conference fund. How broad it is this conference going to be? At some point they will want to sit down with Raquel or her to talk about the support such as travel forms, purchasing, and reimbursement. Ríos said that's why he though Activities Council because they already interact with students going to conference every meeting, they get training on it and already support students on traveling.. Seare said she think it would be good to talk about Activities Council. They are trying to figure out if this funding would be

different as well. Palumbo said she would suggest not having it because AC is already too long of a meeting because they have the Large Event Opportunity fund. Seare said she was wanting to prioritize non AS employees too. Eckroth said they have one specifically for AS correct? Brock said yes. Palumbo said isn't it work related only though? Brock said it has to somehow benefit the organization or their work. Brock thinks the intention of this fund wouldn't be AS employees though. Palumbo said but it still could be used by AS employees who are not going for work purposes? Eckroth said they may want to look into a travel person specifically to help support this. Brock said perhaps a Viking Union (VU) hourly positions.

### **C. Space Discussion**

Seare said the rationale was not hers because she used a template and forgot to change that part. Seare wanted to talk about the Board Room Meeting Location Change. Seare said she wanted to get it in official format to have the discussion. There isn't many people at their Board meetings, if any. The work they are doing, like today changes the way students get refunds, how they are going to use student dollars, opportunity for conferences, is important to students and it needs to be more accessible. They need to change their process of Board meetings. She does recognize that the VU is the AS's Hub, but they need to be more active on campus and be seen on campus. They all supported the meeting up on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. The location did something different. It makes them think differently on how they interact with students. It can be so quick to get into a routine. Its winter quarter and there is more of a force to keep doing what they are doing. It's important to talk about fiscal impacts. There would be set up costs and technology costs by changing the room location. Brock said they have Operating and Enhancement fund which could help and it would make sense to use that budget. It would be a good fit, if the money is there, they wouldn't be able to use that amount later because it all rolls into reserves. Seare said they know the spaces on campus. Some idea that came up would be the Recreation Center, Miller Hall Collaborative Space, and the Library. She could see no one coming to them too. Brock said they would at least walk by and hear. Seare said it's multifaceted for sure but she wanted to bring it up. This is a good opportunity for it too because February 5<sup>th</sup> the Board needs to be in another room. Dove said it is a multifaceted conversation. There is a lot of reasons why they wouldn't come. Seare said yes. Maybe a work session could help discuss some of those issues. Brock said let's just do it. Ríos said likes the idea of February 5<sup>th</sup> but if the cost is \$80 per week that's equivalent to a students going to a conference. He would like to not meet where students studying as well. Seare said right outside Zeo's in the Library could be another option. Rosenberg said what about the ESC lounge? Seare said that's even more away from other students. Eckroth said they could chose specific topics like seeing the budgets. Seare said they can put all effort into getting it known. They can say three meetings and then do an assessment. Brock said respect what Ríos said and the benefits of having it could be there, and yes maybe not every single meeting. Because she doesn't want to interrupt students as well, she is leaning away from the library. Martin said they aren't intimidated but the Board meetings are definitely structured which can be off putting. Brock said that's good to hear. Martin said some of the meetings are dry. If they were about subject that could get attention, he could see it as being beneficial. Seare said they can get the Western Front to put it out advertisements for it. Martin said they should start talking to the Hall Councils too.

**III. ACTION ITEMS - Guests\***

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

**VI. ACTION ITEMS - Board\***

**A. Sustainable Action Fund Task Force Recommendations**

Palumbo said they saw this last week. This is the recommendation from the taskforce. She will give a brief overview of the recommendations. The committee wants to make recommendations to the AS Board of Directors regarding the Sustainable Action Fund (SAF) operational, programmatic, and budgetary guidelines. First recommendation is to let SAF decide the best option after conducting further research of options of the 100% offset of carbon emissions. The second is the three student positions. The last recommendation is the programmatic and operational changes. Right now small and large grants, small grants are under \$5,000 and large is anything above \$5,000. And they are wanting it to go to a three tier system. This would be allowing the SAF committee to work with the office of sustainability to determine supporting documents and any changes to the rules and operation or charge and charter which would go to the AS Board of Directors. Palumbo said let's not pass the ESP Marketing Job Description this week because it still needs to be approved by Personnel Committee. She also wanted to remind them they talked about possibly stopping projects and she wanted to update them that they will accept projects it just won't be advertising as much for a quarter.

**MOTION: ASB-16-W-5** by Palumbo

Approve the SAF Recommendations Except the New ESP Marketing Positions.

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

**VII. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board\***

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

**A. Committee Appointments**

**AS Student Trustee Selection Committee**

A Blyth Marginalized Identities: Empowerment through Law and Education Junior

**Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee**

A Blyth Marginalized Identities: Empowerment through Law and Education Junior

**Election Board**

George Vadino Political Science Junior

**Services and Activities Fee Committee**

Julianna Jackson Political Science Sophomore

**Student Technology Fee Committee**

Megan Broadie Business Junior

**Diversity Achievement Award Committee**

Jenifer Becerril Pacheco Spanish and Biology Sophomore

**Parking Appeals Board**

George Vadino Political Science Junior

**Peter J. Elich Excellence in Teaching Award**

Abigail Miracle Sociology Senior

**Services and Activities Fee Committee**

Joaquin V Torre Law, Diversity and Justice Senior

**Teacher Cirricula and Certification Council**

Emily Joy English Freshman

**Carl H. Simpson Bridging Award Committee**

Emily Joy English Freshman

**Legislative Affairs Council**

Emma Bigongiari Undeclared Freshman  
Nora Selander Political Science Junior

**Gender Neutral Facility Guidelines Advisory Committee**

A Blyth Marginalized Identities: Empowerment through Law and Education Junior

*MOTION: ASB-16-W-6* by Palumbo

Approve the Committee Appointments

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

**IX. BOARD REPORTS**

**Belina Seare, AS President** did not give a report

**Zach Dove, VP for Academic Affairs** reported that Faculty Senate voted down a grade replacement policy for repeating classes. Currently all grades will be average. Most others universities have the policy that if students repeat a course the last grade is calculated. They voted it down mostly on the course repeat policy not the grade repeat policy. They don't know what will happen now. Academic Coordinating Commission (ACC) will get the policy back and they are really busy now because they have course revisions they are seeing now. There were also jabs at the cultural generation in the 90's the WWU populations saying students think they can redo a course but not redo a weekend. They said that about their generation. Seare said she is glad this is on the record. Dove said if anyone wants to show up at the Faculty Senate they should. It is in Old Main (OM) 340 next Monday 4pm. University Planning and Resource Council (UPRC) are seeing which capital budget projects should be prioritized, due to the decrease in the states capital budget. They said WWU will receive one

capital projects every two years which isn't good because 73% of their square footage is over 25 years old and needs renovation. There are lots of buildings that need extremely major work done. First year experience and Academic Advising Orientation is looking for feedback. They have been good about sending information out prior and going over a good amount of it. Then again after an online module and they want feedback on areas of that on areas that don't need to be discussed as much.

**Patrick Eckroth, VP for Governmental Affairs** reported that Viking Lobby Day (VLD) is basically done. They have 120 meetings out of 147 legislator's and 102 student attendees. They also got 15 minutes with Governor Inslee as well. They will be talking about the Supplemental Operation Budget to help fix lack of funding of the University Operational Budget. Currently it doesn't have anything for the part of the student success which is part of their agenda. They have room for up to 20 students to attend that meeting. Big thanks to Joe Timmonds. In the Legislative Affairs Council (LAC) they are working on Environmental Lobby day and there are three main agenda items. The United States Student Association (USSA) has their January Board of Directors meeting the 30<sup>th</sup> of January. National student power submit is coming up too and they are working on the Budget and how many people they can send. Washington Student Association is having their Board of Directors meeting the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> at Evergreen State College. They are wanting to bring 14 people.

**Hannah Brock, VP for Business and Operations** reported that she is excited for VLD. Thank you Palumbo for taking over Structural Review Committee later that day. They have made a lot of progress. They are almost finished with the learning stage. They are now talking about the student senate. They are looking at the other AS structures specifically University of Washington and Oregon State University. Personnel Committee met and employee evaluations are coming out today or Tuesday. The Personnel Director will be sending out a survey about mid quarter training and what they need from staff development. Seare asked if it is anonymous. Brock said yes, it will only be reviewed by the Personnel office and the Personnel Committee. Ramos had suggested saying themes that came up. Brock said Budget Committee extended the deadline for base budgets. Base budgets are needed today. Any increase put that in the decision package due next Friday. Less than 10 budgets haven't been submitted.

**Israel Ríos VP for Activities** reported that AC approved a new club. They saw six large event opportunity request totaling \$45,000 but they only have \$25,000. But they rejected Disability Outreach Center's Museum on Wheels because it was the most expensive and they wouldn't be able to approve the other five requests if they approved theirs. They also said that if they didn't get the full amount they couldn't have the event, so it was sad to have to decline that request. They are still going to see how it goes next week. Elections Advisory Committee and looking at the election code and they are doing revisions if any of them have recommendations let him know. Communications Committee met and talked about the AS website. They ruled out a complete remodel because it would be too expensive. The Communications Director sent out a survey to see what they want to see on their part of the website. They are working on the AS budget site as well. If they have any specific thoughts about the Board page, let him know. Next week Tig Notaro will be there January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Emma Palumbo VP for Student Life** reported that the Gender Neutral Advisory Facilities Guidelines Committee is a committee which will be giving recommendation in March about restrooms on campus. There are four student positions on this committee and she sent an email about expediting it. They are moving through this really quickly. They need more students to apply. She knows of some who are interested and just need to apply. They started with two positions they got two more positions added. Last week in SAF they approved a self-powering bike for the Recreation Center. They also saw projects on outdoor refill stations for water bottle. She got to meet with Senator

Murray again to follow up about the conversation about sexual assault on campus and they met last Monday. She thinks it went pretty good although it didn't feel as productive but there was more people in the room. She plans on setting up a meeting again.

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Belina Seare, AS President, adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m.*