

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

Thursday, April 13, 2017 VU 567

**AS Board Officers:** *Present:* Stephanie Cheng (President), Erick Yanzon (VP Academic Affairs), Alex LaVallee (VP for Activities), Aleyda Cervantes (VP for Diversity), Bryce Hammer (VP Governmental Affairs), and Wayne Rocque (VP for Student Life).

**Guest(s):**

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

**MOTIONS**

- ASB-17-S-7** Approval of the fiscal year 2018 budget fee proposal including a 2 dollar per quarter Increase. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-8** Approval of the AS review assessment suspension. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-9** Approval of the housing and dining system 2017 proposed rates. *Failed.*
- ASB-17-S-10** Approval to move the ASWWU constitution from an info item to an action item. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-11** Approval of the ASWWU constitution. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-12** Approval to move the Washington Students Association Memorandum of Understanding from info item to an Action item. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-13** Approval of the Washington Students Association Memorandum of Understanding. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-14** Approval to move the Resolution for Residence Life from info item to action item. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-15** Approval of the Resolution for Residence Life. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-16** Approval to move the AS Board letter of support with grammatical edits from Info Item to action item. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-17** Approval of the AS Board letter of support with grammatical edits. *Passed.*
- ASB-17-S-18** Approval of all consent items. *Passed.*

*Stephanie Cheng, AS President, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.*

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

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

Residence Hall Association and National Residence Hall Honorary wanted to be present at the meeting.

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

### **A. Mental Health, Suicide, Ideation- Mandated Counselling**

Rocque said that many people had come to him with concerns about the health and safety standards within the residence halls. A lot of residences said that there have been large inconsistencies in what people know that they are signing and doing. There is a care report that goes out that is going to be very serious and often times it puts RA's in a difficult spot because at that time, they do not know what to do with the resident and they have not been properly trained on how to handle the situation. There have been many inconsistencies associated with the assessment and engaging with this process has taught them not to ask for help. This encourages the lack of response to mental health incidences. Hammer asked if Resident Director's give a proper rundown to residences so that they understand what they are signing. Rocque responded that some Resident Director's do and that some do not. Leonard Jones said that because of the confidentiality of students and their mental health situations there are outside training programs for students. He said that it is not the job of housing staff to make assessments on these situations. Rocque said that this would be an info item next week as well.

### **B. Disability Outreach Center Targeted Event**

Cervantes said that the event is specifically for people with disabilities. There will be quite a lot of volunteers that will be helping. Each person will get a 30 minutes session one on one. She is collaborating with the outdoors center as well as the large opportunity fund. She said that they are trying to get the message out there that this opportunity is open to folks—there are issues with confidentiality that they cannot target people for publicity. They are reaching out to westerns communications office to see if they can advertise it on their Facebook as well as Stacey in the Associated Students communications office.

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

### **A. Viking Union Budget and Fee**

Cervantes said that they are replacing the alarming system within the Viking Union, which will give students access to different parts of the Union Center when it is open 24 hours. They will also be increasing the wages of their employees—there has been a conversation about moving costs and moving the Resource and Outreach Programs. Hammer asked what the increase to the non-academic building fee. Alexander said that the fee is something that is charged to all students, it is mainly built to pay off the loan debt of the original construction of the union, and then there are additional costs that go to the upkeep of the facility. He said that they are tied within the bond pool of university housing. Cervantes said that the Viking Union is a small building compared to the student population so as we go into the Ethnic Student Center creation there will be more space created.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-7** by Cervantes

Approve the fiscal year 2018 budget fee proposal including a 2 dollar per quarter increase.

Second: Hammer. Vote: 4-0-1 Action: **Passed.**

### **B. AS Review Assessment Suspension**

**(5 Minutes) Doc. 4 Moeller**

Rocque asked what was wrong with the old version of the assessment review. Cheng said that it may be because of what happened with the communications office. Houck said that Emma would be meeting with the board members to let them know.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-8** by Hammer

Approve the AS Review Assessment Suspension.

Second: Cervantes. Vote: 4-0-1 Action: *Passed*.

### **C. Housing and Dining Fee Proposal**

Rocque said thank you for breaking down some of the questions that the Board had had. Willis asked if there were any more questions that the Board had. Rocque asked how the FCA was looking so far. Willis responded that the FCA looks at all of the different resources provided within their facilities. He said that there will be consultant work done by the end of June to make sure that there will be reports provided by June. Hones said that he will be developing a plan in order to make sure that the rooms are qualified. Rocque asked if there were any immediate, needs or long-term goals discussed. Jones said that there is a ranking and priority list within the university and residence halls is just one priority among many regarding the residence halls. Rocque asked if there was a reason why information was not available for Higginson and highland. Willis said that the assignments team has a good handle on the requests and so if after a certain point in time something in Higginson is not available they are able to work around things. He said that he did not anticipate any space demand issues. Rocque said that he was happy that there was more gender neutral housing expanding among campus—he asked if it was required that those spaces be filled up irrespective. Jones said that they make up an assignment of students regardless of their gender, and that the sweet becomes designated as gender neutral. Rocque said that he doesn't want students who want gender inclusive housing to be locked out of the process because the rooms have already been filled up by folks for the sake of being filled up. Jones said that his question really focusses on demand and that if there are students who demand those types of housing they create space for them, but that they are making those adjustments throughout the year. Cheng asked what the follow-up care process looks like in gender-neutral housing. Willis said that this is for that if any student has a roommate issue or a personal issue than they the Resident Assistant's, Assistant Directors, etc. it provides a process for them to follow to check in on their students. Hammer asked why there is no preference given to gender-neutral issues in relevance to other issues. Willis said that this was said because they have not yet identified a separate process. Willis said that he thought that there was now an option for students to choose a non-gender binary option when registering. Rocque said that he is glad that there are steps being taken, but that a lot of the problems extend beyond the structural things so they should continue to look at it. Hammer asked how seriously the Board of Trustees takes the AS boards considerations. Alexander said that he could not say how seriously the board would take it. Hammer asked if the board were to vote more, if it would be justified. Rocque said that he felt it was appropriate to increase the fee if students would be assured that their need would be met because right now there are specific vulnerable populations whose needs are not being met. Houck said that in previous years when they have brought the budget, there have been statements that have been provided to be read off at the board of trustees meeting. Cheng said that they need to vote today because the meeting is due next Thursday. Cervantes said that she is concerned with number 2 because it is so hard to get RA's the resources that they need. Jones said that a lot of times there are too many people going into offices and that it is their job to service the individual students. He said that the housing system, because they do not receive state funds, should work with Equal Opportunity Office, who has the overall responsibility in order to look at specific issues and questions. Jones said that he thinks it is important to realize that there are always going to be things that delay projects and that they

need to look at the safety, the security and the accessibility issues. He said that DisAbility Resources for Students is designed to help individual students. Rocque said that to be frank that this information was not at the forefront, but he is glad that the questions have been answered. Cheng said that she would like to move it to a vote.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-9** by Rocque

Approve the housing and dining system 2017 proposed rates.

Second: Hammer. Vote: 0-2-3 Action: **Failed**.

Cervantes said that there are many different types of disabilities within residence halls that need to be responded to and handled. Jones asked Rocque if they could meet again and talk specifically about the fee proposal.

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

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

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

#### **A. ASWWU Constitution**

Hammer asked that they move the item to action today with the knowledge that there are going to be some grammatical errors that may need to be amended. Hammer said that undeclared and general students are going to fall into the same two majors. She said that if someone shifts their major then they would finish out the year in the major that they started in, but if they want to run again then they would have to run in their new major.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-10** by Hammer to move the ASWWU constitution from an info item to an action item. Second: Cervantes. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: **Passed**.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-11** by Hammer to approve the ASWWU constitution.

Second: Cervantes. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: **Passed**.

#### **B. Washington Student Association MOU**

Hammer said that Elissa Goss is leaving. She said that in the past couple of years a couple of the schools have had inconsistent funding, including UW. This is because they have to get the fee renewed every three years in order to continue and in that process collect 8,000 signatures. Hammer said that they are going to be writing a memorandum of understanding that state that WWU will not pull out of submitting their fees.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-12** by Hammer

Approve to move the Washington Students Association Memorandum of Understanding from info item to action item.

Second: Yanzon. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: **Passed**.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-13** by Hammer

Approve the Washington Students Association Memorandum of Understanding.

Second: Rocque. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: **Passed**.

#### **C. Federal Lobby Day Agenda**

Rocque said that he liked that it recognizes that we have students who are international that need to be more incorporated into experiencing the University. Hammer said that there might also be a part for undocumented students. She said that Legislative Affairs Council is looking to expand resources to students. They have added enhancement of our communities because the federal government is threatening to end AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps Vista, and the Department of Education. Hammer said that when it comes to dedicating funding to the border institute and the environmental institute it is not even worth including.

#### **D. Resolution for ResLife**

Hammer said that it was in conjunction with Rocque's report. Hammer said that she and Rocque had been working with Resident Assistant's in particular. They have listed a full list of demands and this resolution is mirroring the things that they have demanded. These demands insure compensation, security, equity, justice, training, personnel and communications. She said that they are urging the universities to include students on a significant level. Residents Hall Association said that they felt that there was an oversight or lack of inclusion between the Residence directors and with the Associations. Hammer asked to what extent the Residents Hall Association has autonomy from their advisors. The student responded that their advisors give them freedom and that their job is to represent the students. Hammer asked why Residence Hall Association members are allowed to be members when they have not ever been Residence Hall Association. Hammer asked if they had any involvement regarding the development of procedures and policies surrounding Residence Life. The student said that there is direct communication and contact with Administration. Rocque said that they started the year talking about accessibility and resources for non-binary identities and that they are still having those conversations and he is wondering why there has not been any movement. Alexander said that maybe the Board should work with Residence Hall Association on these issues before it is approved. Rocque said that if the occurrences that happened within the residence halls happened within the AS then it would violate every one of their constitutions. Therefore, they decided that they would work with the Residence Hall Association at a further time but they would not be working on the resolution with the Residence Hall Association. Hammer said that when the new structure goes through, they should give the VP some way to deal with the issues.

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-14** by Rocque

Approve to move the Resolution for Res Life from info item to action item.

Second: Cheng. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: **Passed.**

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-15** by Rocque

Approve the Resolution for Res Life.

Second: Cervantes. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: **Passed.**

#### **E. AS Board Letter of Support**

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-16** by Rocque

Approve to move the AS Board letter of support with grammatical edits from info item to action item.

Second: Yanzon. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: **Passed.**

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-17** by Rocque

Approve the AS Board letter of support with grammatical edits.

Second: Hammer. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: **Passed.**

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

### AS Budget Committee:

Jose Rios-Sanchez    Senior            Accounting and Business Administration

### AS Student Trustee Selection Committee:

Ella Ordon            Senior            Computer Science

Phillip Wu Liang    Junior            Computer Science

### AS Sustainable Action Fund Committee:

Jose Rios-Sanchez    Senior            Accounting and Business Administration

### Recruitment, Admissions, and Support Committee

Cody Daubel            Freshman        Political Science

**MOTION: ASB-17-S-18** by Rocque to approve all consent items.

Second: Yanzon. Vote: 5-0-0 Action: **Passed.**

## **X. BOARD REPORTS**

**Stephanie Cheng, AS President** reported she had a meeting with Eileen yesterday and she talked to them about the ethics of approving the Associated Students salaries. The Board of Trustees delegate the power out to the Budget Advisory Committees and then is decided by the Board of Trustees. Stephanie said that if there were anything that they would like her to bring up at the board of trustees meeting then they would need to bring it up now. Houck said she wants to know what they wanted to do with the Inauguration event. Hammer said that she wanted it to include a time for the entire Board to sit down with the entire new board to talk about what the next year will look like.

**Erick Yanzon, VP for Academic Affairs** reported that they met with the faculty senate restructuring committee to talk about the restructure. They also talked to Kristen Larsen and Lizzy to talk about how faculty senate can support that. They are looking to write some kind of proposal for all of the recommendations. He is also working with Brent to talk about how they can increase student representation in standing committees. He said that next week they would have an info item for a resolution talking about transparency.

**Bryce Hammer, VP for Governmental Affairs** reported that Washington Student Association is this weekend in Tri-cities and that they will be doing nominations for the Washington Student Association board positions so if they know anyone who wants to run then they should let Hammer know. Hammer said that they would be getting two new staff members at a time a year from now. Hammer said that she would be addressing the people who put the budget together. She said that structure review is almost done and that she will be talking to staff about it next year. She said she also wanted to talk about the order of succession with the new Board. She said that they extended the disabilities task force for the following year as well as a standardized task force. She said that they will have to wait to see budget adjustments and that this may happen in extra session. Hammer said that they are also looking to get S&A fee decoupling into a proposal. She said that the federal lobby trip will be the week after elections and that her and Stephanie will be going. She also said that from 7 to 9 PM the Residence Halls will be hosting the event. She also said that they are starting to put together voter registration for next fall.

**Aleyda Cervantes, VP for Diversity** reported that steering was great. Nash is having a salmon and fried rice sale right now and that they should all support because they are providing funding for the a trip. She said that this Sunday there was a workshop around building unity. In addition, that one of the biggest concerns was the couches and that one of the biggest discussions was the welcome desk. Cervantes said that hopefully she could do some work with the rest of the board members so that they can do some more talk about the multicultural center and what it's going to look like. Cervantes said that it is important for the Board to have conversations with the committees and offices that the Board members oversee in order to stop racism, sexism and more in order to end the box that those things have been put in.

**Alex LaVallee VP for Activities** reported that we have the new clubs intersect tech, which examines the intersection of technology and morality, permit core, which all about informed permit culture design, or next level gardening, and the league of political economy for the majors of philosophy, political science and economics Departmentally Related Activities Council (DRAC). He then reported that he is almost sure that he almost has a student for the student enhancement fund.

**Wayne Rocque VP for Student Life** reported that he has received a lot of support for having menstrual products within the Viking Union. He said that he has been slowly trying to assess the needs of the campus so that they can find that data. He has worked with the queer center, the resource center, as well as the woman's center to make sure that everything is on track.

## **XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Stephanie Cheng, AS President, adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.*