

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

Thursday, May 4th, 2017 VU 462B

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

**Guest(s):** Western Front employee. Students for Renewable Energy Representation.

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

## MOTIONS

**ASB-17-S-29** Approval of the AS Board minutes from April 20<sup>th</sup> 2017 and April 27<sup>th</sup> 2017. *Passed.*

**ASB-17-S-30** Approval of the 2017 AS Elections Results. *Passed.*

*Stephanie Cheng, AS President, called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.*

### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** *ASB-17-S-29* by Cheng.

Approval of the minutes.

Second: Yanzon. Vote: 7-0-0. Action: *Passed.*

### II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

### IV. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests\*

#### A. AS Budget Recommendations

They went into looking at the budget committee proposal. Moeller gave the guest speaker further appreciation. She said that the budget had been expedited. The philosophical structure concerns budget authorities and estimates. The reason the budget committee was expedited was because then it could be reviewed prior to the passing of the S&A fee. She said that they looked over the budget proposals for completeness. Hammer asked why they did not establish a budget proposal recommendation, Moeller replied that had another priority, which was minimum wage, and that it took precedent. LaVallee asked for clarification on the relatedness of the budget and the S&A fee budget. They said that that the budgets were different. Hammer felt like it was too late for them to weigh in on the S&A fee. Moeller said that it would be something to bring back next year and she definitely sees the utility. Alexander added that they did have a conversation in November where they asked for a list of priority and that there was not one put forth. The hope was that this would become before the S&A fee but because of weather and timing it didn't happen. Business Committee reviewed this for completeness, budget committee reviewed it for changes and now Maria is making the recommendation to the AS Board. There is approximately \$185,000 increase compared to last

year. She went over where all of the money is being distributed. The salary increases were based on the salary determination policy which was approved by the AS Board. The event increase was based on the minimum wage increase. They unanimously voted to defund the New York Times funding. The ROP professional staff provision was discontinued. They used decreased money to donate to the increased opportunity fund. They then looked at decision packages and AS Grants Recommended for operationalization. She discussed all of the different things that they are going to be funding per the decision package. The challenges include employee turnover, attention to detail, and feedback. Cervantes said that she missed the deadline but that she would like to increase it. She went over all of the things that she did this quarter and the events she held. She is asking for a budget increase of 1900. Alexander said that they could either do a grant proposal or increase the budget. Cheng said that the board discretionary fund is underused and that they could move some of that to the ASVP for Diversity Budget. Hammer asked what the workers rights consortium. She said that it was in support of fair trade. Yanzons next question was about Orgsync. They said that the funding for Orgsync was going to be a grant. Cervantes said that they were wondering how they would decide what to do. Alexander said that the decision to operationalize a grant happens after the last year. Alexander said that the policy states that no more than 50,000. Moeller said that this year they are going to have a hard time cutting fees for summer events. They asked what the board can do to provide a framework so that questions are asked consistently by the Budget Committee. The New York Times funding is perceived as unimportant to students and that students don't need it. Hammer asked why we are letting students lead the discussion. Hammer said that the online resource is used extensively. Moeller acknowledged that students have spoken up for years students have been trying to defund this. Hammer said that in the current source of information is incredibly important. Hammer said that the funding for the New York Times is extremely important because it give access to information that students otherwise can not get. Moeller said that although it does help a few students, around 200 in person copies and 400 on campus. Cheng said that in the interest of time they would rap the conversation up. Lastly, Hammer asked about the budget increase for KVIK.

### **Outdoor Center Hiring Update**

The Outdoor Center representative came and gave updates to board about what they have been doing to fulfill state mandated training and what they have been doing to fill the outdoor center policies. They have also been working to get more feedback from the trainees and are working towards certified training down the road. They went on a few excursions including a white water rafting trip which they said was a success. They also said that they got a lot of applicants for trip leaders this year, 63 applicants, and selected 32 of them for interviews, hiring 15 of them in the end. This created a greater sense of self for the leaders and provided them with more connectedness to the Western community and giving them technical skills. He said that their goal was to use trip leaders who were diverse in technical skills and background. He then went into all of the events that they are going to be holding for the rest of the year. He said that this coming weekend they will be having OC policies and training. He also said that they will be going out to ViQueen soon. Cervantes asked for the demographics of the outdoor center and asked if they are working to make the hiring more accessible to people of different backgrounds, not just able white males. He said that he would get back to her with that research because he could not fully answer the question. The other management council budget was decreased by half instead of being illuminated entirely because they recognized the intense need for te budget reduction. Moeller said that the budget might be going unspent. They went over questions from the board and suggestions for budget changes. Alexander suggested the board work through Maria to address concerns and suggestions on what they want the budget to look like. He said that it wouldn't be a group meeting unless the board wanted something else. Yanzon said that they should just operate both. They said that they would talk about it later after reviewing minutes. Moeller said that they talked about the budget proposal and that they were looking at things that they wanted before changing anything behind their backs. There has been buy in from all of the

relevant stakeholders. Yanzon said that starting with the grant the salary of the board assistant for academic affairs he asked what the future of the position and what it looked like would entail. Moeller said that they put a lot of recommendations in from grants. It was stated that the unused money would then feed into the AS reserves and that the AS reserves has a cascading policy on where the money goes.

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

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

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

**A. Sustainable Investing Resolution**

Rocque said that last week they had a long conversation about sustainable investing. They talked about what divestment is and what divestment would mean at western. They said in previously years there have been aggressive approaches to making the foundation change to divestment, but they have now turned to focusing on opportunity building instead. They said that they have had the opportunity to present to the Foundation Board on May 19<sup>th</sup> and that they are wanting to pass the resolution in order to present it and show that the AS Board support sustainable divesting. They said that they are going to focus a lot on why they care about it and why the students support it. They then talked about how they could potential expand on the AS's new relationship with the foundation. Rocque asked if they could center the conversation on sustainable divestment and center the change around the fact that it is something new. They decided that they needed more documents and that they would move it to action next week.

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

**A. University Housing Representation and Advocacy Committee**

They discussed the proposal for the University Housing Representation and Advocacy committee. LaValle said that he found some grammar mistakes. He also said that they could change it to helping students in training off campus. LaValle asked if all of the requests are supposed to be coming from outside of the committee or if this committee is planning for the events and would be in charge of it. Rocque said that the people in the committee would not be committed in the programing but it would be RA centered. The committee would not be doing the planning but the would provide the funds and planning for the people doing the planning. They can used advocacy tools and advisement to work with other groups.

**B. Rules of Operations**

**C. Scent Free Zone Signs**

Moeller said that this still needs to go through a review process. She showed the Board the designs and talked about. Yanzon asked where this would be going. Everyone on the board approved of the signs.

#### **D. AS Inauguration Event Funding Proposal**

They then went over the inauguration event funding proposal. They talked about what they did last year and how inauguration went. The said that they are asking for the funding to be taken out of operations and enhancement.

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

#### **A. Election Results**

Hammer talked about the AS elections. The voter turnout this year was 16%. She went over the people that will be taking over the new positions. They then looked at all of the funding spent.

*MOTION: ASB-17-S-30* by Hammer.

Approval of the Elections Results.

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

### **X. BOARD REPORTS**

**Stephanie Cheng, AS President** said that they sent three finalists to the governor. There were three applicants total. She said that back to Bellingham is coming up and that previously in the past the board has been there.

**Bryce Hammer, VP for Governmental Affairs** said that they went on the Federal Lobby trip, met with the department of education and the department of state. She said that there is not a lot coming out of the department of education but there is an opportunity to organize around debt service. She said that they can organize around that but they are unsure about how much students care about input. She said that the GOP healthcare bill passed the house but will likely die in the senate. Washington Student Association (WSA) proposals were due on the first, so if they have anything that would like to see WSA work on next weekend then they would like them to be there. She said that they need to change the AS elections coordinator position because there will be a student senate running next year as well as the elections board.

**Yanzon said that** he met with Lisa Rosenberg and Octavia Schultz about the resolution for Academic Shared Governance. He said that for University Planning and Resource Council (UPRC) they are still looking at position packages and that that will be happening soon.

**Aleyda Cervantes, VP for Diversity** said that everything was approved through ESC Steering and they have an extra \$3,000 grant. Cervantes said that she wants to have a celebratory meeting for the committees she serves on with food. She also said that they are going to have a meeting with the new multicultural center and that they are going to be working together to make that transition more smooth. She said that she wants to work with the ESC to make sure that all of the concerns about where the project is going are addressed. Another part of the multicultural services project does not currently have any interaction with students. She said that tomorrow they have Angela Davis to the main stage. Cervantes said that there will be a free event and a poetry night. ACC is having their heritage dinner on Saturday and the entire ESC is going to Lakewood on Saturday. There was an incident on Tuesday with boarder patrol—they said that they were not working but they were still in full gear. They said that it was insensitive and that when she told the person hosting them that then they got excluded. She said that even though the men weren't working they were still in full gear. She said that the Canadian students have a house so that they should have those events on campus, especially because the WWU President said that it was not allowed. She said that they will having a breakfast. She said that when you use the worlds diversity, generalized and equity you need to be

Careful because as a board they need to have that kind of a conversation. She said that they need to have a good understanding of what it means to be in solidarity with students on campus.

**Alex LaVallee, VP for Activities** introduced two new clubs, a pre-law club and the national organization for rehabilitation counseling. He said that he is going to the rec center advisory committee at 4:00 PM and the rec fee will be voted on soon.

**Wayne Rocque, VP for Student Life** said that he has recently been in contact with Eileen Coughlin Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services about the Residence Hall situation but that none of the information has been properly reported. He said that no staff have been interviewed during the process. He said that he did not think that the results were going to be accurate of what the situation entails. He said that he did not know what was going on but that it is all fishy. Rocque said that he is going to meeting with the investigator to tell them who to talk to.

## **XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Aleyda Cervantes, AS VP for Diversity adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.*

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