Western Washington University Associated Students
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 19, 2010
VU 567

AS Board Officers: Present: Matt Jarrell (President), Virgilio Cintron (VP Bus Ops), Ramon Rinonos-Diaz (VP Academics), Colin Watrin (VP Activities), Bernard Ikegwuoha (VP Diversity), Morgan Holmgren (VP Governmental Affairs) and Mike Pond (VP Student Life)

Advisor(s): Ted Pratt, Dean of Students

AS Student Senate Rep: Anne Jansen, Student Senate Chair


Motions:

ASB-10-S-36 Approval of the minutes of Wednesday, May 12, 2010. Passed

ASB-10-S-37 Approve the Personnel Office Assistant Job Description as stated in Doc. 3. Passed

ASB-10-S-38 Approve the AS Salary Changes as stated in Doc. 4. Passed

ASB-10-S-39 Eliminate the Legislative Action Fund Committee and revoke its charter, which was passed as Board Motion ASB-09-SUM-19. Passed

ASB-10-S-40 Approve the Legislative Affairs Council Charge & Charter in Doc. 5 with stated changes. Passed

ASB-10-S-41 Table the AS Club Recognition Policy as stated in Doc. 6. Passed

ASB-10-S-42 Recommend to the Trustees a Green Energy Fee at an amount of NTE $.70 per credit per quarter up to $7 for fiscal year 2011 with the stipulation that, with the exception of REC purchases, no funds be spent until the finalized process for allocating funds has been approved by both the AS Board of Directors and the Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs; and the stipulation that a finalized timeline and a charter for the committee or task force charged with developing the process be brought to the AS Board by the end of spring quarter; and the stipulation that the reserves may be spent on the Green Energy program. Passed

ASB-10-S-43 Ratify 2010-2011 AS Board of Directors as stated in Consent Item A. (President - Colin Watrin, AS VP for Business and Operations - Benjamin Brockman, AS VP for Academic Affairs - Ramon Rinonos-Diaz, AS VP for Activities - Alisha Beck, AS VP for Diversity - Bernard Ikegwuoha, AS VP for Governmental Affairs - Byron Starkey, AS VP for Student Life - Jamin Agosti. The Green Fee passed with 2433 votes, or 80.56%.) Passed

Matt Jarrell, AS President, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION ASB-10-W-36 by Cintron
Approval of the minutes of Wednesday, May 12, 2010.
Second: Holmgren Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed
II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA- Removal of Info Items Guest A until next week because the Business Director has been out sick. There will be a work session Tuesday about the AS Budget.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT- Facilities & Services Council approved a request from the Child Development Center to lower the required parent volunteer hours from 22 hours to 12 hours for next year they also increased the amount that childcare that needs to be used from 22 to 24 hours to offset the cost. They are hoping this will zero out their budget for next year.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM (comments from students and the community)

V. INFORMATION ITEMS - Guests
   B. Student Senate Charge & Charter Holmgren Doc. 2
      Anne Jansen, AS Student Senate Chair said that they reworked the document to be more consistent with what is currently used in the AS. They also changed the way that the Senate Chair is chosen, as they are now subject to AS Hiring Policies. Holmgren said that if the Board wanted to change anything in this document it would need to go back to the Student Senate for approval. Rinonos-Diaz said that in terms of coordination with the organization the VP for Academic Affairs should be included in the Charter because it is in that job description. This item will be an Action Item next week.

VI. ACTION ITEMS - Guests

VII. PERSONNEL ITEMS (subject to immediate action)
   A. Personnel Office Assistant Job Description Cintron Doc. 3
      Brian Conner, AS Personnel Director is requesting an increase in the hourly pay of the AS Personnel Office Assistant to $9.25 from $8.85 because they have a higher level of responsibility than basic admin functions and he feels the pay should reflect this.

      MOTION ASB-10-W-37 by Cintron
      Approve the Personnel Office Assistant Job Description as stated in Doc. 3.
      Second: Ikegwuoha Vote: 7-0-0 Action: Passed

B. AS Salary Changes Cintron Doc. 4
   Cintron has four positions that need the amounts of their salary changed. The two Assistant Director’s are currently being paid less than a Coordinator; this proposal would raise their salary to a rate proportionate to their responsibilities. KVIK Coordinator increased the hours through the Triennial Assessment Program to 19 hours. The Equipment Shop Coordinator was changed through TAP to a four quarter position.

      MOTION ASB-10-W-38 by Ikegwuoha
      Approve the AS Salary Changes as stated in Doc. 4.
      Second: Cintron Vote: 7-0-0 Action: Passed

VIII. ACTION ITEMS- Board
   A. Legislative Affairs Council Charge & Charter Holmgren Doc. 5
      Holmgren said that he feels that they need to first eliminate the Legislative Action Fund because they are now giving their duties to the Legislative Affairs Council. The only changes are the ones to delete “on policy decisions” and change the date to May 2010.

      MOTION ASB-10-W-39 by Holmgren
      Eliminate the Legislative Action Fund Committee and to revoke its charter, which was passed as Board Motion ASB-09-SUM-19.
      Second: Cintron Vote: 7-0-0 Action: Passed
MOTION ASB-10-W-40 by Holmgren
Approve the Legislative Affairs Council Charge & Charter in Doc. 5 with stated changes.
Second: Ikegwuoha Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

B. Club Recognition Policy
Watrin Doc. 6
Watrin said that Activities Council agrees with the changes and the spirit behind the changes.
This week he included the template for the Constitution. Ikegwuoha feels that they should not vote on this today because he would like Ethnic Student Center Steering on Tuesday.

MOTION ASB-10-W-41 by Ikegwuoha
Table the AS Club Recognition Policy as stated in Doc. 6.
Second: Watrin Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

C. Green Energy Fee Task Force Recommendation
Jarrell said that once a motion is placed on the table, he will open up discussion to the audience. Pond presented a list of schools from the Board of Trustees approved peer list. Next in the document is a list of potential projects that have been circulating around campus. It is just a sample; nothing has been approved or discussed about these projects. The chart shows the funding level projections for the $7 proposed fee, which is the Green Energy Task Force recommendation. It allows for a spending down of the $300,000 surplus. It includes projections for the fee, the cost of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) and the estimated cost of staff support. At $7 there would be about $212,000 for projects per year. $50,000-$100,000 will be left in the reserve fund to cover fluctuations in the REC prices. The last page is the value statements of the Green Energy Task Force about why they would like to raise the fee to $7. This will keep the fee stable but have enough funds in the project area to get quality proposals and allow assessment for need in the project areas. Ted Pratt said that if they are currently charging students $4 and they have $300,000 in the plus currently in reserves, in these economic times it is hard for him to see why they would want to tax their students almost double the amount. He feels there aren’t any concrete projects or evidence that they would be successful. Linda Beckman said that the Task Force didn’t feel comfortable spending down the whole reserves. They also felt that it is good to have a more steady level for the fee instead of jumping from $4 to $8 - $9 in future years. Pratt said that in the past the fee hasn’t shown that it will jump to that degree. Beckman said that the fee would jump provide funding to continue active participation in projects on campus, as part of the educational experience at Western. There is a lot of support for an increase to the fee, but the committee felt that they shouldn’t go to the highest level because of the current financial situation. The committee also thought that they should have a larger amount of money in the fund at the beginning, to help get some visibility and let people know they can apply for project funding. From there the fee can be adjusted in years to follow. The fee was at $10.50 a quarter the first quarter in 2004, but it has gradually dropped because the price of RECs has gone down. Pratt was confused about why if the price of RECs are going down, the fee would increase. Pratt thinks that there is no question that it is a wonderful thing that the students are doing. They are one of the first in the country to do this. Western has very bright students. He was looking at some of the fees that other universities have for projects and he doesn’t know how heavily they are taxing their students. While it seems like the increase is fairly small at the onset, as fees are added or increases requested, they make it difficult for others who may be comparing Western to other institutions. They take this into account when choosing a university. He just wants to make sure that they are taking this into account while still providing Western with the opportunity for creativity, growth and opportunities for the students, without over taxing them. Beckman said that what is happening this year is that students are trying to keep the cost of fees down. The AS has not requested an increase in funds for next year, so the Services & Activities Fee will not need to increase. She feels that by keeping the other fee costs down it has opened up the possibility of increasing this
one. Pratt gave Kudos to the Board and said that they are serious players with the institution and it shows a partnership that he thinks is wonderful.

Rinonos-Diaz feels the students putting an amount of trust in the Board to create that process. He thinks that it is just as important for the Board and the University to put that trust in the students to be able to continue on that road that they are going down. He has had several other proposals given to him in personal interactions with various faculty members, in addition to the ones on the sample list. An anthropology professor sent Rinonos-Diaz a student that had a water flow project idea; he thinks it is great that it is reaching across disciplines.

Matt Moroney said that his statements do not reflect the opinions of the Green Energy Task Force. He feels the students overwhelmingly supported a $9 per quarter Green Energy Fee. They had no idea that they were voting on what could possibly be a $4 fee. The initiative’s presence on the ballot encouraged the highest voter turnout in twelve years, similar to when it was originally proposed; correlations exist, but are not definite. What is definite is the devastating impact of petroleum based fossil fuel combustion. This fee will create almost limitless potential for excellent student ideas to mitigate these problems at a time when educational opportunities are being drastically cut. This is enacted from the students, for the students. How many more coal mine explosions, natural gas pipeline expansions and oil spills in Prince William Sound or the Gulf of Mexico will it take to realize the imperative to move away from these destructive energy sources? The urgency of this problem and the benefits of Renewable Energy are immediate and apparent. Let’s begin to shape the sustainable world the student body envisions by ensuring the maximum amount of funds for on campus projects. We can wait no longer to invest in the campus, the society and the planet. We have the power to make the world a better place tonight. He encouraged the Board take the chance to make this necessary change. There was applause.

Rinonos-Diaz said that he feels the process involved with this has been handled really inappropriately. He thinks that there have been several barriers of communication in this process in terms of the Board and Students. He apologizes for this because he knows that he has been involved in not understanding some things.

**MOTION ASB-10-W-42 by Rinonos-Diaz**

Recommend to the Trustees a Green Energy Fee at an amount of NTE $.70 per credit per quarter up to $7 for fiscal year 2011 with the stipulation that, with the exception of REC purchases, no funds be spent until the finalized process for allocating funds has been approved by both the AS Board of Directors and the Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs; and the stipulation that a finalized timeline and a charter for the committee or task force charged with developing the process be brought to the AS Board by the end of spring quarter; and the stipulation that the reserves may be spent on the Green Energy program.

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

Kathlyn Kinney agrees that the layout of the fee and where exactly the money is going needs to be decided and that it will take a long time. She thinks that the fee should be $9. She is hoping that the enthusiasm from students will help move the fee forward and they should tap into it. She is working on a project and many people including facilities and they are really excited about it. Neil Baunsgard and Michael Jewitt would like to see the fee set at $9. Jarrell clarified that the wording on the ballot was up to $9. In prior years the wording was up to $19.50 and it was set at $4. Cate Cook, Students for Sustainable Food said when she looked at schools this fee was part of the reason she wanted to attend Western. Chelsea Thaw said that she can go to the gym for $50 per quarter, support the tech fee for $25 and this is only $9. This fee said to her that she has her own ideas and that the school has the funds to support her ideas. Rinonos-Diaz said that he made this motion after speaking with Task Force Members. He would like to acknowledge that there are no regulations or rules about how these funds will be spent. He feels that they need guidelines written down about how the over $200,000 will be spent next year; this is why he supports only $7 until they can find a process. Hilary McGowan said that the Task Force had two weeks to pull this info together, so
could not make concrete processes but are prepared to do so. She feels that people understand what is going on and they support the $9 fee. Jason Austin, Huxley student, said that people are drooling over this opportunity and they have great projects that what should be done. Ikegwuoha talked to 25-50 students over the last few days. There was not one student who said they felt like they were voting for $9. They felt like they were voting for up to $9. Reubon Kettel said that he feels that $9 is not that much money. He is disappointed that there are only 2-3 compost bins around campus. He feels that simple things like fixing these issues wouldn’t take much money. Alissa Schlecht said that she was talking to the Sustainability Director at Evergreen State College who said that their fee funded projects and they were able to get matching funding from the state legislature this year. Erin Acker said that the people who were on the Task Force are students and they will come up with procedures, but were not given the time to complete this. She supports the $7 fee for the first year and then possibly increasing it later. Brittany Honisch was on the Task Force, she is glad that there are stipulations. She felt that the task force agreed that keeping the number conservative when asking the Board. She personally believes that they should go for $9. Miranda Laine didn’t vote because she didn’t know that this fee was on the ballot but feels if all students knew and voted it would still be 81% support. She votes with her dollars by eating organic, etc. and feels that Western has an opportunity to lead the way. Jarrell thanked the students for all of their work on this, all the way back to the people who came up with the fee to begin with to those who have been working this year. Rinonos-Diaz was concerned that the Task Force was told to be conservative and feels that if structures were in place, they could have gone about $9. Honisch said that she knew that the Board had legitimate concerns and the Task Force felt that they wouldn’t pass a $9 fee. Holmgren feels that since there is $300,000 in reserves, the fee could start at $7 as a pilot year of the program and then reevaluate where they are next year. If there is enough interest shown then it is reasonable to raise it to $9. Jarrell said that all year they have been fighting to keep the cost of fees down and then they are looking at raising this fee significantly. Moroney asked if this motion passes will the Board be meeting during the summer to continue work on this process? Cintron said that the Board meets during the summer, but that the VP for Financial Affairs starts July 8th. Ikegwuoha said that this is his first time of hearing that students want to raise the fee to $.90, before this the Board heard from the Task Force that it would be ok with having the fee at $.50 per credit. The Board of Trustees will be meeting June 11th. The AS Board will recommend this motion to the Trustees, Jarrell doesn’t know where the rumor has come from that the Trustees will not pass this. Jarrell asked the students to stay in touch with the Board and let them know how the process is going. The Board voted on the motion at this time and when it passed there was applause.

The Board took a short break and reconvened at 7:19p.m.

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS - Board
A. AS Program Recognition Policy Cintron Doc. 8
This is the process that Cintron is recommending, with Holmgren’s edits, about how to create a new program or service and also for contracted services. Proposals go to the Structure Program Advisory Committee, Facilities & Services, the Business Director and then the Board. Holmgren added the sponsorship of an AS Office or Program because he felt that the organization should have some kind of a formal relationship with a part of the AS. Cintron said that if people want to do something unique and new this might be an issue if no one would support them. Holmgren said that this support could even come from the AS Board of Directors. He doesn’t know how things could get passed without any support. Ikegwuoha said they could include it as a recommended but not a requirement. Rinonos-Diaz feels that Clubs should have some kind of support from within the AS, but it should not be only a recommended requirement. This item will be an Action Item at the next meeting.

B. AS Website Timeline Cintron Doc.9
Cintron said that based on the meeting with Holmgren, Watrin, Jamin Agosti, Jeff Bates and Kevin Majkut they came up with a proposal to launch the website by the end of summer
quarter. Jeff Bates has looked at this timeline and feels that it is realistic. Holmgren has heard from some people that there is concern about adhering to this timeline. Cintron said that Bates will communicate with the new AS VP for Bus Ops. Cintron had included in the timeline reports from Bates to the Board and he may add this back in. This proposal is contingent on this having additional staff, which is the next item on the Agenda. Cintron said that the Publicity Center has content from most offices, but they don’t have updated information. Cintron feels that, over the summer they should be able to create a framework and then the site could be updated by the new users. Agosti feels that it should be launched as one site. He suggests using the Beta site as a way to help look at the whole design so the Board will be able to review the whole site before it is launched. Holmgren said that these new pages are important when students are looking at the site during Summerstart and Western Preview. Cintron said that the old website is very outdated and they can’t spend the time to update it at this point. Cintron said that he sent a priority list for pages which has programs happening during the summer first and then programs that don’t really start up until fall. The Resource Outreach Program pages are currently launched. Jansen thinks that this was done first because it was simple. This item will be an Action Item next week.

C. AS Website Funding Cintron Doc. 10

Cintron said that this is a request for $6,000 additional funding to complete the website. There was an additional $1,200 given this past summer for web design as well. Holmgren wondered if there is someone who will maintain this timeline over the summer, as well as being a designer. Cintron said that he did not make this change because the Publicity Center hasn’t gone through the Triennial Assessment Program process. Beck said that there is a web developer hourly position open at this time. Cintron said that the timeline is written to help give guidance, but there is a chance that they will have to adjust the timeline. This item will be an Action Item next week.

D. Student Trustee Application Jarrell Doc. 11

Jarrell thanked the Board for their patience last week. He feels that they learned a lot from the process this year. Jarrell said that they haven’t seen the application document since 2000 but changes had been made, he assumes at the committee level. Jarrell said that the start date changed to July, they also added the time commitment and terms of eligibility sections. There is also a change in the required qualifications from 8 credits to 6 credits per quarter for Graduate Students. The newest change is striking the last bullet point of requiring students to attend Fall and Winter Quarter of that year. He feels that students who attended Western for the required amount of credits could have that experience without attending the current year. Rinonos-Diaz is not comfortable striking this from the requirements. He thinks that an applicant should be a current student. This proposed change would allow an alumnus who returns after 20 years to apply and they might not know about current student issues. Under time commitment he thinks that they should add in the required two day meetings. In Required Application Materials he wondered about emailing the letters of recommendations. He would like to know if they could put in that letters of recommendations must be received by the deadline. Rinonos-Diaz asked for review of the grammar on the second page. Ikegwuoha would be comfortable with something like: Must have been enrolled at WWU the past two consecutive quarters: Fall 2009 and Winter 2010 or submit a written statement that demonstrates knowledge of current student issues at Western. Cintron said that in the essays they are answering questions that the committee could use to evaluate knowledge of current student issues. Holmgren asked if they should add an applicant can apply to the AS Board of Directors if they would like to waive a required qualification to allow for flexibility. Jarrell said that he is not sure if this application needs to come to the Board every year or is it up to the committee to decide. Cintron thinks that this needs to come back to the Board every year, because the names are coming to the Board based on the criteria that the application states and the Board does not
review the applications. Rinonos-Diaz feels that if the document is not being changed except for the name of the President and the deadlines, the document does not need to return to the Board for approval. Holmgren said that said he would be fine with striking the fourth required qualifications because they could just add current in front of all of the recommended qualifications. Rinonos-Diaz feels that some of the recommended qualifications should come back before the committee meets because some of the terminology of what the Trustee needs to know. This document should come back to the new Board before the sunset clause date. Holmgren said that he thinks it makes sense to approve the changes that have been made by this Board in addition to forwarding on recommendations. This item will come back as an Action Item next week.

X. CONSENT ITEMS  
(subject to immediate action)

A. Ratification of the 2010-2011 Associated Students Board of Directors

Pond feels that because four of the Board participated in the election and some people felt very strongly about the election, they should not vote on the results. According to the Election Code twenty-one days after the election if no action is taken by the Board, the results would be ratified. This would happen in two days. Rinonos-Diaz feels that symbolism is important in some instances. The previous Board Ratifying the results of the next Board is passing the torch and acknowledging the way that students voted is important. He thinks that it makes sense to continue that tradition.

**MOTION ASB-10-W-43 by Cintron**

Ratify 2010-2011 AS Board of Directors as stated in Consent Item A. (President - Colin Watrin, AS VP for Business and Operations - Benjamin Brockman, AS VP for Academic Affairs - Ramon Rinonos-Diaz, AS VP for Activities - Alisha Beck, AS VP for Diversity - Bernard Ikegwuoha, AS VP for Governmental Affairs - Byron Starkey, AS VP for Student Life - Jamin Agosti. The Green Fee passed with 2433 votes, or 80.56%.)

Second: Rinonos-Diaz  
Vote: 5 - 0 - 2  
Action: Passed

XI. STUDENT SENATE REPORT

**Student Senate Meeting Information**

Anne Jansen said that they are still talking about the Senate Bylaws. Jansen said that the Bylaws used to be really detailed and specific. Over the last decade it has been cut and edited a lot, so it is taking a while to get a polished final document. She will bring a report about the Issue of the Month about Academic Advising, which received as many unrelated comments as it did actual responses.

XII. BOARD REPORTS

**VP for Business & Operations**

Virgilio Cintron reported that Management Council had its last meeting of the year. He has continued work with the AS Not-for-Profit. He is also finalizing the Triennial Assessment Process.

**VP for Academic Affairs**

Ramon Rinonos-Diaz reported that Scholar’s Week has begun and there is a week of events coming up. Several Faculty Senators have shown interest in the Green Energy Fee program and have begun sending emails regarding it. Other academic issues which are currently being discussed include Extended Education and Summer Programs, revised accreditation standards, university themes, the honors board, first year learning outcomes, and curricular changes for next year.

**VP for Student Life**
Mike Pond reported that the Green Energy Fee Taskforce has been working hard for the AS Board meeting and work session. RHA casino night, their biggest event of the year is this Saturday night in the Mac gym of the REC. He has been working on the REC Center Advisory Committee Charge and Charter, and making it consistent with other documents. Gender Inclusive Housing Taskforce has received back survey results, and is working on a whitepaper report.

**VP for Governmental Affairs**
Morgan Holmgren reported that Saturday the Washington Student Association had its spring General Assembly Meeting. The organization elected its new leadership; all but one position was unopposed. The WSA has increased the dues owed by each university to $.90 per FTE. The increase will not require Western to increase the amount collected from students and will allow the organization to continue having two staff members, though one will be receiving less money next year. The WSA will also be continuing its membership in the United States Student Association in the hopes that it will get $5,000 in grant money for its vote campaign. Holmgren is in the process of conducting exit interviews with the members of the Legislative Affairs Council to see how the committee can improve in the future. Next week candidates running in the 42nd Legislative District will be on campus debating issues related to higher education.

**VP for Activities**
Colin Watrin reported that he has been attending regular meetings for Activities Council and Cold Beverage Contract. Additionally Watrin has been meeting with the CBC admin team working on creating the request for proposal for the new contract. Inter-Club Council had its final meeting of the year on Thursday in which the group reflected on the year and gave suggestions for next year’s group to carry on. Watrin has also been planning the AS Club and Employee End of Year Recognition Banquets.

**VP for Diversity**
Bernard Ikegwuoha reported that the Bellingham Herald Diversity scholarship committee met and decided on a recipient. He met with administrators on the issue of creating focus groups to collect more information regarding the current student climate survey. In addition to this he has been talking to students about concerns they may have with faculty around campus and what they want to see from this climate survey. The Center for Education, Equity and Diversity is having an education centered event that he attended all day Tuesday. Relay for Life had a great turnout and he would suggest that the future Board play a role, whether it be showing up or informing people. The Low Rider Show was really great and the turnout was great as well. He met with next year’s ROP director to facilitate communication and discussion on expectations and goals next year and to discuss our working relationship for the upcoming year. He will be meeting to review and decide on ESC Scholarship recipients.

**President**
Matt Jarrell reported that Jarrell reports that he has met with Steve Swan about the University Rebranding Initiative and set up a student focus group to gather feedback at the end of this week. He has also enjoyed meeting with Lyndie Case, the new Campus Community Coalition Coordinator, and talking about the role of the AS and the Coalition, as well as attending the luncheon. He has continued to meet with Watrin for his internship and is developing a legacy document before the end of the year.

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS-
A. Email board reports by the end of the week.
B. There will be a work session Tuesday about the AS Budget.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 7:58 P.M.