



**Western Washington University Associated Students
Ethnic Student Center Steering Committee**

Meeting Minutes for: Tuesday, March 1st, 2016

Non-Voting Members: Abby Ramos (AS VP for Diversity), Nate Panelo (ESC Coordinator), Ryan Roberts (AS Club Business Director), Alejandro Ibanez (ESC Marketing and Outreach Coordinator)

Voting Members: Tina Cha (KSA Steering Representative), Karen Liang (CSA Steering Representative), Vilay Lee (WHSA Steering Representative), Dewey Nguyen (VSA Steering Representative), Jona Akelipa (SASA Steering Representative), Jennifer Khuu (KhSA Steering Representative), Mitchell Thompson (NASU Steering Representative), Gaiy Huang (FASA Steering Representative), Mele Mataese (HOH Steering Representative), Meron Knutzen (ACC Steering Representative), Edward Moreno (MISO Steering Representative), Cindy Marquina-Negrete (Blue Group), Keiichi Takano (JSA Steering Representative), Michelle Martinez (LSU Steering Representative), Hugo Sanchez (MEChA Steering Representative), Katherine Braseth (BSU Steering Representative)

Absent: Keiichi Takano (JSA Steering Representative)

Guests: Rosa Sanchez (MEChA), Aleyda Cervantes (MEChA), Enrique Hernandez (LSU/MEChA), Angelica Sanchez (LSU/MEChA)

Secretary: Jessi Navarre (Board Assistant for Club Committees)

Motions

SC- 16-W-8 - Approval of the minutes of 2-23-16 with the stipulation that all appropriate changes be made. - **PASSED**

SC-16-W-9 - Approval of the amount of \$1900 for funding two ESC students to attend the USSA conference. - **PASSED**

Abby Ramos, A. S. Vice President for Diversity, called the meeting to order at 5:05p.m. on Tuesday, February 23rd, 2016

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion SC-16-W-8 by Moreno of MISO

Moved to approve the minutes of 2-23-16 with the stipulation that all appropriate changes be made.

Seconded: Lee of WHSA Vote: 12-0-0 **PASSED**

II. Info

a. MEChA National Funding \$2000

Rosa Sanchez said that their conference was coming up and they were asking for \$2000 of the \$5000 they needed. She said the funds were for lodging and transportation. She said that they had been fundraising on vendor's row and had raised about \$600. She said they were also starting a Go Fund Me. She said that MEChA was a national organization and this was the Western chapter. She said they were hosting the regional conference at Western after the national conference and they hoped to take the knowledge from the national conference to the regional conference. She said they were also taking quite a few Freshmen so that they could carry the message of the conference for years to come at Western. Aleyda Cervantes said that they had been making connections with teachers and planned on going into classrooms and making connections while educating. Sanchez said that the conference opened up a space to have conversations. Khuu asked how they were choosing people to go. Sanchez said that they were looking at which members were active and who was using critical thinking. Cervantes said they also looked at who had been fundraising and who had not yet had an opportunity to go. Lee asked how many students they planned on bringing. Cervantes said 12. Lee asked how many were Freshmen. Sanchez said there were 5 upper classmen and the rest were Freshmen or Sophomores. Lee asked about hotels. Sanchez said that hotel prices were estimated because they could not book them yet. Cervantes said that estimates were high just in case. She said they were also paying registration out of pocket. Lee asked where they were getting the other \$3000. Cervantes said that they were raising \$600 and they were looking to get funds from Fairhaven and/or Woodring. Roberts asked if the event was possible if they didn't get the other funds. Cervantes said yes and they would ask for money from the Board. Roberts asked about transportation. Cervantes said they planned on using AS vehicles. Roberts suggested personal vehicles because it would cost a lot less. Cervantes said that there was liability in taking personal cars. Panelo asked about out of pocket costs. Rosa said that they were paying for food and the \$30 registration. Panelo asked if they would need more funds this year. Cervantes said no. Roberts asked when the event was. Cervantes said the 16th of March Roberts said they should move to an action. Ramos said they couldn't because it was over \$1500. Sanchez asked if they could have \$1500 now and \$500. Ramos said no.

III. Action

a. USSA funding for two ESC Students (\$600)

Motion SC-16-W-9 by Moreno of MISO

Moved to approve the amount of \$600 for funding two ESC students to attend the USSA conference.

Seconded: Kuntzen of ACC Vote: 11-1-1 **PASSED**

IV. Other Business

Ramos said that the admin knew the ESC renovation should not fall onto the backs of students after the forum meeting that took place on Tuesday. She said that they were talking about a building a Multicultural Center. She said that they were making an executive team to handle the project on the students' side. She said they were proposing the construction of a Multicultural Center. She said that they were going to make a proposal and President Bruce would present it to the Board of Trustees. She said the proposal was going to be reviewed for April. She said they had the necessary support to carry out the project. Ibanez asked if the ESC would stay where it was until the Multicultural Center was finished. Panelo said that the renovation was not certain, but the Multicultural center was as long-term solution. He said that the short-term solution for the ESC renovation had not been decided yet. Ramos said that she had drafted a resolution that would ask the university to build a Multicultural Center. She read the resolution aloud and asked for corrections. She suggested sharing the resolution with the ESC clubs and officers. Moreno said that there was a double semi-colon. Roberts suggested not using the word "demands". Ramos asked if there was any other word that would fit instead.

Ramos said that the Veterans Outreach Center was leaving the AS and was moving to a new area that would be combined with University Outreach Services. She also mentioned that scholarships had opened up.

Ramos said in regards to the executive team working on the Multicultural Center. She said that in the Charge and Charter they drafted they had required the team be comprised of Sophomores and Freshmen so that members can return. She said that they wanted people to sit on the committee for two years. She said that they did not need to be an ESC officer but they did need to be a part of an ESC club and be sponsored by their club (have their club's support). She said there would be an application, then an interview process. Moreno asked why they chose not to make the committee out of only officers. Ramos said that officers already had a lot of responsibility and she wanted to open the floor for more people. Lee asked what the committee would do. Ramos said that they would begin discussion and a point of clarification of the admin side when communicating with student and their input. Moreno said that he felt that they were focusing on the wrong thing. He said that they needed to focus on Western's atmosphere and climate. Ramos said that Multicultural Center would provide marginalized identities space, support, and resources and make them more visible on campus. She said that the Queer Resource Center, Womxn's Center, and other support center would move over to that building. Roberts suggested getting input from those offices. Knutzen said that she was concerned with

how big the space would be, if it would be big enough for all of those offices. Panelo said that there were other offices who also needed more space and he saw the validity in Knutzen's concern, but having a building just for the ESC could end up being too small. He said that the ESC was the priority of the space. He said now they were looking for the funding and the committee would get a strong voice. Ramos said that the Multicultural Center would not be finished in time for any of the people currently on campus to use, including themselves, and she stressed that the work they were doing was selfless. She reminded everyone that even though every ESC club did not use the Ethnic Student Center that that fact did not mean that everyone should not fight for the Multicultural Center. She said that this would be a resource for generations to come.

V. Club Updates

SASA- Heritage Dinner 3/5, tickets on sale in the PAC for \$11 Student.

HOH- Last Hula/Tahitian dance practice of the quarter 3/1 in AW at 7pm.

LSU- Heritage Dinner in progress

WHSA- "Make Your Own Spring Roll" event 3/1 AW 205 6-7pm.

Blue Group- AIB workshop on self-discovery w/NASU 3/5 1-3pm in VU 462.

ACC- Heritage Dinner May 7th.

KSA- Last General Meeting 3/2 5-6pm in VU 565

MEChA- Regional Conference April 15th- 17th. National Conference March 18[&]-20[&].

Abby Ramos adjourned the meeting at 5:59pm