

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

Wednesday, February 20, 2008      VU 567

**AS Board Officers:** *Present:* Ramiro Espinoza, Abbey Weigel, Kayla Britt, Annie Jansen, Erik Lowe and Nina Lau. *Late:* Aaron Garcia.

**Advisor(s):** Kevin Majkut, Director of Student Activities

**AS Student Senate Rep:** Chelsea Fletcher (Student Senate Chair)

**Guest(s):** Diana Breed (Comm 224), Ben Murphy (AS Elections Coordinator), Chris Batten (Comm 224), Ben Wurtz, Sally McLaughlin (Student Senator/Recycle Center), Anastasia Ramey, J. Adam Brinson (AS Review)

**MOTIONS**

**08-W-024** Approval of the minutes of February 13, 2008 as corrected. *Passed.*

**08-W-025** Approval of appointment of Erin Miller to the Publications Council. *Passed.*

**08-W-026** Approval of the Election Code and Revised Timeline, with the exception of the active campaign period, to hold the election April 28, 2008 – May 2, 2008 allowing Ben Murphy to make changes as needed in the election code to reflect these dates. The election will end at 2:00 p.m. on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and Murphy will decide the deadline for poster removal.

**Ramiro Espinoza, A.S. President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*MOTION 08-W-024 by Espinoza*

Approval of the minutes of February 13, 2008 as corrected.

Vote: 5 - 0 - 1 (Late: Garcia)      Action: Passed

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Addition of section Personnel Item A. Executive Session.

**III. FINANCIAL REPORT**

**IV. PUBLIC FORUM-** There were no public comments.

*Aaron Garcia joined the meeting.*

**V. PERSONNEL ITEMS**

A. Executive Session to address a potential employee disciplinary issue.

*Ramiro Espinoza, A.S. President, called the meeting back to order at 6:09 p.m.*

**VI. INFORMATION ITEMS—GUESTS**

**VII. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

A. Publications Council- Erin Miller (from the Publicity Center)      Garcia

Sarah Tran was unable to make the meetings and resigned her position. Espinoza expressed concern about two AS Review staff serving on this committee. Garcia checked with Aletha and they do not feel it would be a conflict of interest to not have the Western Front represented.

*MOTION 08-W-025 by Garcia*

Approval of appointment of Erin Miller to the Publications Council.

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

**VIII. ACTION ITEMS-**

A. AS Election Code- Ben Murphy

Lowe Doc. 1

Murphy looked into expanding the voting period to one week. Doc. 1 is a Timeline which considers the new dates for the election, Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Murphy recommends making a shorter running time on Friday to allow for candidates to be notified of the unofficial results and allow the media to get the results as well. He suggests ending the election at 12 or 1 p.m. on Friday. The results could be announced by 5 p.m. and perhaps even the posters could be removed. Murphy does not feel that these items need to be brought back to the Code Committee because the decision is ultimately up to the board and it really only involved changing dates. Jansen asked about section 4 d. that says the signs must be taken down by 5 p.m. the day after the election. Weigel asked if there was a reason it couldn't be Saturday at 5 p.m. or by Monday morning. Murphy had intended to have the signs down over the weekend, but ultimately decided that was not important. He will decide if the deadline for poster removal is to be Saturday or Monday because he has to enforce the deadline. Espinoza clarified that the week long voting period was uncontested by the board. There was discussion about active vs. passive campaigning. Jansen is worried that this might be a cause for misinterpretation. Erik Lowe feels that in 2 weeks of active campaigning, passive campaigning can happen as well. He feels this will significantly reduce stress. Weigel asked if there was a clear set of guidelines for what is considered active or passive campaigning. There is not one. Jansen feels at this point it is not necessary to micromanage the guidelines for elections. She thinks it may just make things more complicated. At first Nina Lau did not think of negative ramifications, she just thought it was a great idea to say exactly when the candidates would be available in Red Square. Garcia likes the spirit behind the rule but is worried about the fallout. Britt feels the rule is too vague at this point and suggested describing it to the candidates as a campaign tactic, but not making it a rule. Espinoza feels that the board should be better armed to answer the questions that might arise from this new rule. As far as the concern about candidates going all out during the whole election, he thinks that learning how to balance your life is an essential part of being a member of the board. Murphy believes that it will take about 1-2 hours for Jamie Hoover, Election Advisor and he to get the unofficial results. J. Adam Brinson of the AS Review confirmed that as long as they have the results by 5:00 p.m. it will be in Monday's edition of the review. . Based on this information the decision was made to end the voting on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Lowe made a motion. Weigel made a friendly amendment to include the May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2:00 p.m. voting deadline and taking the signs down would be at Murphy's discretion.

*MOTION 08-W-026 by Lowe*

Approval of the Election Code and Revised Timeline, with the exception of the active campaign period, to hold the election April 28, 2008 – May 2, 2008 allowing Ben Murphy to make changes as needed in the election code to reflect these dates. The election will end at 2:00 p.m. on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and Murphy will decide the deadline for poster removal.

Second: Jansen

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0

Action: Passed

**IX. INFORMATION ITEMS – BOARD**

**A. Outdoor Center Computer Request**

Weigel Doc. 2

The AS/VU Tech Committee received a request from Fred Collins in the Outdoor Center for 3 more computers. They currently have 5 computers, 8 desks, and a staff of 10. Most of the work that is done requires a computer and they have tried scheduling time, but still find that more computers would allow the staff to be more effective. Lowe asked where the money would be coming from. Weigel said that the repair and replacement budget is basically gone. At this point the source of funding has not been decided. Lowe requested a print out about the computers from Bill Tootel. Jansen said that the standard computers used in the AS are \$1,100 and the approximate total for these machines is \$3,300. This item will be an action item next week.

**X. STUDENT SENATE REPORT****Student Senate Meeting Information**

Senator Sally McLaughlin presented the publicity for the Student Senate Smoking Forum. They will be discussing smoking on campus. This was a proposed AS Issue of the Month 3 times and was discussed in an article in the Western Front. They felt this warranted more discussion. The forum will be March 5<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 p.m. in VU 464. Discussion will include how other campuses are addressing this issue, possible solutions for Western, education about smoking issues and to listening to the student's opinions. (For example, the current location of ashtrays is 10 feet from buildings and the law is 25 feet.) Espinoza thanked her for having the forum and also complimented her and her son, Clover on their article in the Western Front about the Child Development Center.

Chelsea Fletcher, Student Senate Chair reported that more Senators will be making presentations this quarter. March 12<sup>th</sup> will be Senators Beilman and Tamburini. Senator Hayman will be coming Spring Quarter. This week, Nancy Corbin came to discuss what the counseling center and campus safety plan is when dealing with a campus crisis. She is a great resource for Senators Beilman and Hayman. She also asked for input about ways the health center could reach out. A few of the senators were interested in a campaign to raise awareness about mental health issues. Senators Kumar and Fletcher will be working with Facilities and Services Council.

**XI. BOARD REPORTS****VP for Diversity**

Kayla Britt reported that one of the Ethnic Student Center Clubs is no longer a club at this point. The Charge and Charters count is now 10 out of 11 finished. Britt got accepted into the Communication Department! She attended the Cornell West with Lowe and Garcia and thought it was very inspiring. There were a lot of people in attendance. ACC Culture Night is on Saturday and tickets are still available in the box office. It should be fun and they are having a wide variety of African food. She met with some representatives from the Chabad House. They are trying to become an ESC Club. President's Council is finishing with the ESC By-laws and then it will go on to the Steering Committee. March 12<sup>th</sup> will be the AS Job Fair from 6-8 p.m.

**VP for Business & Operations**

Abbey Weigel reported that she has been stuck in Midterms and will be until this Friday at 5:30 p.m. she has been trying to focus on this. Spring hiring for AS positions opens on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and closes on the 21<sup>st</sup>. If people are interested in positions, they should apply ASAP. She is working on Budget Committee appointments and will bring them next week. Also she is working on another proposal that will be presented next week.

**VP for Legislative & Governmental Affairs**

Erik Lowe reported that Sarah Ishmael has been working in Olympia to ensure that there is student representation on the performance contract bill. There originally was no student representative and now there is one student appointed by the student government from each institution. This is mainly due to her hard work. The Alternative Transportation group is working on a master plan and will be for the rest of the year. Lowe is working with the Finance Office on plane reservations for the D.C. Trip. The Housing budget committee is going well and will meet for once a week for the rest of the quarter. This committee is giving him a lot of insight into how housing works on campus. He really enjoyed seeing Cornell West and said that they had to sit in the balcony because there were so many people there, approx 700.

**VP for Academic Affairs**

Anne Jansen reported that the Tech Tonic Fair Info will be presented at the next meeting. Committees are going fairly well. However, communication is down in Jansen's sector. She is working on email issues, as she has not been receiving some meeting notices, etc. Whitney, VP for Academics from Eastern called wanting to know if Western has thought about switching to Semesters. Jansen is not sure where she heard this, but it is not being looked at. Jansen reminds the students that registration begins next Thursday. People should check for their registration time and think about next quarter's classes. Email your professors if you think the class will fill up by this Monday because about a week before is the best time to ask. Jansen is starting her legacy document and was wondering if the board could workshop them.

**VP for Student Life**

Nina Lau reported that the Meal Plan Task Force and Housing and Dining Budget should be wrapping up soon and there will be a presentation on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the board meeting. Devin Branson is going to RHA this Thursday; he will be getting feedback on the Late Night Shuttle. The Residential Advisory Committee meeting with the architects for the new South Campus Residence Hall hit a snag. It was to be completed by September 2010, but is significantly larger than originally planned and they are worried about the boundary issues. The Dining Committee will be celebrating Earth Week the second week of spring quarter by having tray-less meals in the Dining Halls.

**VP for Activities**

Aaron Garcia reported that there was no Activities Council on Monday in observance of President's Day.

**President**

Ramiro Espinoza reported that the President's Planning Resource Council looked at the supplemental operating budget. Exciting things are in development with the Alumni and Foundation working together to ensure Western's future. Espinoza and Garcia worked with students in the Upward Bound Program. Espinoza really enjoyed it and wished he had this program when he was in high school. The Campus Community Coalition is still looking at funding. AS Training will be on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. He attempted to visit the Student Senate Meeting but ended up walking in to the Cornell West Reception because the room had changed at the last minute. He apologized for not being at the Senate Meeting. Things with the Co-op are going well.

**XII. OTHER BUSINESS-**

- A. AS Board Training-** Kevin Majkut said that he is working on modifying the board training. He asked board members to think about what was successful for them in summer and fall trainings. Ramiro is working with Karen Copetas and Anna Carey on institutional training ideas.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 7:02 P.M.**