

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

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

VU 543

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

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

Guest(s): Jim Schuster (Dir VU Facilities), Jeff Ehrhardt (Western Front), Shawna Leader (AS Review), Ben Murphy (AS Elections Coordinator).

MOTIONS

- 08-S-24 Approval of the minutes of Wednesday, April 30, 2008 as corrected. *Passed.*
- 08-S-25 Ratify the following A.S. Board of Directors officers for 2008-2009 academic year from the election results provided by Ben Murphy, AS Election Coordinator: **Erik Lowe**, A.S. President; **Virgilio Cintron**, VP for Business & Operations; **Andrea Goddard**, VP for Academic Affairs; **Sarah Ishmael**, VP for Legislative Affairs; **Matt Jarrell**, VP for Activities; **Kayla Britt**, VP for Diversity; and **Ben Wurtz**, VP for Campus & Community Affairs. *Passed*
- 08-S-26 Accept the Student Senate Student Tech Fee Resolution with the understanding that there will be additional discussion and reevaluation by next years Board Directors and Student Senate by October 2008. *Passed.*
- 08-S-27 Table the 100th Anniversary Funding until it can be brought up as an action item. *Passed.*

Ramiro Espinoza, A.S. President, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION 08-S-24 by Espinoza

Approval of the minutes of Wednesday, April 30, 2008 as corrected.

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Info Item- Board

C. AS/VU Tech Committee Computer Recommendations

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

IV. PUBLIC FORUM – There were no public comments.

V. PERSONNEL ITEMS

A. Ratification of AS Board Officers 2008-2009- Ben Murphy Espinoza Doc. 1

Ben Murphy presented a power point presentation about the 2008 AS Elections. They happened over five days and were a complete success. 20.7% of the student body voted, this is almost a 7% increase from last year. Some interesting findings were that 105 students looked at the ballot but chose not to vote. Over 1,000 people voted on the first day. The majority of people voted from 6 p.m. to midnight. He believes the factors in the increase of voters are there were 15 candidates and 1 write in, visibility was up, 2008 is a Presidential Election year and there seems to be a trend of increased voting in election years, the awesome promotional video produced by KVIK, the 20 page special edition of the AS Review and increasing the voting days from 2-5 days. Espinoza thanked Murphy for all of his work and he knows that there was some turbulent times at the beginning of the voting period, but he surmounted them wonderfully. Some of the turnout is certainly a product of his work and the work of the people around him in getting people

excited about elections. He is very happy with the turnout. Weigel asked if he will use some of the same tactics next year. Murphy is excited to return as AS Elections Coordinator. He will use some of the same tactics and some more things that he wishes he could have done. Weigel requested that he prepare a legacy document for his position so that future coordinators can benefit from what he's learned. The board then signed the Ratification Document prepared by Murphy certifying that the candidates met all requirements for the job and that all Election procedures were followed.

MOTION 08-S-25 by Jansen

Ratify the following A.S. Board of Directors officers for 2008-2009 academic year from the election results provided by Ben Murphy, AS Election Coordinator: **Erik Lowe**, A.S. President; **Virgilio Cintron**, VP for Business & Operations; **Andrea Goddard**, VP for Academic Affairs; **Sarah Ishmael**, VP for Legislative Affairs; **Matt Jarrell**, VP for Activities; **Kayla Britt**, VP for Diversity; and **Ben Wurtz**, VP for Campus & Community Affairs.

Second: Weigel

Vote: 7-0 -0

Action: Passed

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS—GUESTS

VII. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

VIII. ACTION ITEMS-

A. Senate Resolution on Student Technology Fee

Jansen Doc. 2

Jansen hoped that the extra week had given everyone the opportunity to review the documents in detail. If the board decides not to choose the model the senate recommends then Jansen will bring the proposal back to the senate. Weigel asked for clarification on the extra \$50,000 in the Administration section in some of the models. Jansen thinks that this is a plausible pipe dream at this point. The administration would be told that students are willing to contribute more to their fees if the administration will contribute more as well. Jansen feels that \$200,000 is proportionally reasonable. John Lawson's office is aware of the need for more funding. Espinoza feels that in asking for more money they may or may not get it, but in keeping with the precedent of student fee increases we could ask for the money. Weigel expressed concern about the extra burden that searching for funding would but on next year's Academic Affairs Committee. Jansen would be willing to volunteer as a member of this committee next year. Lowe still thinks that there is a need to review these documents even more before giving any information to outside groups. Jansen says that with the blessings of the time a decision does not need to occur this week. She would like to talk to part-time students to get their feelings on their large increases. Jansen proposed tabling the decision for the purposes of having the opinions of the new senate and new board as well. Espinoza stated that the board appreciates the time that the Senate has spent on this resolution.

MOTION 08-S-26 by Jansen

Accept the Student Senate Student Tech Fee Resolution with the understanding that there will be additional discussion and reevaluation by next years Board Directors and Student Senate by October 2008.

Second: Weigel

Vote: 7-0 -0

Action: Passed

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS – BOARD

A. 100 Anniversary Funding

Garcia Doc. 3

In 1908 the Associated Students Unincorporated Association was created at Western and in 1959 the Viking Union was open. In the 2008-2009 Academic Year the AS will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary. A committee was formed including Marcy Alstrom, Aaron

Garcia, Nina Lau, Nicole Duncan, Mark Bagley, Kevin Majkut, Sue Bakse, Deb DeWees and Jim Schuster. The committee recommends celebrating this milestone over the next school year and to focus it on students going to Western next year. The goal would be to connect students with the AS past, present and future. They also see it as an opportunity to educate on the AS achievements, etc. Kevin Majkut recommended doing a self-study. The last one was done in the early 80's. This study would look at programs, funding, structure etc. The hope would be to have this completed by the end of Fall Quarter. This study would include visits to other schools. The committee would invite clubs and program offices to participate in the celebration and was hoping to have activities council set aside some funds for these programs. The plans include a big celebration at the beginning and end of the year and a dinner recognizing distinguished AS alumni. The committee recommends having a student employee designated to coordinate these events. There is also a plan for a photo display in the library that would become a permanent display in the VU. They are trying to get next year declared as the "Year of Associated Students of WWU 100th Anniversary". The committee would also like the AS to make a donation to the student body that would be a long term and sustainable gift, such as the VU Plaza project. Weigel suggested including budget items 1 & 2 in a separate budget for assessment of the AS. She also wondered if it was necessary to do the self study next year. She suggested doing it the year after the 100th. Jansen was concerned about the cost of the invitation to all students she feels it could be done for less. Schuster explained that it is about a dollar a piece for full color invitations. Weigel felt that the library presentation and the graphic design presentation could be combined. Espinoza would like to have a discussion about this topic, and would like to sit down with the board, Majkut and Schuster outside of a board meeting. Schuster said that would be fine and he just wanted to share the committee's ideas after a lot of brainstorming and looking at what other schools have done for similar celebrations. Garcia talked about the Centennial Job Description. This would be the student coordinator for the anniversary events and would require an addition of around \$7,500 to the 100th Anniversary Budget. Lau offered to answer any questions the board might have. Britt appreciates the work that the committee has done. Jansen is excited to plan these events.

MOTION 08-S-27 by Espinoza

Table the 100th Anniversary Funding until it can be brought up as an action item.

Action: Passed by Acclamation

B. AS Constitution

Espinoza Doc. 4

Espinoza has been working with Majkut, Ted Pratt and Vice President Coughlin to formalize the relationship with the Board of Trustees and the university beyond the wording in the 1970-80's lawsuits. He spent a couple of hours putting together this document. This board has done a fantastic job of working with the governance structure of the university and the university at large and Espinoza would like to do a proactive measure to define the relationship within the shared governance structure of Western. Document 4 does not include a resolution at this point, but feels that perhaps the first whereas makes a great resolution. He would like this document to be a starting point. If we want this to be approved by the Board of Trustees it needs to get to them in two weeks. So there is two weeks to talk about it, add and subtract. Most of the language from this document came from the lawsuit settlement and the Board of Trustees Rules of Operation. He wanted to put this together in a way that demonstrates the Board's willingness to work within this system. He is very appreciative of the relationship that the AS has with the University at large, to include the Board of Trustees and the University Administration and he would like to set a specific tone for the future that maintains that type of relationship. He would appreciate feedback from the board and he will email this document to the board. This will be an action item next week.

C. AS/VU Tech Committee Computer Recommendations

Weigel

The AS/VU Tech Committee gathered to look at requests for new computers within the AS. From that discussion they decided not to give everyone who requested a computer because next year there is a possibility that office's needs will change next year. They decided to request a computer for the Business Office because of the addition of a new position there. Also the Personnel Office has been using a very old temporary computer and they need a new permanent one. She is requesting these new computers from New Equipment and the cost will be around \$2,200. There is a possibility that if the decision is made before the University's mass buy we might get it for even less. This item will be an action item next week.

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

Chelsea Fletcher was not in attendance.

XI. **BOARD REPORTS****VP for Business & Operations**

Abbey Weigel reported that the Facility and Service committee is finally making some progress and decisions. They have a two hour meeting next week to discuss some of the enhancements that could occur for the Viking Union to make it more inviting. She is working with the Budget Committee to make it through all of the AS Budgets as well as to get Budget authorities to come in and discuss their respective budgets. The Business Director Hiring Committee is going to meet tomorrow and hopefully next week to get that taken care of.

VP for Academic Affairs

Anne Jansen reported that she is currently in the process of creating her legacy document for next year's AS VP of Academic Affairs. She also has obtained a garden plot in the Outback and offered an invitation for the rest of the Board members to utilize it with her. Scholar's Week is coming up and Jansen encourages all to participate.

VP for Student Life

Nina Lau reported that Piccadilly turnout was around 270. Hiring Committees are getting wrapped up including the Program Director for KUGS. This position will be discussed tomorrow and hopefully a decision will be reached by the end of the week.

VP for Legislative & Governmental Affairs

Erik Lowe reported that he is in the midst of putting together his legacy document. He did not receive one last year so he wants to make sure that his successor is well-trained and knows what she is doing when she steps into the position. ASTAC met on Monday and discussed a list of proposals that will be brought forth to the Student Senate next week detailing alternative transportation proposals for Western's campus. There is over three pages worth of changes the committee would like to see changed. Legislative Affairs Council is continuing to review new ideas for next year's Legislative Agenda. Some ideas that were brought up at this week's meeting include college contraceptive policies, faculty salaries, and an environmental stance for the WSL. Yesterday, Lowe and Espinoza met with Dr. Shepard to discuss some issues that students are currently facing.

President

Ramiro Espinoza reported that this morning, the Service and Activities Fee Committee was interesting. Model UN was discussed most of the time and it was not approved. There were some concerns about some of the preparation factors for allocating money toward it in the way that was envisioned. Espinoza had a discussion with several of the Student Affairs

Directors in the areas of athletics, campus recreation, housing, career services and academic advising. That was a positive discussion about how the AS could look at being involved in the future at a level of representing the students without being caught up in a constituency sort of conflict of interest (being responsible to students for all fees). It was a good discussion. He met with the new President-Elect, Dr. Shepard, which was good. Espinoza has been spending time with Lowe, working on his education in everything there is to know about being AS President. He is very happy with how this has been going so far, believing that Lowe will be in much better shape than Espinoza was when he took the job. There are two Western teams for Ski to Sea (some dropped out due to not getting back before the deadline). We got some support from KUGS and the transportation folks so we may have a bus and trailer with some music for the parade. We were hoping to have KUGS playing music during the race but could not due to the worry that equipment could get wet. The forum with the Equal Opportunity Office went really well; it was not an incredibly well-attended event but there was a very interesting discussion that occurred. Espinoza went to the Seattle Business forum on Monday and it went very well. He got to hear some students speak at the event (which was sold out). The Governor of Washington and the CEO of Boeing came and was the keynote speaker. Espinoza met with several friends of the University and talked about Leadership Advantage and supporting Western. The students who went did an incredible job of representing the University. Espinoza also reported that he would like to meet with the Board after the meeting to have a short discussion.

VP for Activities

Aaron Garcia reported that the Wall Street Warriors were changed to Western Wall Street. Other than that, there were no new clubs recognized. \$2000 was given to WARN for their annual dinner. It was given in the form of an underwrite so they should pay back some of this amount from their ticket sales. It is normally a well-attended event and they are expecting about 250 people. One council member was conflicted in regards to this issue because the group would have to go through Sodexo for catering (which may be against WARN's ideology) because no exemption could be given. The End of the Year Banquet is going to be semi-formal attire and Garcia requests that people please RSVP. The formal invitations will be out soon. The event will be on May 29th at 7pm and Kevin Majkut will be speaking. Promotions Committee is meeting soon to go over the recommendations for the final logo which has been in the process of being created all year. Also, Garcia stated that San Francisco is a very nice city.

VP for Diversity

Kayla Britt reported that she is working on wrapping up Hiring Committees. Also, since it is spring time, many of the ESC clubs are having elections so they have been going over their respective charge and charters especially since a lot of them are going through their election processes for the first times. As a non-voting member, Britt is also helping several ESC clubs count their ballots. The ESC end of the year event is going to be on June 6th.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS- There was no other business.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 7:18 P.M.