

**ASWWU
Legislative Affairs Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 19, 2008
VU 462B**

Legislative Affairs Council Members	<i>Present:</i> Adam Day, Joel Graves, Alexander Garcia <i>Absent:</i> Gina Tichenor, Devin Malone, Tracy Lamont
AS VP Legislative Affairs	Erik Lowe <i>Present</i>
Legislative Liaison	Sarah Ishmael <i>Absent</i>
WSL Chapter Chair	Kristina Mader <i>Absent</i>
Advisor	Kevin Majkut <i>Absent</i>

MOTION 08-W-006	To approve the minutes of February 12 th , 2008.	<i>Passed</i>
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I. CALL TO ORDER

Erik Lowe, AS VP Legislative Affairs called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.

II. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION 08-W-006 by Lowe

To approve the minutes of February 12th, 2008.

Vote: 4-0-0 Action: *Passed*

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

None

V. CHAIR REPORT

Erik Lowe reported that due to the busyness created by midterms this past week, there is not very much for him to report. He had talked with people from DRS today and is hoping to get much of their funding situation handled from a university standpoint rather than a legislative one.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

At this point in the legislative session, Ishmael is mainly pushing for things from our agenda that are still alive. The policy cutoff has already passed. Most of what she has been working on the last week has been environmental bills. More information in this matter can be found by contacting Lowe. The child care bill that we supported

unanimously passed out of the house, however, there is a problem in that it looks like legislators are going to be asking for a lot more money (in general) than the governor may want and one of the first things that may be cut is the child care bill because it is not necessarily top priority for many people. The bill still needs to be passed by the senate. Ishmael is currently working on getting a leadership forum on campus with various people from the legislature (still in the planning stages). There has been a lot of talk with Rep. Jarrett about his performance contract bill. There is no way to discuss killing the bill because of the amount of momentum it now has, however, our concerns can be alleviated if we have students on committees that form the performance contracts themselves. Jarrett apparently believed students to be filling a “consumer” role in regards to this bill, and thus believes that they do not need to provide any input. Lowe and Ishmael have pushed for student involvement and Jarrett has allowed for one student, preferably from the Board of Directors. Lowe prefers two, primarily because all other groups that are represented have two representatives (e.g. faculty, staff, house...). The bill is in the final revision stage right now. There was a guest editorial by Deb Wallace in the Seattle Times in which she discussed campus safety and the need for preventative health care. In regards to this issue, we are still trying to get increased funding for police and emergency personnel because it was cut. There was a bill that came to Ishmael’s attention last week which would allow people to be cited up to \$250 if they could not produce proof for paying a toll for public transit. We took a stance against this because it would be in direct conflict with the WTA policy not to confront those who do not pay. This policy is in place to make it easier for passengers to enter the bus as well as to protect drivers and passengers. Furthermore, most revenue put toward the WTA is from sales tax rather than tolls. It would also cost the WTA and others more money to hire the personnel to enforce this rule.

B. DC UPDATE

The AS Board of Directors approved funding to send Ramiro Espinoza, Ishmael, and Lowe to DC over part of spring break in order to lobby for the Federal Legislative Agenda. The LAC will finalize the specifics of what will be discussed in DC. The reauthorization of the Higher Education Act will likely be a large talking point (depending on how that situation progresses).

VII. ACTION ITEMS

None

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

4:00pm Tuesday, February 26th, 2007
VU 567

IX. ADJOURN

4:29pm