

A.S. STUDENT SENATE MEETING
February 26, 2008
VU 567

Present: Aaron Hayman, Brianne Kumar, Chelsea Fletcher, Danny Tonty, Diana Beilman, Judah Corsini, Kristina Mader, Lurdes Hernandez, Matteo Tamburini, Morgan Holmgren, Mark Provensano, Nicole Brown, Tyler Woodard, Sally McLaughlin

Absent:

Advisor: Greg McBride

Secretary:

Guest: Eric Lowe

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by Chelsea Fletcher

Summary of Motions:

Motion #023 -W- 08 to approve the minutes from 2/19/08

I. Approval of Minutes – 2/19/08

Motion #023 -W- 08 to approve the minutes from 2/19/08, with noted revisions made by Morgan

Second: Brianne

Vote: 9-0-0

Passed.

II. Revisions to the Agenda

III. Public Forum

IV. Information Items

None

V. Action Items

None

VI. Discussion Items

a. Issue of the Month for March

Chelsea suggested that they leave the Tech Fee as the issue of the month for March but reword it. They began to discuss the Issue of the Month for April. Sally informed the Senators that they reactivated the chapter of WASHPrig – Peer interest research group focusing on climate change. They have been working with the environmental center and other organizations to coordinate the Earth Day event. The idea they are trying to market right now is the Earth Day Barter Fair – Trading Ideas for the Future. She thought it would be nice to have the Senates issue of the month coincide with that. Chelsea asked Sally to email everyone the purpose of the event so the Senators could think about it.

b. Letters for Sarah

Letters for the Legislative Liaison were due, Chelsea asked the Senators to turn in any letters they had. Eric informed them that they could drop them by his office as well if the letters were not ready tonight.

VII. Senate Reports and Concerns

- a. Sally McLaughlin** Handed out posters and asked if any Senators would be interested in helping pass them out, they were for Recycle Mania. She is going to be on Vendors row on Wednesday with the recycle center handing out free hot chocolate and coffee to people who bring their reusable mugs, WASHPrig will also be on Vendors row Wednesday. She went to the board meeting last week to talk about the smoking forum, she passed out handbills for the forum; posters should be posted on campus soon.

- b. **Diana Beilman** Tomorrow at 7 in Miller Hall there is a presentation by graduate from Brigham Young his presentation will be on health and how you can increase your own health and longevity, the presentation is called, Add Ten to Twenty Years to Your Life. Thursday there is the anxiety workshop from 3 – 4 pm in Old Main 540, being put on by the Student Health and Wellness Center.
- c. **Lurdes Hernandez** Spoke about Naked Truth on Stereotypes and gave dates, times, locations. March 20th-April 4th is National Week of Action celebrating Cesar Chaves and MLK.
- d. **Morgan Holmgren** he attended the Cornel West presentation last Tuesday and thought it was a great presentation. He also attended presentations on the conservative legal movement in the United States, it is part of a series of presentations that the school is putting on, about research different Professors in the school are doing. They host those in the VU on the 4th floor if anyone is interested. Last Thursday he went to the Senate bylaws review committee and they got through about three articles.
- e. **Tyler Woodard** Nothing new to report.
- f. **Nicole Brown** spoke to a student who was interested in finding information about off campus housing; she was informed this was something the Legal Info Center can advise on.
- g. **Mark Provenzano** A student recently approached him about trying to find a venue for a rapper he was representing on campus. He was unsure of who to send him to talk to; Greg told him he should send him to AS productions.
- h. **Brianne Kumar** Waiting for meetings with the Budget Committee. Working on the Senate Website with Chelsea.
- i. **Aaron Hayman** Attended speaker Steven Prothero as part of the president distinguished lecture series, the president sponsors an individual in the academic community outside of Western every quarter last quarter this Professor from Boston University, spoke about religious literacy from a secular prospective arguing why religion should be in a secular nonbiased fashion brought into schools so that we are aware of what and when and how politicians use religion. There is going to be another speaker from Harvard takes economic issues and applies them to race.
- j. **Judah Corsini** He attended the University planning Council.
- k. **Danny Tonty** Informed the Senators of events going on, on campus such as Naked Truth and International Women's Day. Last week he went to see the Naomi Ban who spoke about her life during the holocaust.
- l. **Matteo Tamburini** Informed the Senators that he attended the Institutional Racism Rally put on by the Muslim Student Association, where he heard stories about instances during which (possibly) part-time faculty members discriminated against their students. Complaints were sent to Equal Opportunity Office, who stated they would have faculty members write an apology note, however, no notes were ever received. According to a poll taken by the Western Front, only 50% of students at Western recognize that racism and harassment take place on campus. He protested the presence of military recruiters at the WWU Career Fair on Thursday February 14th, and was escorted out of the VU Multipurpose Room by Campus Police. He reminded the Senators that during a similar protest that took place on campus last Winter, the only student of color present was arrested – even though later the arrest was deemed unjustified. The University Police and Administration do not want to be held responsible for paying the legal fees that the student incurred during this unjustified arrest.
- m. **Kristina Mader** Informed the Senators about events on campus such as Naked Truth, Vagina Memoirs, and other various events. She asked the Senators if anyone was going to the Roots concert, and asked them to make sure to be careful not to damage the gym, because it has been almost ten years since we were allowed to have concerts in there. She also discussed the transition the Model UN is going through from being an AS club to a Political Science Departmental program.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm by Chelsea.