

A.S. STUDENT SENATE MEETING
April 8, 2008
VU 567

Present: Aaron Hayman, Brianne Kumar, Chelsea Fletcher, Danny Tonty, Diana Beilman, Lurdes Hernandez, Matteo Tamburini, Mark Provencano, Morgan Holmgren, Nicole Brown, Sally McLaughlin
Absent: Judah Corsini, Kristina Mader, Tyler Woodard,
Advisor: Greg McBride
Secretary: Brooke Hayter
Guest: Brittany Otter, Trevor Cased, Annie Jansen, Dan McLafferty, Chelsea Bardess

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Chelsea Fletcher

Summary of Motions:

Motion #002 -S- 08 to approve the minutes from 4/1/08

Motion# 003 – S – 08 to approve the issue of the month, with the wording submitted by Aaron

Motion# 004 - S - 08 to amend the second bullet point of the Tech Fee Resolution to State, “Applying the current fee of \$17 to undergraduate students taking 6 or more credits who are not ‘full time’ students.” Made by Matteo.

I. Approval of Minutes – 2/26/08

Motion #002 -S- 08 to approve the minutes from 4/1/08, made by Sally

Second: Brianne

Vote: 7-2-0

Passed.

II. Revisions to the Agenda

Add item A, CBC/DRAC and B, Earth Day, under Information Items. Move Action Item B, Tech Fee Resolution after the Discussion Items.

III. Public Forum

Brittney Otter informed the Senators that next week is disability awareness week.

IV. Information Items

a. CBC/DRAC

Chelsea informed the Senators that the Cold Beverage Contract (CBC) was going to be renewed this year. Ramiro asked her to have a few of the Senators look into the possibility of changing the company from Pepsi to possibly Jones Soda, which is a local company. He would like the Senators to possibly hold a forum on this topic as well as for the Department Related Activities Committee (DRAC). This committee deals with money that is allocated to student activities on campus, yet the students have minimal input on what activities the money goes to. He would like the Senators to look into this as well as the CBC. Chelsea will be sending out more information on these two items to the Senators this week.

b. Earth Day

Sally wanted to discuss Earth Day with the Senators and see how they felt about the possibility of having a Senate table at Earth Day. Chelsea offered to man the table and other Senators who wanted to volunteer spoke with Chelsea and Sally after the meeting had ended. Sally also shared some of her ideas for Earth Day such a species parade or a clubs that care parade. She wanted the Senators to think about some other ideas for Earth Day as well.

V. Action Items

a. Issue of the Month

When discussing the question for the issue of the month Sally had brought to the previous Senate meeting she proposed that they only use the first three sentences which would have stated, "Would you support a ban across campus on the sale of bottled water as an effort to reduce waste and to make a statement about Western's commitment to the future? Water bottles are not problematic only in relation to its disposal, but also their manufacture. Should flavored water and soda be exempt?" The Senators began to discuss the question and some senators wondered if there could be a better way of wording it. Some members felt that if the question was left the way it was they would only be receiving yes and no answers. The Senators also discussed whether or not they wanted to add juice bottles into the question as well.

Matteo entered at 6:40pm.

Aaron rewrote the question out in this way, "Water bottles manufactured from petroleum products are not only problematic in relation to their disposal, but also their manufacture. Would you support a ban across campus on the sale of bottled water as an effort to reduce waste and to make a statement about Western's commitment to the future? Should a ban on plastic bottles include soda, juice and other beverages?" The Senators all came to an agreement on this wording. Diane motioned to approve the question of the month that Aaron had submitted to the Senators.

Motion# 003 – S – 08 to approve the issue of the month, with the wording submitted by Aaron.

Second: Brianne

Vote: 10-0-0

Passed.

b. Tech Fee Resolution

Judah and Brianne submitted the Tech Fee Resolution for the Senators to look over. Chelsea and Ramiro looked over the Resolution prior to the meeting and found some potential issues. They wondered if increasing the Tech Fee to \$25 was enough. They also wondered whether \$3 would go to the STC rather than the \$2 they currently receive. They also discussed the fact that the STC website should state how much money goes to the STF and the STC. Senators wondered where the \$25 came from and why they could not increase it. Annie informed the Senators that there was going to be some lobbying in the future for the University to match student funds. The members of the STF committee did not want to raise the amount any more than \$25 because they did not want to put the burden of technology on students, when it is essential to our learning. Annie also informed the Senators that along with the increased amount given by the students which currently brings in \$750,000, they would be asking the University to increase the amount they give to the STF by \$50,000, totaling \$200,000. Another change in the resolution was that all students who are not full time students would also pay the amount of \$25. Matteo motioned to amend the second bullet point to state "Applying the current fee of \$17 to undergraduate students taking 6 or more credits who are not 'full time' students."

Mark left at 7:30pm

Motion# 004 - S - 08 to amend the second bullet point of the Tech Fee Resolution to State, "Applying the current fee of \$17 to undergraduate students taking 6 or more credits who are not 'full time' students." Made by Matteo.

Second: Sally

Tabled.

Further discussion was held on this motion, some Senators felt that non "full time" students should still pay the full \$25 as an increase in technology would be assisting everyone on campus. Other Senators felt there was no need to have them pay \$25 as they most likely use the technology on campus less than a "full time" student would. No vote was taken on the motion and discussion will continue at next week's meeting.

Motion# 004 - S – 08 to table the discussion of the motion and bring the meeting to an end, made by Brianne.

Second: Nikki

Vote: 9-0-0

Passed.

VI. Discussion Items

a. Smoking Forum

Sally asked the Senators to look over the report she had submitted. She found 3 main issues at the forum. These issues dealt with health, civil rights, and the environment. During the forum

they discussed holding an education campaign on campus and the possibility of installing smoking huts. They also discussed funding for the smoking huts. Sally was informed that the Tobacco companies give money for educational purposes and could possibly help Western to fund the huts; some were concerned that accepting money from a tobacco company would be problematic. The Senators decided it would be their responsibility to look into all of these issues further including the possible locations for the huts. The Senators each went around the room and expressed their attitudes about what was discussed at the forum. The Senators also discussed the possibility of having a Senate sponsored tent where smokers could go for a few days to give their feelings on having smoking huts on campus. Senators who were interested in this issue are going to set up a meeting time to look into some of the options they have.

b. Promotions Committee

Nikki passed around the current AS logo and asked for the Senators input on it. Some of the Senators really liked it, especially considering how versatile it was, they felt that it could be put on anything. Others disliked it, they felt it should look more like a thumb print, and possibly explain what is exactly the AS is. She also passed around a poster the promotions committee made for the AS which the Senators discussed. The Senators did not particularly care for the poster; they felt it was more directed for a blood drive.

VII. Other Business

VIII. Senate Reports and Concerns

None

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm by Chelsea.