

A.S. STUDENT SENATE MEETING
April 15, 2008
VU 567

Present: Aaron Hayman, Brianne Kumar, Chelsea Fletcher, Danny Tonty, Diana Beilman, Judah Corsini, Lurdes Hernandez, Matteo Tamburini, Morgan Holmgren, Sally McLaughlin
Absent: Kristina Mader, Tyler Woodard, Nicole Brown, Mark Provencano
Advisor: Greg McBride
Secretary: Brooke Hayter
Guest: Elliott Hindman, Annie Walden-Newman, Lacey Stuart, Ramiro Espinoza

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

Summary of Motions:

Motion #005 -S- 08 to approve the minutes from 4/15/08, made by Diana

Motion# 006 – S – 08 called motion # 004 – S – 08 to question by Sally

Motion# 007 - S - 08 to remove both the third and last bullet points from the resolution, made by Sally.

Motion# 008 – S – 08 to remove the now third bullet point.

Motion# 009 – S – 08 to approve the resolution regarding the Student Technology Fee, made by Sally.

I. Approval of Minutes – 4/15/08

Motion #005 -S- 08 to approve the minutes from 4/15/08, made by Diana

Second: Brianne

Vote: 7-0-0

Passed.

II. Revisions to the Agenda

Information item A was added – American Civil Liberties Union.

III. Public Forum

IV. Information Items

a. American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

The American Civil Liberties Union is an AS club. They came to speak to the Senators about the Rule of 3 law within Whatcom County. This law states that if you live in a single family home where the zoning law applies, you cannot have 3 or more unrelated people living in the house. Currently the law is not being enforced; many landlords however are beginning to ask city council to enforce the law due to the abundance of recent noise complaints. The ACLU would like to hold a council with the City Council. In order to raise awareness of the issue the ACLU wanted to ask the Senate to consider making this their issue of the month for May.

V. Action Items

a. Tech Fee

The Senators had an opportunity to ask Ramiro any questions they had for him about the Student Technology Fee Resolution. Sally asked Ramiro what his concerns were about adding two more at large positions to the STF committee. Ramiro responded by saying it invites the University to do the same thing on other fronts. He also informed the Senators that even if this bullet point is on the resolution he will still represent it whether or not he agrees with it. Sally informed the Senators that she would like to send something with Ramiro that is comprehensive to take to President Morse, and that she does not feel this bullet point is necessary in this particular document, she felt the Senate should focus their support on raising the amount of money students pay towards the STF. The discussion then turned towards what the Senators felt would be a reasonable increase for the STF and whether or not they should lower the amount paid by students who are not full time. Discussion on this topic continued, specifically on the

amendment Matteo had made at the previous meeting, which stated, “Applying the current fee of \$17 to undergraduate students taking 6 or more credits, who are not ‘full time’ students.” Sally called the amendment to question.

Motion# 006 – S – 08 called motion # 004 – S – 08 to question by Sally
Second: Matteo **Vote:** 6-2-0 **Passed.**

Senators continued with discussion on the STF. They began to discuss the significance of the final bullet point on the resolution. It was stated that the original reason for adding that bullet point in was to ensure that the AS worked with the STF committee to raise awareness about what the STF provides for students. Some Senators did not feel it was necessary to have in this particular resolution.

Motion# 007 – S – 08 to remove both the third and last bullet point from the resolution, made by Sally.
Second: Morgan
Discussion continued.
Morgan called the motion to question. **Vote:** 5-2-1 **Passed.**

Morgan then motioned to remove the now third bullet point.

Motion# 008 – S – 08 to remove the now third bullet point.
Second: Judah **Vote:** 7 -0-1 **Passed.**

Chelsea reread through the bullet points, friendly amendments were made to add “for full time students” after the word quarter in the first bullet point. Another friendly amendment was made to removed the words “each and” in the second whereas.

Motion# 009 – S – 08 to approve the resolution regarding the Student Technology Fee, made by Sally.
Second: Diana **Vote:** 8-0-0 **Passed.**

VI. Discussion Items

a. Electoral Action Training

Morgan informed the Senators that the Students for Civic Engagement (SCE) were sponsoring a weekend, April 26 – 27, from 10am – 6pm and 9am – 12pm. The event is free for students, it is training for voter registration drives, candidate campaigns etc. Students can pick up registration forms from Erik Lowe in the board office. Morgan would like the Senators to attend. He also informed them about the movie night being put on by the SCE this Thursday. The movie is called *Hot Politics*, it is a frontline film.

VII. Other Business

VIII. Senate Reports and Concerns

- a. **Diana Beilman** spoke with a few students on campus about our current petroleum based bottle problem. She found that this issue was of great importance to the students. People were very hesitant to agree with banning all soda, juice and water bottles unless there is some kind of alternative. One student suggested only selling the larger quantity bottles, like the 1 liters and promoting a reuse ideology. Before recycling. This student believed that it would help with the waste because, only those who were thirsty enough would actually buy them. Every student agreed that sometimes it is nice to have a variety of fresh beverages for convenient consumption. Most of the students supported Jones soda, but it was noted that there are many die-hard Pepsi fans. There were also suggestions to look into soda companies that can provide glass bottles.
- b. **Brianne Kumar** attended the AS Budget Committee meeting on April 12.

This was their second meeting, they did introductions & explanations for committees and the actual budget. Will begin tackling the budget on Wednesday 04-14-08.

- c. **Morgan Holmgren** The Washington Student Lobby held its Board of Directors meeting on Saturday where they discussed the successes and failures of the past legislative session. The AS Budget Committee started meeting last Thursday and will continue to meet until at least mid-May. At this time there is no AS Election Board, there are 12 open seats, and any senator who is not affiliated with a campaign should fill out a committee request form and join the Election Board. Being a member of the board is not demanding and only requires people to be available to arbitrate a grievance if one is filled. On Thursday the Students for Civic Engagement are hosting a movie night as part of College Civics Week, the movie will be the Frontline Documentary 'Hot Politics' and each segment of the film will be followed by a discussion. Also the Students for Civic Engagement are helping sponsor the Electoral Action Training (EAT) that involves educating students about how to run a campaign for issues or a candidate.
- d. **Nicole Brown** I'm going to be looking into the Cold Beverage Contract issue with Lurdes and hopefully developing a resolution out of that. I will be going to the Promotions Committee meeting this Friday with the Senate's comments from the last Senate meeting.
- e. **Lurdes Hernandez** gave information about events on campus such as Men Stopping Violence against Women in Uttar Pradesh, India: a qualitative study of male involvement in social change. She also gave information about the Latin Student Union heritage dinner. It is this Saturday April 26 in the VU multipurpose room. It is 10 dollars with student ID and 15 without. The dinner is from 6 -9pm, the keynote speakers are Dr. Joseph Garcia and Dr. Hugo Garcia, and tickets are available through the PAC box office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm by Chelsea.