

Western Washington University Associated Students
Student Senate Meeting
Tuesday, November 18, 2008

VU 543

Present: Annie Jansen, Nick Gaddy, Brianne Kumar, Justin Van Dyk, Chelsea Bourdess, Nikki Brown, Justin Gazabat, Rebekah Johnson
Absent: Chelsea Fletcher, Judah Corsini, Dan McLafferty, Wyatt Ho, Danielle Dickson
Advisor: Greg McBride
Secretary: Brooke Hayter
Guest: Sarah Ishmael, Morgan Holmgren

Annie Jansen, Student Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

S-08-F-03 Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, October 28th.

I. Approval of Minutes

MOTION S-08-F-03

Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, October 28th, made by Niki.

Second: Nick Vote: 6 - 0 - 1 Action: **Passed**

II. Revisions to the Agenda

Discussion item C. Time Line

III. Public Forum

Sarah Ishmael the Vice President for Legislative and Governmental Affairs and Morgan Holmgren the Legislative Liaison came to explain the State Legislative Agenda which was passed by the Legislative Affairs Council.

IV. Information Items

A. Slacklining

Senators decided this would not be the issue of the month. They will be holding off discussion on this item until later in the year.

B. Issue of the Month

Senators discussed whether or not they thought they should have an issue of the month for November. The issue was discussed later, under Discussion Item C. Time Line.

C. Senate Logo

Postponed until next week.

V. Action Items

A. Election of Vice Chair

Annie informed the Senators that they could nominate themselves for the Vice Chair position or be nominated by another Senator. Nikki was the only candidate nominated for this position and was approved by acclamation.

B. Election of Parliamentarian

Justin Van Dyk nominated himself for this position. He thought it would be fun to assist Annie with parliamentary procedure during the meetings. Justin was the only candidate for this position and was approved by acclamation.

VI. Discussion Items

A. Legislative Agenda

Senators began by looking over the Legislative Agenda. Nikki questioned whether we could have an effective discussion on the Agenda considering they just received the document that night. Senators continued to look over the Agenda. Some Senators felt the agenda was vague. Sarah explained that they Legislative Affairs Council did not feel the document was vague, but rather broad. Because they are not actually writing legislation, they are able to see what legislation fits under these purviews much easier. It will give Morgan license to act upon several pieces of legislation that fit within the particular points on the Agenda. The Senators next asked which points on the Agenda were new. Sarah and Morgan explained the new bullet points. Under the Funding section the final bullet point was new. This bullet states that WWU supports funding for the Academic Guidance and Planning System. Legislative Affairs Committee members felt that this was the best solution for transfer students. It provides web based information so students are able to see which of their credits will transfer to certain schools. The second section that was discussed was Financial Aid. The wording in the second to last bullet was changed. Under the Student Control section, the final bullet point was new. This bullet point states that, WWU students support the appointment of a voting student member on every community and technical College Board of trustees or regents. This failed last year and it is something the LAC members decided they would like to support. Under the Campus Life section, the first bullet point was new. This bullet point focuses on funding that improves accessibility for students with disabilities. The Second bullet point under this section was also new; it states that WWU students support increased funding of campus childcare. Last year the grant system was changed to be dependent upon how much students put into their childcare programs. This amount would then be matched by a certain percentage by the state. They are now asking for an increase in funding for childcare. The last bullet point under Public Transportation was also added, it stated that WWU students support state funding for the creation and use of hybrid and electric mass transit vehicles. When discussing the Environment section Senators questioned why the LAC chose to prioritize local over organic foods. Sarah responded by saying that they felt that it would be local and that these local farm would be organic. They wanted these places to be within Washington State or close to, they felt it would be more economically sustainable to purchase certain items from BC than from Walla walla. Annie stated that she is interested to see how this lines up with dining services priorities on campus. Sarah

responded that from what she has researched this far it does line up with their goals. Sarah will bring more information on this particular issue next week. Next quarter when Morgan is in Olympia he will be giving this legislative agenda to legislatures. When bills come up that Western is against he will be able to use this document to assist his stance against this. Annie stated that this document is a very high priority for the Senate. She would like the Senators to look at the document more closely throughout the next week. Next week this item will be moved onto an action item.

B. Time Line – Issue of the Month

Usually the time line for the issue of the month has been a month. Annie wondered whether or not the Senators felt this was enough time to get feedback. Senators felt that in previous years we have received plenty of input from the students within this time. Annie also asked the Senators if they thought it would be effective to have an issue of the month that started next week and went to the end of the calendar year. The Senators all felt this would be a good idea. It was also suggested that the Senators bring wording for an issue of the month that would start as soon as winter quarter started. The Senators also felt this would be a good idea. They would like to have a question regarding disability awareness.

VII. Senator Reports/Concerns

- **Brianne Kumar** will be attending a meeting for the Tech Fee Committee on December 3rd. Parking appeals has also met, but she has not been able to attend one of those meetings yet. She is currently concerned about the lack of places on campus to put compostable products.
- **Justin Gazabat** Nothing new to report.
- **Nikki Brown** informed the Senators that ACC has been meeting for awhile. Today they discussed academic dishonesty policies during their meeting.
- **Chelsea Bourdess** Was accepted into the Woodring College of Education. She was not able to attend the Parking Appeals Board. Also Structure Task Force will be meeting this Thursday and she should have information to share with the Senators about that at the next meeting.
- **Nick Gaddy** nothing new to report.
- **Rebekah Johnson** Is having trouble figuring out when her committees meet.
- **Justin Van Dyk** Informed Senators that he is still working on applying for committees
- **Annie Jansen** Would like the Senators to help her find grad student who would like to be a Senator. She also apologized about not having a meeting for two weeks in a row, this was not something she had anticipated.

VIII. Other Business:

For those who still need help applying for committees, they should talk with Chelsea Bourdess.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 6:44 P.M.