

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Student Senate Meeting
Tuesday, March 10, 2009 VU 567**

Present: Annie Jansen, Justin Van Dyk, Wyatt Ho, Danielle Dickson, Chelsea Bourdess, Nikki Brown, Nick Gaddy, Patty Hastings
Absent: Jadon Berry, Brianna Kumar
Advisor: Greg McBride
Secretary: Teaira Lacson
Guest: Erik Lowe, Amanda Halle

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

S-09-W-11	Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, March 03, 2009
S-09-W-12	Approval of Wyatt Ho's reinstatement into the Senate

I. Approval of Minutes

MOTION S-09-W-11 by Danielle Dickson, seconded by Nick Gaddy

Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, March 03, 2009

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

II. Revisions to the Agenda

None

III. Public Forum

Amanda from the Western Front

Erik Lowe updated on the D.C. trip and he is now taking on the responsibilities of the trip, so if anyone has any questions—they should ask him.

IV. Information Items-None

V. Action Items

A. Reinstatements

Wyatt has not consecutive minutes, just random. Wyatt said that he still wants to be on the Senate.

MOTION S-09-W-12 by Justin Van Dyk, seconded by Patty Hastings

Approval of Wyatt Ho's reinstatement into the Senate

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0 Action: **Passed**

VI. Discussion Items

A. Viking Village: Serious or Not?

Annie Jansen was on the Viking Village and saw someone had made a post regarding the seriousness of the posts on the forum because people have posted silly things on serious topics. She wanted to know what the senators think of how serious the forum should be;

someone had suggested a “basement” section of Viking Village. Nick Gaddy said that it is reasonable to have a serious part and a less serious part. Wyatt said that he wanted to know whether or not there is a concern, than better to eliminate the bad groups as opposed to the good groups. Annie said that someone was really offended by some of comments by other posters. Erik said that there is an advisory group and they are monitoring the threads closely, there is just a handful who are disrespectful and who make it a point to hurt people—that is the problem. Andy Pederson is the unofficial moderator who pointed out that it is not anonymous and can be tracked to the user, despite the ability to change one’s name. Some people have been banned because they crossed the line. Justin asked what some examples of crossing the line behavior are. Erik replied, personal attacks, making jokes about grammatical, going into threatening language instead of rude language—trying to get a consensus of what is and is not appropriate. Patty asked if they publicly publish how disciplinary action will occur or tracking of W number will be tracked. Erik said that if there is a threat necessary action would be taken. Justin asked how does the university’s bi-laws lay in respect to other public forums like Facebook or Craig’s List. Erik said that the university will have more scrutiny, because we are a close knit community, in moderating as opposed to Craig’s List. Justin asked about the specificity of language on these forums. Erik said it’s mainly about being respectful and knowing the ground rules, when it comes to attacking someone—that is the problem. Patty asked if there is a flagging or blocking option. Erik replied that there is an advisory board of mainly students; they cannot remove posts but users get a warning. When the committee flags something they have a post saying to be appropriate because there is a post saying the topic is being monitored.

VII. Other Business:

- Last Friday, Nikki, Patty and Annie gathered more information in Red Square for the issue of the month. She said it would be a good idea to have a table *and* clipboards for tabling in the future. She got really good feedback from students.
- Annie was looking at the budget. The events have been cost effective; she would like the senators to think of fun ways to reach out to the Washington community and other students; have a brainstorming session in the beginning of the year—with pizza maybe. She thought it would be helpful to have t-shirts for tabling in the spring.

VIII. Senator Reports/Concerns:

A game was played instead of having reports.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 6: 27 P.M.