

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Student Senate Meeting
Tuesday, March 03, 2009 VU 567**

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

Annie Jansen, Student Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

S-09-W-10	Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, February 24, 2009
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I. Approval of Minutes

MOTION S-09-W-0 by *Danielle Dickson* , seconded by Patty
Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, February 24, 2009
Vote: 6 - 0 - 2 Action: **Passed**

II. Revisions to the Agenda

None

III. Public Forum

Sasha Turgman, thinking about applying next year

IV. Information Items

None

V. Action Items

A. Reinstatements

None—Senators are allowed to miss two meetings

B. Federal Legislative Agenda –Doc. 1

Sarah said that she highlighted that she changed, changes from the Senators. The first revision was done by a board member; the second change was to restructure the financial aid to reflect more what it looked like in previous agendas, third to include examples of types of grants we would like to support. It wasn't really a change regarding diversity, she felt that it pertinent to keep the legislative agendas consistent, just a note for next year. This is the federal agenda if it will be sent out. Sarah said that an LAC member felt like there was not enough time for their council to look over the Senate changes. As such LAC thought it would be a good idea to have Senators create a document, as well as LAC and then a conference would occur between Senators and LAC council members. It was brought up in the LAC meeting about not coming up with an agreement that there would be a reconciliation, in which two documents would be

created. There was never really a process in the past and right now it is just an idea that is being discussed. Jadon Berry pointed out a typo in the last bullet of the Financial Aid section. Erik Lowe said that it is more applicable in the last bullet point. In the first bullet, there are two commas, one after “including” and one after “to.” Brianne said that there are too many “ands.” Jadon said that the comma in the Pell grant should not be there. Patty comment on the first bullet of the diversity section. Erik said that if you change the “disable status” then to keep consistency, change the other subsequent portion. Annie said that for next year, they will review revisions to maintain consistency. Jadon asked if we are sending this off to the Board.

Sarah talked about a policy in which both bodies, LAC and the Student Senate, would come up with two documents stating their values. She will have LAC draft a document that would be discussed by the Senate and have that be passed on next year saying this is what we expect. Erik said that it would seem like too much works and since Sarah attends both meetings, she could draft a memo including both views from the two councils. Annie suggested the Senate having an additional meeting so that they can see the document and not worry about planning a joint meeting. It could potentially create a problem, like no quorum. Sarah said that she wanted to address the needs of the Senators and the LAC. Jadon agrees with Sarah about this idea.

MOTION S-09-W-0 by Jadon, seconded by Brianne
Supporting this document and sending it to the Board of Directors
Vote: 8- 0 - 0 Action: **Passed**

VI. Discussion Items

A. Washington DC Trip—Docs 2-3

Sarah said that these documents are provided to give the council an idea of topics that they would support if the Board decides to send students to D.C. She said that if the senators have any questions or additions to the list, they should let her know. Justin asked about the priority of the Loan Forgiveness Programs. Sarah said their goal is to talk to the specific staff about expanding the service. Annie said that there will be a meeting that will approve the funding for the trip. Annie said that this will be an information item if the group decides in such. Jadon said that some of the bills seem targeted of student affordability while others are purely political, support of education should be the main priority. Sarah responded that some of the bills incorporate ideals held by Western, like the environment.

B. Fees

Annie asked the council if they would be interesting in doing a forum because around this year they are renewed. Erik talked about Student Tech Fees. The council is proposing two fees of \$25, instead of \$17 in which the money would go towards updating computer labs to stay at a competitive level and allow students to have the updated technology. A large part would also go towards the student tech center, wireless network updates, expansion, the laptop replacement. Nikki Brown asked if there would be limitations about were a specific amount goes to a certain account. Erik said that there will be a certain amount for specific groups because right now it is a large lump that later gets divided. Annie said that consistently a certain amount goes to updating computer labs and laptops. Next week, she will bring some more information to bring this forward.

C. Warm Weather: bicycling, skateboarding & smoking on campus

Annie said that this was on the Viking Village. It comes up pretty consistently every year. Erik said that he almost got hit by a bicyclist. Justin said that a couple years ago people got tickets for riding their bikes and wondered what happened to that. Erik said that they do have RCWs about riding bikes on campus and there is not enough funding or power to uphold it. Greg said that Red Square is now a dismount zone instead of the fifteen minute before class requirement. He does not recall the specifics about the policy. Annie said that there is respectful way to ride a bike.

D. Off-campus Housing Forum

Annie said that some of Bellingham's policy about people living in neighborhoods, they are having a meeting tonight at 7:00. Justin said that his roommate looked at all the policies and his is multi-family, in which the four or more unrelated roommates is not applicable. However, Greg said that it is true and not true, depending on where they live.

VII. Senator Reports/Concerns

- **Jadon Berry:** he said he would like it if the minutes got e-mailed to them
- **Justin Van Dyk:** primary concern is still the bus stop at Higginson and Nash
- **Patty Hastings:** needs to join a committee
- **Brianne Kumar:** Student Tech Fee is over, no more meetings. Student concern: they are talking about removing the telephone lines and that they can possibly have one, put the student in the room. Erik asked if the housing budget committee reviewed it and Brianne said they she was just listening in and does not know for certain.
- **Nikki Brown:** had ACC meeting and they're considering pilots online
- **Chelsea Bourdess:** put on the job fair today
- **Annie Jansen:** if you register for your classes, take there is a note stating that fall registration will occur in the spring. Justin asked why it took so long. Erik replied that the registrar's office is a bit archaic and they are working hard to bring it up to speed. Brianne asked if there was a percentage reserved for freshmen and Erik replied by saying that it would be very minimal.

VIII. Other Business:

Two senators resigned.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 6:55 P.M.