

**Western Washington University Associated Students  
Student Senate Meeting**

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

VU 567

**Present:** Annie Jansen (Chair), Brianne Kumar, Justin Van Dyk, Danielle Dickson, Nikki Brown, Nick Gaddy, Chelsea Bourdess, Jadon Berry, Patty Hastings  
**Absent:** Wyatt Ho  
**Advisor:** Greg McBride, VU Operations Manager  
**Secretary:** Lauren Leatherberry  
**Guest:**

**Annie Jansen, Student Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:10P.M.**

<b>S-09-S-04</b>	Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, April 7, 2009
<b>S-09-S-05</b>	Motion to send Issue of the Month Recommendation and Response letter to the Board of Directors for their consideration with the changes discussed.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

***MOTION S-09-S-04** by Danielle Dickson, Seconded by Justin Van Dyk*

Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, April 7, 2009

Vote: 4 - 0 - 4      Action: **Motion Failed**

**II. Revisions to the Agenda**

None.

**III. Public Forum**

None.

**IV. Information Items**

None.

**V. Action Items**

**A. Issue of the Month – Recommendation to the Board:** Annie Jansen has completed drafting a letter of recommendation to the AS Board of Directors as per follow-up request addressing tuition increases. The letter, which is signed by Jansen and written on behalf of the senate, does not include a specific recommendation, but rather serves to highlight a few key points about the data. The results include 100% of the reported data. As the Senate reviewed the letter, Nick Gaddy observed that mathematically the data does not add up to 100% of the reported data and would like to see this mistake corrected. Jadon Berry requested that the letter acknowledge lack of student education on the issues in saying, “The Senate advises that the AS Board look into the deficiency in student knowledge. It seems that there is a deficiency in understanding about these issues.” Berry moved that the Senate

send this letter on to the AS Board of Directors for their consideration with the changes discussed. Motion seconded by Patty Hastings and passed 8-0-0.

***MOTION S-09-S-5** by Jadon Berry, Seconded by Patty Hastings*

Approval of the minutes of Tuesday,

Vote: 8 - 0 - 0                      Action: **Passed**

## **VI. Discussion Items**

- A. Service Project Registration:** The service project will take place Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in celebration of earth day. The cite demonstrating the most need is the Patter Creek Trial: A cite for future planting of native plants to improve the wildlife habitat along this trial. Jansen will be the only member of the Senate attending this service opportunity and will be there representing the senate.
- B. Issue of the Month Ideas (Disability Issue):** The language for the issue of the month was drafted this past week and includes questions centered on Disability Awareness. The question is as follows: “A number of Western students live with visible as well as invisible disabilities, including, but not limited to, mobility impairment, learning disorders (such as ADD and ADHD), hardness of hearing, and limited eyesight. What ideas would you suggest to help improve accessibility on campus to both a) resources and b) facilities for students with disabilities?” Responses are anticipated to include both on-campus and off-campus suggestions; both answers will prove helpful.
- C. Senate Involvement in AS Elections:** Ben Murphy, the elections coordinator has asked the senate to staff a polling station during elections week. There will be two polling stations: One in Red Square and one in South Campus. Those Senate members that will be participating in the election must be aware of and abide by election poll restrictions. Murphy has also extended an invitation to Senate members to have a private candidate informational-forum. The senate declined the invitation unanimously, deciding that it would be more appropriate and informative if the candidates would attend the Tuesday, April 21, 2009 forum at 7:00PM in Frasier 4. Jansen will forward the information to senate members if they are interested in helping.

## **VII. Senator Reports/Concerns**

- **Nick Gaddy:** Nick Gaddy met with the Academic Honesty Committee this past week. The committee had a confidential proceeding which included difficult decisions to be made, however Gaddy reports being satisfied with the overall decisions made.
- **Patty Hastings:** Patty Hastings attended the first budget meeting took place on April 14<sup>th</sup>; All organization have to submit budgets by today. Girls in Hastings’ hall would like to see compost bins in every hall as they eat a lot of food in their dorm rooms. Berry commented that he will bring this up to the University Residences Sustainability Committee.
- **Justin Van DyK:** Justin Van Dyk, in addition to Hastings, attended the budget meeting where they analyzed AS department budgets such as the Outdoor Center. The

committee is taking baby steps, such as the Outdoor Center, until they reach more complexities.

- **Jadon Berry:** Berry's committees have yet to meet. He is encouraged by student participation in Disability Awareness Week.
- **Nikki Brown:** Nikki Brown met with the ACC today. The Registrar brought a couple policies that she is concerned about to the committee. These policies include: concerns with course withdrawal policies, graduation honors policies, attendance policies, and policies effecting students' cumulative GPA after repeating courses. The Registrar has requested student input on these issues as they will be making decisions the rest of this quarter and during Fall Quarter 2009.
- **Chelsea Bourdess:** Chelsea Bourdess has been helping out with elections and her committees have yet to meet.
- **Danielle Dickson:** Dickson encouraged members of the senate to take part in Disability Awareness week. The club has raised one hundred-ten dollars in just two days due to bake sale profits on Venders Row.
- **Brianne Kumar:** Brianne Kumar agreed with Browns comments regarding the ACC. She has concerns wrapped around University Residences' Renewal. Issues with the resident renewal process proved complicated and frustrating for many residents as the system crashed on more than one occasion. The Residence Halls are fully booked for the 2009-2010 Academic Year.

#### **VIII. Other Business:**

Jansen submitted next year's Senate budget to Virgilio Cintron, the AS Vice President for Business and Operations. Cintron would like to see 5-10 percent of the senate's budget cut out for next year. Fortunately for the senate, the budget cut doesn't seem to be that drastic. Jansen also commented that she is concerned with WTA busses leaving riders at bus stops. She would like to possibly see the WTA add a component to their website which would include exact times buses would leave from particular spots. Jansen believes that this issue continues to be a source of frustration for some students.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 6:48P.M.**