

**Student Senate Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 19, 2009      VU 567**

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

<b>S-09-S-09</b>	Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, May 5, 2009 and May 12, 2009
<b>S-09-S-10</b>	Motion to consider reinstating Chelsea Bourdess
<b>S-09-S-11</b>	Motion to reinstate Chelsea Bourdess
<b>S-09-S-12</b>	Motion to consider reinstating Nick Gaddy
<b>S-09-S-13</b>	Motion to reinstate Nick Gaddy

**Annie Jansen, Student Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:07P.M.**

***MOTION S-09-S-10*** by *Jadon Berry*, seconded by Danielle Dickson  
Motion to consider reinstating Chelsea Bourdess  
Vote: 2 - 0 - 1      Action: **Passed**

**Closed Session.**

***MOTION S-09-S-11*** by *Jadon Berry*, seconded by Danielle Dickson  
Motion to reinstate Chelsea Bourdess  
Vote: 2 - 0 - 1      Action: **Passed**

**I. Approval of Minutes**

***MOTION S-09-S-09*** by *Jadon Berry*, seconded by Danielle Dickson  
Approval of the minutes of Tuesday, May 5, 2009 and Tuesday, May 12, 2009  
Vote: 3 - 0 - 1      Action: **Passed**

**II. Revisions to the Agenda**

Decision to remove Action Item A because neither Brianne Kumar nor Nikki Brown were present.

**III. Public Forum**

Virgilio Cintron, Associated Students Vice President for Business and Operations was present to discuss the AS Election Appeals Panel.

**IV. Information Items**

- a. **Election Appeals Panel (Virgilio Cintron):** Once a grievance is filed during the election period, it goes to the election board and the election board makes a ruling to try and make the election fairer. If they rule to disqualify, the candidate had a right to appeal that decision to the AS Election Appeals panel which will review that decision and make a motion to reinstate a candidate. If a motion is not made, then the decision to disqualify the candidate will be upheld. The reason Cintron had decided to bring this to the senate because in order to make the processes more transparent and less vulnerable to foreign influence, further changes in the future must be approved by the AS Board and the Senate. The charge of this committee may not be changed unless the by-laws are changed, however the membership may be. The idea then, is that the Senate acts as an added step.

**At 6:14 Nick Gaddy joined the meeting.**

Jadon Berry commented that seeing as though all senate members are members of the given selection committees, he believes that it would make sense for senate members to make up the committee. Janson suggested that although the senate is not elected, the nature of the committee suggests that it isn't necessary and that the senate is not a decision making board, but review decisions already made.

***MOTION S-09-S-12** by Danielle Dickson, seconded by Chelsea Bourdess*

Motion to consider reinstating Nick Gaddy

Vote: 3 - 0 - 0            Action: **Passed**

**Closed Session.**

***MOTION S-09-S-13** by Chelsea Bourdess, seconded by Jadon Berry*

Motion to reinstate Nick Gaddy

Vote: 3 - 0 - 0            Action: **Passed**

- b. **Disability Awareness:** Online responses were reviewed by Jansen and also from outside of the AS Board office. Responses were mostly deemed helpful. As an information item this week, if anything needs to be forwarded onto the AS Board of Directors, then this will be an action item for next week. With regards to provided information, recommendations for disability accessibility included: bathroom accessibility, ASL classes at Western Washington University, and wheel chair access chairs in the Library. Jansen will work on a cover letter to send to the Board. The Equal Opportunity office and Facilities will also get copies.
- c. **Summer issue of the Month:** Jansen would like to see the Summer issue of the month be something about school during the summer, accessibility of summer

classes, financial aid access during summer quarter, or the opinion of registering for classes in the spring for Fall Quarter. Nick Gaddy recommended that there be two issues during the summer. Jansen will draft up some language for a couple. Berry recommended that the issue be surrounding opinions on semester vs. quarter systems.

- d. By-Law Amendments:** Jansen would like to reformat the student senate by-laws so that the format is portrait styled instead of landscape. The following are recommendations made by senate members for changes to the senate by-laws:
- i. That each senator meet with one regular committee. Discussion surrounding this idea included one objection as the Academic honesty committee did not meet so frequently, but a lot of experience was gained when they did meet by the senate members. If such a change is accepted, this would mean structural changes for the senate. The hope for the senate is to get people to be involved in specific things they want to. Greg McBride recommends that the Board evaluate how they are appointed senators to committees. McBride recommends that there is intentionality behind appointing senators to committees. As a matter of policy, it is possible to change this in practice because it hasn't really been done this way before. It might be smart to make that transition before the by-law change is accepted.
  - ii. Changes in individual membership. As an advisory board to the BOD, it does not make sense for the senate members to be on the BOD committee. Previous years they have been AS employees on the senate. Thus, you are allowed to be an AS employee. Berry suggested the section 4.3 be at the beginning. They are not technically a member of the senate. They are an advisory member.
  - iii. The senate believes that articles 2 and 4 may be consolidated. They should all be at the beginning as part of article 2.
  - iv. Take out the chair of the senate shall not have a vote
  - v. Add a section 3.7.2.a to say the parliamentarian is required to receive formal training and give training to the senate within one month of election. McBride is capable of providing this training and the senate budget may be used to purchase training materials for it. There is a process issue with this in that it is an elected person of the senate, the first of second meeting to the senate. Parliamentary procedures happen after, when they are expected to receive the training before they begin serving on the Senate.

vi. That governing individuals must be represent to have a meeting. Thus, it would be necessary to eliminate section 3.8 and add the policy instead where the by-laws discuss the vice-chair position.

vii. Add something about the vacancy of the vice chair person.

Jansen will make a track changes document and bring it to next week's meeting.

**V. Action Items**

None

**VI. Discussion Items**

None

**VII. Senator Reports/Concerns**

a. **Returning to Senate—Summer and Fall:**

**VIII. Other Business:**

Jansen requested that senate members be emailing her their favorite pizza toppings throughout the week as there will be a "surprise" for senate members next senate meeting.

Gaddy reported that the health care panel was a success and everyone attending was pleased.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 7:04P.M.**