

ASUW Student Senate  
February 15, 2005  
Minutes

Respectfully submitted by Senate Secretary Alex Kim

Committee meetings preceded the convention of the Senate.

Call to order at 5:20pm.

Chair **Zach Tobin** called for modifications to the agenda.

**Ryan Mattson** moved to approve the agenda. Seconded. The motion passed.

### Committee Reports

Campus Affairs Chair **Mike Leichner** reported that the committee discussed R-11-22: A Resolution Condemning Anti-Semitism.

Academic Affairs Chair **Steve Kushnir** said the committee discussed R-11-20 for the third week.

General Affairs Chair **Nick Dayton** said the committee talked about R-11-23, and it passed unanimously with no recommendation.

Publicity and Outreach Vice-Chair **Mary Buslon** reported that the committee talked about the Spring Social and said that more information would be available next week. They're waiting to hear back about the big banner.

Membership Committee Vice-Chair **Angie Wallace** reported that it also discussed the Spring Social.

Off-Campus Affairs Chair **Mae Diligencia** reported that the committee talked about the biohazard facility meeting and she said there were two meetings coming up.

Faculty and Administrative Affairs Chair **Joel Murray** said they passed R-11-21, the resolution concerning the Center for Instructional Development and Research.

### Chair's Report

**Zach** introduced ASUW Legislative Coordinator **Krystal Starwich**.

**Krystal** said that the Lobby Day website was up and running and groups could register online. She said that, like last year, groups with large attendance would win cash, and individuals would be entered into drawing for iPods. She said the Lobby Day itinerary was online as well.

**Zach** said that last year, Team Senate had a great turnout that resulted in money for a Senate BBQ at the end of the year. He encouraged all senators to join Team Senate for Lobby Day.

**Zach** continued his report, saying that he met with the Faculty Committee for Instructional Quality and that it was very receptive to our resolution on overload policy transparency. He also invited any comments on MGH 389 and whether it would be good for Senate meetings. Also, he said he is offering another lunch for the first person to submit two pieces of viable legislation.

### Board of Directors Report

Director **Chris Barrows** described last Thursday's BOD Meeting as "a power meeting." He said the UW Alumni Association is planning its first annual "Washington Weekend", a chance for students, faculty, and alumni to get together and celebrate the school. He said that the Alumni Association was seeking student input on how more students might be attracted to the event. He said the Board also passed the Elections Procedures Packet, which are guidelines for ASUW elections. He said elections would be on May 9-12 this year.

Director **Garrett Parks** reported that today at the Faculty Council for Instructional Quality, they developed a survey to gauge student feelings about classroom climate. They wanted to know how students felt about the experience in class. It would be going out on a pilot run in selected classes. He said focus groups would be formed to answer some questions. He said anyone interested in participating in this could contact him.

**Chris** added that he wanted to have all commuter senators meet with him in a few weeks and talk about commuter issues.

### GPSS Report

GPSS Liaison **Hala Dillsi** reported that the GPSS heard feedback from the Provost Search Committee. They also discussed the biohazard facility and I-200 issues.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Old Business

#### R-11-8: A Resolution Encouraging the University of Washington to Distribute Essential Medicines to Third World Nations

Sponsor **Lysondra Ludwig** said the legislation was about urging the UW to allow for drugs developed here to be distributed cheaper for third world nations.

**J.B. Maxwell** asked if UW would lose any money. **Lysondra** said they shouldn't, because it wouldn't affect the pharmaceutical companies producing the drugs.

**Mike Leichner** wanted to change the word “allowing” in the title because it sounded awkward.

**Angelena Crown** said she still worried that the UW would lose money because it would affect who might even want to bid with UW.

**Brendan Levy** said this would not cause UW to lose money and it would also save lives in the third world.

*Secretary **Alex Kim** moved to amend the title and replace “allowing” with “encouraging”. Seconded.*

*The amendment passed.*

**Karl Smith** asked about the 3<sup>rd</sup> THAT clause that was removed in committee.

**Lysondra** said it had been to encourage UW to continue research in vital areas.

**Alex Kim** asked for clarification on financial details. **Lysondra** said that right now, pharmaceutical companies bought drug licenses from us and then produced them here.

**Brendan Levy** said it was more expensive to distribute in these outer markets and so it wouldn't affect main business here.

Membership Coordinator **Jon Lee** wondered what incentives generic manufacturers would have for distributing to the third world. **Lysondra** replied that the distribution would be taken care of by non-profit organizations.

**Mike Leichner** asked if this would support granting licenses to all generic companies seeking them. **Lysondra** said each patent license would be different, and there were other people working on the legalese. **Mike** said he was still curious how a patent would work to allow almost anyone else besides a main manufacturer to distribute to anyone else besides citizens of wealthy nations.

**Aiko Akers** said that this was about using our power as a research institution to let companies produce drugs for the benefit of more people.

**Ben Lasher** said it seemed that since we owned the patents, generic companies could produce drugs and have them distributed where markets did not exist previously, and so no money would be lost.

**Jon Evans** said that since UW was a non-profit organization, our funds were coming from federal grants and also self-supported research. He asked if Lysondra had any data on proportions of funding. **Lysondra** said that 85% of UW's medical research funding was from the National Institutes for Health.

**Bobby Sorensen** asked what was preventing this from happening already. **Lysondra** said that right now, our licensing was exclusive, and this resolution suggested that loopholes be written in to allow generic manufacturers to obtain side licenses.

**Jon Lee** asked for further clarification. **Lysondra** said this would allow for our licensing practices to continue to generate revenue, but also allow our drugs to help more people.

*Alex Kim moved to close debate. Seconded. The motion passed.*

**R-11-8 passed.**

R-11-9: A Resolution in Regards to Parking During Finals Week

Sponsor **Mae Diligencia** said that the legislation basically asked for free parking for students during finals week.

**Alex Kim** asked if the administration could perceive that this might snowball into free parking for summer quarter. **Mae** suggested an amendment to restrict this intent.

It was asked where funds from parking fees went. **Mae** said that parking services claimed that funds were going to maintain the E-1 parking lot.

**Aiko Akers** asked if **Mae** had talked to anyone in the administration about this. **Mae** said she had not.

It was asked if the committee did research on how much money UW would be losing. **Mae** said that parking services was a separate entity and tuition would not be affected.

**Karl Smith** said he was concerned that this was revenue parking services was counting on, and that might actually affect the cost of parking. **Mae** said she was planning to propose the matter to them through the resolution.

**Ben Lasher** said that with free parking, more students might decide to forgo buses. **Mae** said her main motive has to provide discounted parking from the full rate.

*Alvin Chen moved to table the resolution pending contact with Parking Services. Seconded. The motion passed.*

Secretary's Note: Karl Smith began taking the minutes at this point while I presented legislation which I was sponsoring.

R-11-10: A Resolution Affirming the Rights of GBLTQ Peoples and specifically Supporting their Right to Marry

Sponsor **Alex Kim** read his legislation. He was reprimanded by the chair for his emphasis and repetition of the word "Oregon." **Alex** pointed out that this was Freedom

to Marry Week, saying that it was a good time to discuss this. He also noted the anti-discrimination bill which passed in the state house.

**Jonathan Evans** asked that Alex speak less loudly or less into the microphone.

**Angie Wallace** moved to put it on second readings. *There was no second.*

**Aiko Akers** asked if courts have treated GBLTQ individuals as a protected class. **Alex** responded that policy makers know what we're talking about.

**Shawn Fisher** asked why Alex chose to advocate marriage instead of civil unions and how it would affect churches. **Alex** responded that this would have nothing to do with churches. He pointed out that GBLTQ individuals did not yet have the same rights.

**J.B. Maxwell** asked why the WHERAS clauses included the passage of constitutional amendments in other states. **Alex** said that he included them to call attention to the fact that this is actually occurring across the country. **J.B.** asked if this should be directed at the U.S. Constitution. **Zach** ruled the question out of order.

**Patrick Mar** asked what current legislation was being considered. **Alex** said there was a bill in the state House (HB1515) to forbid discrimination on the basis sexual orientation. He also mentioned that there were two court cases in the state right now on gay marriage and gay parentage.

**Laura Baird** asked about the second WHEREAS clause and what it meant. **Alex** explained that this was from LD-11-1 in which the ASUW supported recruitment programs targeting gay students.

**Krystal Starwich** asked if Alex knew anything about today's arguments before the state supreme court. **Alex** was unaware that arguments had began that day.

**Jon Evans** asked whether marriage was defined by the constitution. **Alex** responded that he's not sure, and said he was referring to the defense of marriage act. He assumed that marriage was not defined by the state constitution, since an amendment was being proposed.

**J.B. Maxwell** moved to close debate. Seconded. The motion passed.

Secretary's Note: At this point, I resumed notation of the minutes.

R-11-17: A Resolution in support of the American Cancer Society Relay For Life at the University of Washington

In the sponsor's absence, **Aiko Akers** presented the legislation.

**Aiko** said it was passed with a unanimous favorable recommendation.

*Jon Lee moved to close debate. Seconded. The motion passed.*

R-11-18: A Resolution Supporting the Construction of a Safe and Secure Biological Research Building

Sponsor **Joel Murray** presented his legislation.

**Joel** said that this supported construction of a safe biological research facility.

**Aiko Akers** said she thought that this was a Level 2 and Level 3 lab. **Joel Murray** said that this was correct, but since Level 3 was more dangerous, it didn't bear mentioning Level 2.

**Mike Leichner** asked where the facility might be. He had thought it would be on South Lake Union. **Joel** said it would be on campus near the Medical Center.

**Tom Christiansen** said it would be built on Brooklyn Street. **Zach Tobin** gleefully pointed out that this was next to Mercer Hall.

**Jon Evans** asked about the existing Level 3 labs on campus. **Joel** said that indeed, we already had 30 Level 3 labs on campus. He added that he sat in a meeting where faculty members said that security systems present today were minimal and not sufficient in their perspective. **Jon** asked if the current labs would be consolidated into the new facility. **Joel** said he wasn't sure.

**Steve Kushnir** asked about the definition of Level 3. He wondered if cancer could be transmitted through the air.

**Angie Wallace** said it was her understanding that Level 3 was referring to cures available rather than contagiousness through the air.

**Will Miller** read the level 4 definition for the Senate.

**Adriana Hilliard** wondered if people were against this facility at all. **Joel** answered that some community members had expressed opposition.

*Alex Kim moved to close debate. Seconded. The motion passed.*

Announcements followed.

**Zach Tobin** adjourned the Senate at 6:23 pm.