

Minutes
January 3, 2006
5:00PM – HUB 310

Respectfully submitted by Senate Secretary Travis McCoy

I. Committee Meetings (20 minutes)

Committees met for 20 minutes prior to the meeting beginning

II. Call to Order

Alex Kim called the meeting to order at 5:28

III. Approval of the Agenda

Shawn Fisher moved to add R-12-14 to the second to last item of new business. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

Travis Grandy moved to strike the first item under Nominations and Elections for senate liaisons. *Passed without objection.*

Zach Tobin moved to approve the agenda. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

IV. Committee Reports

Faculty and Administrative Affairs Committee: Passed R-12-12 with a favorable recommendation

General Affairs Committee: Passed R-12-14 with a favorable recommendation

Publicity and Outreach Committee: **Jerome McCuin** welcomed a new senator Maria Vanushkina. He said he and Alex Kim had been in discussions about possible outreach projects.

Off Campus Affairs: Discussed possible commuter legislation

Academic Affairs Committee: Looked over the resolutions being discussed today. Discussed a resolution proposed by **Alex Gwozda**

Membership Committee: **Travis Grandy** said they discussed Christmas presents. He noted that honors croquet had a match this coming Saturday. He said they set some goals for this coming quarter.

Campus Affairs Committee: Discussed R-12-13. **Kinsley Ogunmola** and **Sean Kellogg** contributed to the discussion and the committee will continue to consider it next week.

V. Chair's Report

Alex Kim said he wanted Senate to renew its resolutions for the school year. He said he hoped senate could be very action-minded this quarter. He said he

wanted it to take on a more activist goal. He noted that senators are among the most well informed students on campus. He said that along with that comes a responsibility to inform others. He said senate is the group charged with debating important issues and to act on resolutions passed. He said senate needs to make itself known to students, as it is a tool to be used by students to promote student opinions.

He said one of the main themes this year in ASUW is building connections and coalitions throughout campus. He said one of the biggest coalitions being formed is between the Residence Hall Student Association and ASUW. He said **Sam Al-Khoury** has been working to form Hall Caucus. He welcomed the RHSA executive board to the senate meeting and thanked them for coming.

Erin Shields said one of the best aspects of her job is that she gets to organize public forums. She said on Jan. 17 the UW Alumni Association would be coming, followed on January 24th with Eric Godfrey, VP of student affairs, Nancy Barcelo February 21st, and Paul Brown and Vennie Gore Feb 28th. She said she was always open to any further suggestions for public forum speakers. She encouraged further applications to the senate buddy system.

VI. ASUW Presidential Privilege

Alex Kim said Lee Dunbar was otherwise occupied with an important meeting.

VII. Board of Directors Report

Cullen White said that the late night coffee shop has been scheduled to begin on January 17th. He said By George would be open from 9PM – 2AM.

Jon Lee said there are a lot of opportunities for students to volunteer on Martin Luther King Day. He suggested students form groups to participate in activities.

Cullen White said ASUW would be subsidizing the coffee shop's break-even point.

Jerome McCuin said it would probably be important then for students to raise awareness about the program.

Hala Dillsi said the Office of Governmental Relations is reviewing the roll of OGR and the legislative agenda in ASUW.

She said tomorrow from 12:30-1:30 that Ed Murray would be talking about the anti-discrimination act on the main floor of the Social Work Building. She said it would be a great opportunity for students to talk to their representative.

She noted that next week is diversity week and that there will be several great activities to take part in.

VIII. Graduate and Professional Student Senate Report

Sean Kellogg said the last meeting took 48 minutes to pass the legislative agenda and that the debate centered entirely around the term “hot rocks”.

IX. Orders of the Day

A. Nominations and Elections for Senate Liaisons

Crime Prevention Committee

Hala Dillsi said the committee works with police and administrators to establish the Night Walk program, increase campus lighting, and augment campus safety.

Ashley Miller said it was a great place to take any sort of safety concerns.

Sean Kellogg said people hoped that the committee would replace the UWCares program, which was cut last year.

Alex Kim opened the floor to nominations. He noted that the meeting location and date have not been set.

Shawn Fisher nominated **Gary Fox**. He was absent but it was noted he would accept.

Sam Al-Khoury nominated **Ed Marsh**. He accepted.

Andrew Omahen noted that in fact they meet every other Wed. at 3:30.

Alex Kim said nominations would be opened again next week.

Government Relations Task Force

Karl Smith said the committee has 5 committee members. He said the committee would start meeting next week.

Melissa Aar asked if senate was nominating 5 members or not.

Karl Smith responded that was not the case and that only one member needed to be elected.

It was moved to suspend the rules and have an election this week.

The motion was objected to on the basis that there were members who would be interested in the position not present.

The motion failed.

Alex Kim opened nominations to the task force.

Travis Grandy nominated **Alex Lark**. He accepted. **Travis Grandy** said he would be a great person for the position.

Andrew Everett nominated **Gary Stute**. He accepted.

Jon Lee nominated **Angie Wallace**. She declined.

Laura Bayer nominated **Ashley Flowers**. She accepted.

Ashley Flowers nominated **Laura Bayer**. She accepted.

Alex Kim nominated **Zach Tobin**. He declined.

B. New Business

R-12-8: A Resolution in Support of a Fair Trade Coffee Campus

David Yake, sponsor of the legislation, presented the resolution.

Andrew Everett asked if he realized that the reason Tully's doesn't offer fair trade coffee at the UW is that they don't have such a blend anywhere, and thus that the UW should boycott Tully's if they don't create such a blend.

David Yake said Tully's has 3 different blends of fair trade certified coffees. He said UW has a binding contract with Tully's and doesn't advocate anything outside of that contract. He said it seemed very feasible for Tully's to increase the number of fair trade blends available.

Jon Evans asked what **David Yake** hoped to accomplish following the passage of this resolution.

David Yake said they've already met with HFS and said they were very open to the idea of Fair Trade. He said they also have a scheduled meeting with a Tully's representative. He said he hoped to increase campus awareness of fair trade coffee in the meantime.

Angie Wallace asked what the term of the contract was.

David Yake said it began 2 years ago.

Alex Gwozda asked if they knew what students' opinion on the issue is.

David Yake said they've gotten 3,000 signatures on their petition and said they would conduct a survey to poll people on their willingness to buy fair trade.

Alex Lark asked how it would change the price of the coffee.

David Yake said they asked what price HFS buys fair trade coffee. He said they buy it at the exact same price as non-fair trade coffee. He said as a result, HFS's profits would remain unchanged. He noted that they're independent from the UW and are a for-profit business.

Shawn Fisher asked why only coffee was being focused on instead of multiple goods that have fair trade certification.

David Yake said coffee was the only good where fair trade products have a similar price to non-fair trade.

Erin Shields moved to close debate. Seconded.

The motion passed. The resolution was placed on second readings.

R-12-7 A Resolution in Support of Expanding Undergraduate Academic Advising

Erin Shields, sponsor of the legislation, presented the resolution.

Jon Lee asked why the resolution asks for only an equal ratio to peer institutions and not better.

Erin Shields said she felt it was a good starting point for improvement.

Travis Grandy asked what Erin Shields hoped to see happen if the resolution passed.

Erin Shields said she would like to work with the Board of Directors on the issue and would like people to know it's one of

ASUW's interests, raise awareness on campus, and bringing the issue to administrators.

Jenny Serpa asked how Erin thought it would affect jobs for academic peer advisors.

Erin Shields said she has served as a peer advisor in the past, and said it is very beneficial to have professional advising available.

Alex Gwozda asked if the disparity was due to departmental advising or general advising.

Erin Shields said she was currently researching departmental advising, but that she was more interested in general student advising.

Jon Lee said the final version of the advising report was going to be available shortly.

Maria Vanushkina asked if the disparity was between only first and second year students or the whole student population.

Erin Shields said she thought it was the whole student population, but that younger students are more likely to use those resources.

Andrew Everett said that transfer students have trouble coordinating credit transfers, and thus need the gateway center's advising resources.

Gary Stute said many students have departmental advisors after their second year.

Shawn Fisher asked if there was available time that wasn't being used.

Erin Shields said she didn't know specifics, but that with such a large ratio, advisors can't be assigned students or seek out students who could use their services.

Jenny Serpa asked if the Erin wanted to focus the resolution on the Gateway Center or if it could be expanded to cover departments and other organizations.

She said it could extend to other organizations, but wanted to stay away from departmental advising.

Zach Tobin moved to close debate. Seconded.

The motion passed. The resolution was placed on second readings.

R-12-10 Virtual Campus Community

Ed Marsh, sponsor of the resolution, presented his legislation.

He said he hoped it would be something similar to MyUW but would be specifically targeted toward events around campus.

Alex Kim asked what the committee recommendation was. It was noted that it was passed with a favorable recommendation.

Travis McCoy asked him to clarify the term “organic framework” for students not familiar with the term.

He said it would allow students to edit the website themselves, similar but less complicated than a Wikiboard.

Andrew Everett asked why the program was necessary with the existence of Facebook.

Ed Marsh said he thought it was dangerous to depend on a third party to provide such information, and that Facebook did a relatively poor job of fulfilling this need.

Lee Dunbar asked what the costs associated with the project would be.

Ed Marsh said the costs would be extremely low, with on-campus advertising and server space being cost considerations.

Derek Hazen asked if any student could add any content.

Ed Marsh responded that there could be some level of monitoring.

Maria Vanushkina asked if there would be oversight of the website.

Ed Marsh said different groups could monitor their own sections of the site and self-monitor their content.

Niki Iglesias asked if **Ed Marsh** had any website experience and if he would be spearheading it.

Ed Marsh said he probably would be spearheading the project. He said the website already exists for the most part.

Selma Dillsi asked if he had done any poll for the project to determine student's level of interest.

Ed Marsh said he has dealt with several ASUW groups and that the reaction has been largely positive.

Albert Chang asked if it were for the general public, who would host it, and who would fund it.

Ed Marsh said it would probably come from the board, and hoped the senate would help with it.

Albert Chang asked if senate could appropriate funds with a Senate Bill.

Alex Kim said that it could, but that the Board of Directors would make the final decision.

Jerome McCuin asked who would fund on-going costs.

Ed Marsh said if it were hosted by the university, there wouldn't be any outside bandwidth costs. He said he would probably help to run it.

Shawn Fisher moved to close debate. *Seconded.*

The motion passed. The resolution was placed on second readings.

R-12-4 Resolution in Support of Affordable Textbooks

Melissa Aar, co-sponsor of the legislation, presented the resolution.

Andrew Everett asked if it was understood that most textbook editions were issued by professors for their own reasons.

Melissa Aar said it was more aimed at new editions in which there is no new significant information included.

Shawn Fisher asked what reason private industries would have to listen to her resolution.

Melissa Aar said it was important for students to do what they can to lower prices considering the importance of the issue.

Albert Chang asked if the resolution would hurt the UW Bookstore as it encourages students to use other resources.

Lee Dunbar noted that the Bookstore is a partner in the Book Exchange.

Melissa Aar said the bookstore has been helpful with such issues, and said the Bookstore is not highly concerned about the issue.

Lee Dunbar asked how much success other schools have had with the issue.

Melissa Aar said some schools have had some success and that more work needs to be done.

Derek Hazen asked how much more new editions cost.

Melissa Aar said the typical text is updated every 3 to 4 years. She said the average used book costs half as much as the average new book.

Alex Gwozda said new books tend to cost 45% more than their previous editions.

Alvin Chen asked why professors and classes don't use previous editions in class.

Melissa Aar said they are generally unavailable.

Albert Chang asked if it is particularly difficult to get previous editions of textbooks.

Melissa Aar said it depends on the kind of book. She said it would be difficult to require that of students in large classes.

There were no further questions. The resolution was placed on second readings.

R-12-9 A Resolution in Support of Increased Communication Between ASUW and the University Bookstore Trustees

Erin Shields, sponsor of the legislation, presented the resolution.

Shawn Fisher said the committee recommendation was unanimously favorable.

There were no questions. The resolution was placed on second readings.

R-12-9 A Resolution in Support of Increased Communication Between the ASUW and the University Bookstore Trustees.

Jonathan Evans, sponsor of the legislation, presented his resolution.

Angie Wallace asked him to read the original first that clause.

Albert Chang asked who determined what actions would be beneficial.

Jonathan Evans responded it was governed by The Trust Agreement.

Lee Dunbar asked for clarification on the second that clause.

Jonathan Evans said he didn't think the clause should be included, but that it was amended in committee.

Shawn Fisher said the committee thought there wasn't sufficient communication between the bookstore and any group on campus.

Alex Kim asked if the legislation opposed any action by the bookstore.

Jonathan Evans said the resolution didn't oppose any actions.

Lee Dunbar asked if it supported any actions.

Jonathan Evans responded that it only supported actions that enhanced the bookstore's relationship with the UW.

C. Old Business

R-12-3 A Resolution Expressing Concern Over the University Book Store's Replacement of Customer Rebates in Favor of Merchandise Credit

Albert Chang said UW doesn't have any authority to tell the bookstore what to do as it is the bookstore's responsibility to determine what is best for it.

Jonathan Evans moved to amend the third whereas clause to strike text after 1930, and strike the following whereas clause, strike the second to last whereas clause, and strike the second that clause. The motion was seconded. Objection.

Jonathan Evans said the resolution was not entirely correct stating that the bookstore has always given funding back to students. He said the merchandise credits are not dramatically different from customer rebates.

Shawn Fisher said he thought the 2 years that funding wasn't given back was inconsequential. He said all of the issues needed to be considered separately.

Alex Kim said the motion to consider them separately would be made before debate was closed.

Shawn Fisher moved to amend the amendment to restore everything but the first change made by the amendment. Seconded. Objection.

Gary Stute said the amended amendment doesn't allow debate of the entire issue.

The amendment to the amendment failed.

Mikhail Smirnoff said he thought the debate should be whether to oppose the rebate or not.

Melissa Aar said she supported deleting all of the whereas clauses given the factual inaccuracies.

Albert Chang said there are no factual inaccuracies given the language of the resolution. He said if the second that clause is deleted it will be highly similar to other legislation being considered.

Lee Dunbar said he would shy away from the term "profit sharing" and that Bryan Pierce described the period where no rebates were given as being a "0.0% rebate".

Jon Evans said it is clear that a communication gap existed between UW and the bookstore. He said he hoped to dull the edge of the resolution.

Lee Dunbar said the bookstore has several means to help students, including scholarships and other services. He said it should not be an either/or issue between rebates and credits.

Gary Stute said he agreed with the striking of those clauses. He said the trust was set up to manage the assets of the bookstore. He said Lee Dunbar was correct that they are under no obligation to give money to students.

Albert Chang asked where the language was that said they were under no obligation to distribute funds.

Gary Stute said he thought it was implied.

Travis Grandy said he was very conflicted over the issue, and wanted students to ask their constituents about the issue and help move the bill forward.

Jill Edwards said the resolution comes across as whining and encouraged someone to close debate and vote on the issue.

Jon Lee said students should be firm in the resolution and may need to be abrasive, otherwise it won't be heard.

It was moved to close debate. Seconded. Objection.

The motion passed. Debate was closed on the amendment.

Jon Evans moved to divide the question, separating the that clauses and whereas clauses. Seconded. Passed without objection.

The whereas clauses were stricken per the amendment.

The that clauses were stricken per the amendment.

Lee Dunbar said if the resolution passed, he didn't think it would be abrasive, and that the conversation with the bookstore thus far has been constructive.

Jerome McCuin said he was in favor of the merchandise credit.

Kareem Cervantes moved to close debate. Seconded. Without objection.

The resolution failed.

X. Request for Information

XI. Announcements

Lee Dunbar said if students were interested in insurance and are involved in the school of nursing, to talk to him.

Erin Shields said students are welcome to send announcements to her to be posted on the senate email list.

Shawn Fisher said the business school was sponsoring several events in the coming week, including the CEO of Nordstrom's.

XII. Adjournment

The motion was made to adjourn. Seconded. Passed without objection.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33.