

Minutes
January 10, 2006
5:00PM – HUB 310

Respectfully submitted by Senate Secretary Travis McCoy

I. Committee Meetings (20 minutes)

Committees met for 25 minutes prior to beginning the general senate meeting.

II. Call to Order

Alex Kim called the meeting to order at 5:24PM

III. Approval of the Agenda

Tyler Dockins moved to place an OGR update before Presidential Privilege. Seconded. Passed without objection.

The motion was made to approve the agenda. Seconded. Passed without objection.

IV. Committee Reports

Faculty and Administrative Affairs: The committee discussed R-12-15.

Academic Affairs: The committee talked about academic advising issues. **Erin Shields** addressed the committee about her legislation regarding undergraduate advising.

Publicity and Outreach: The committee discussed R-12-16 and passed it with a unanimously favorable recommendation.

Membership Committee: The committee discussed SB-12-1 and passed it with a favorable recommendation.

Campus Affairs: The committee discussed R-12-13. Josh from STF spoke with the committee about it and the legislation was passed with a favorable recommendation.

Off Campus Affairs: The committee debated possible commuter legislation.

General Affairs: The committee discussed upcoming legislation.

V. Chair's Report

Travis Grandy noted there were several new senators at the meeting and encouraged them to fill out seat renewal forms.

Alex Kerchner, liaison to SAF said he was working on amending the SAF guidelines. He said students could contact him for more information.

Alex Kim asked senators to consider what their responsibilities are to those they represent, and how dependent students are on senators.

He said senate is an integral part of the campus, and that it's important to consider why it's a critical group. He said it's easy to take senate's influence for granted.

He noted it is clear that senate has a significant presence given its ability to attract influential administrative leaders.

Erin Shields noted that next week the Alumni Association is providing pizza to senate and will be holding a public forum.

OGR Report

Tyler Dockins noted that the legislative session began January 9th. He said many people consider it a light year for spending, and that 500 million dollars will be spend on education.

He noted that the Legislative Agenda was featured in the Seattle PI and on NPR.

Tyler Dockins noted that the changes to the roll of the student regent are widely supported by the administration and governor's office, and that it would hopefully make the student regent's transition into the position more fluid in the future.

He said the textbook issue was being considered, but that the language was still vague in any bill.

He said the code of conduct issue has come up again and that there would most likely be an article in the PI as well.

He said Ben Golden is starting a blog, accessible at <http://asuwoqr.blogspot.com>.

He said he could provide information on lobby day after the meeting.

Angie Wallace asked people from other districts to attend lobby day as it would help to get students face time with legislators.

VI. ASUW Presidential Privilege

There was no presidential report.

VII. Board of Directors Report

Hala Dillsi said the Board Report allows senate to question the thought process of the Board, and is a good way for senate to hold the Board accountable.

She said Diversity week is currently taking place. A diversity fair will be taking place tomorrow in the west ballroom. *Platanos and Collard Greens* will be playing later Wednesday evening, with actors flying in from the east coast. She said the minority health fair will be taking place on Thursday.

She said the Winter Pow-Wow will be held Saturday January 21 from 1-7 and 7-10 in the HUB ballroom.

She emphasized that February 1st would be lobby day and that senators should participate in it.

Jenny Serpa said that 1 and 7PM would be the grand opening ceremonies at the Pow-Wow on January 21.

Jon Lee said he and **Lee Dunbar** went to the higher-education meetings in Olympia, and that there was a very strong UW showing. He said **Lee Dunbar** sent his apologies for not being able to attend the senate meeting.

He said the advising report has been released and encouraged senators to check out the report online at <http://students.washington.edu/vkh/improve>.

VIII. Graduate and Professional Student Senate Report

Sean Kellogg said GPSS has been working on Lobby Day as well. He said tomorrow is the monthly GPSS meeting regarding textbooks and STF budget issues.

IX. Orders of the Day

A. Nominations and Elections For Senate Liaisons

Crime Prevention Committee

Alex Kim opened the floor to further nominations. No additional nominations were made.

Gary Fox said he's lived off campus for all 4 years in college. He said he's dealt with the police on several occasions. He said he would be a good member of the committee because of his experience with safety officials.

Ed Marsh said he didn't have any specific viewpoints on the issue. He said he would be excited to be a part of the committee.

Alex Kerchner asked if the nominees saw any particular issues as being particularly concerning.

Ed Marsh said he didn't think the campus was particularly unsafe, and that there weren't any major issues.

Gary Fox said he thought it was important that the continuation of rape and alcohol awareness take place.

Gary Fox said he thought it was more of a societal issue than anything. He said he thought it was important to have speakers and advertisers raise awareness of the issue.

Ed Marsh said he thought advertising was critical, and that he thought increasing the number of help points around campus.

Ed Marsh was elected to the position.

Liaisons Government Relations Taskforce

Karl Smith said it consists of a 5 people and meets Thursdays from 11:30-1:30

Alex Lark removed himself from the running.

Melissa Aar nominated herself.

Ashleigh Flowers removed herself from the running.

Gary Stute removed himself from the running.

Zach Tobin enthusiastically nominated **Jerome McCuin**. He accepted.

Angie Wallace nominated **Andrew Everett**. He accepted.

Melissa Aar said she's a senator for WashPIRG and is also involved with ASUW. She said OGR is something she would like to get more involved with and is something she is very interested in.

Jerome McCuin said he has a Korean class at the same time.

Andrew Everett said he's been involved in ASUW for 2 years and that he would be highly involved in the committee.

Travis Grandy asked what flaws nominees saw in OGR and what they would change.

Andrew Everett said he thought the problem with OGR is that students don't know about it and don't care about it. He said he wanted to get more faculty involved in the process, and would be important to its success.

Melissa Aar said she thought there was a lot of grey area regarding where OGR stands and where the Board of Directors stands. She said those issues need to be clarified. She also said more legislative events would be helpful.

Sean Kellog asked what candidates thought were on the legislative agenda tier system.

Melissa Aar said she knew roughly what it was but wasn't overly familiar with it.

Andrew Everett said he knew about the tier system and that he thought that while it wasn't a perfect system, it was reasonably effective.

Melissa Aar was elected to the position.

B. New Business

R-12-12 Commendation for Faculty, Staff, and Retiree Donors

Jon Lee moved to table the bill until Lee Dunbar is able to present it himself. Seconded. Passed without objection.

C. Old Business

R-12-14 A Resolution Commending the Inaugural ASUW Pre-session Reception

Erin Shields summarized the legislation.

Gary Stute entertained a motion to close debate.

Jon Evans moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

The resolution passed unanimously.

Jerome McCuin moved to add R-12-16 as the next item under old business. Seconded. Objection.

The motion passed.

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

David Yake, sponsor of the legislation, summarized the resolution and thanked the members of his organization who came out to support the resolution.

Andrew Everett said he favored having fair trade coffee as an option on campus, but that he didn't think it should be the only option available.

Steve Valm said this a good resolution to show that senate can have a real impact on campus.

Diedre Lockman said she thought it was a common misperception that the market choices would be significant. She said students would be able to help children and others in third world countries escape poverty by passing this legislation.

Maria Venushkina asked if having fair trade coffee would increase the price of coffee drinks.

David Yake said it would not. He said all of UW coffee comes from Tully's at the same price, regardless of blend.

Maria Venushkina asked what would be done with leftover coffee that is not fair trade.

David Yake said that the conversion wouldn't take place instantly and would be a gradual process.

Jill Edwards said she was in support of the resolution, and said the argument that it will limit student's choices is flawed. She said as it is, students have limited choices. She said she didn't know why people would object to using fair trade coffee.

David Yake said consumers generally reject items they know are made by laborers in poor conditions, and that fair trade coffee was no different than textiles made in sweatshops. He noted that non-fair-trade was available only 2 blocks away on The Ave.

Alex Kim asked if the UW would be able to negotiate with other coffee distributors if they stopped offering fair trade coffee.

David Yake he said that the UW is not in a position to bargain with Tully's given its running contract with Tully's.

Alex Kim entertained an amendment that would state ASUW supported HFS making fair trade coffee an important factor in future coffee contracts.

Jon Evans asked if David Yake had been meeting with HFS.

David Yake said they have a meeting scheduled for January 30th.

Jon Evans said he thought the legislation was a positive resolution. He said Tully's first offered free trade coffee before Starbucks did.

Lee Dunbar said that in the past 5 or 6 years, HFS has dealt with multiple coffee makers and wanted to know how the interaction of the resolution is with policies of HFS to go with the lowest bidder.

Alvin Chen asked for information about why other products cant be made fair trade as well.

David Yake said with Fair Trade coffee, the producer is paid 5 times as much as what they would get on the free market. He said direct trade relations allow the coffee to be offered to consumers at the exact same price. He said by removing the middleman of distributors, the price was reduced significantly.

Rod Palmquist moved to add a 'that' clause, stating "THAT, the ASUW encourages HFS to make providing Fair Trade Certified goods a high priority in any existing and future food and beverage negotiations. Seconded. Objection.

Rod Palmquist said he thought it was important for the issue to be considered in the future.

Gary Stute said such certifications are given by private organizations. He said he thought it was a bad idea to give a blanket approval of any Fair Trade Organization.

David Yake said Transfer USA certifies a large number of goods.

Gary Stute asked if there were other organizations were available.

David Yake responded there was not.

Ashley Miller said Fair Trade Certified is a trademarked label.

Jon Evans moved to amend the amendment to replace "food and beverage" with "coffee". Seconded. Objection.

Selma Dillsi said the reason for including the amendment was to make sure that future dealings with companies providing food goods, when senate has already established itself as being in favor of fair trade goods.

Mikhail Smirnoff said he thought the amendment was appropriate because coffee is the only good that is competitive on the world market, and that the bill should be limited to coffee alone.

David Yake said he thought that after the campus is converted to fair trade coffee, there would be a chance in the future to expand to other fair trade goods.

Gary Stute said he supported the amendment to the amendment. He said it would be a great piece of future legislation to push for other fair trade goods.

The motion was made to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

Debate was closed on the amendment to the amendment.

The amendment to the amendment passed.

Tyler Dockins moved to close debate. Seconded. Objection.

The motion passed.

The amendment passed.

Magnus Gordon said he favored for trade coffee, but pointed out that it would not eliminate poverty among growers, and that UW has contracts with Nike for its athletic wear.

David Yake said he agreed, but that it would make a difference in the lives of coffee growers, and that if the price of coffee increased, it would further improve their lives.

Gary Stute moved to strike the word "only" from the second 'that' clause. Second. Objection.

Gary Stute said he made the amendment because he favored choice. He said there was little that he disagreed with regarding Fair Trade Coffee, but that he found it ironic that a group increases choices for one group, would limit choices for another.

Jill Edwards said she objected to the amendment because the clause is critical to the strength of the bill.

Hala Dillsi said the amendment would eliminate the effectiveness of the legislation. She said the issue wasn't just about finding coffee on campus, but about the practices we want to support regarding the trade of coffee. She encouraged senators to vote down the amendment.

Jon Lee moved to close debate on the amendment. *Seconded. Objection.*

Debate was closed on the amendment.

The amendment failed.

Jon Lee asked how fair trade growers can provide beans of the same quality.

David Yake responded that due to the large size of co-ops in coffee producing countries, the taste largely remains the same.

Travis Grandy moved to closed debate. *Seconded. Objection.*

The motion passed. Debate was closed on the resolution.

The resolution passed.

Andrew Everett moved to place R-12-16 on second readings. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

R-12-16 A Resolution Commending the 2005 Women's Volleyball Team as National Champions

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

Jon Evans moved to close debate. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

The resolution passed unanimously.

R-12-12 Commendation for Faculty, Staff, and Retiree Donors

Lee Dunbar, sponsor of the legislation, presented the legislation.

Andrew Everett asked who matched the funds.

Lee Dunbar responded that various donors matched the funds.

Gary Stute moved to place the resolution on second readings. Seconded. Objection.

Alex Kim called division.

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

Zach Tobin moved to amend the resolution to remove the word "to" in the second whereas clause. Seconded. Objection.

Zach Tobin said the wording made sense.

Andrew Everett said he thought it sounded better.

Travis McCoy moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

The amendment passed.

Sam Al-Khoury moved to make an amendment to the final that clause to read "that the ASUW president and ASUW Student Senate". Seconded. Objection.

Zach Tobin moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

The amendment passed.

Travis McCoy moved to close debate. Seconded. Objection.

The motion passed.

The resolution passed.

Erin Shields moved to adjourn. Seconded. Passed without objection.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07PM.