

Minutes  
February 14, 2006  
5:00PM – HUB 310

*Respectfully submitted by Senate Secretary Travis McCoy*

I. Committee Meetings (20 minutes)

*Committees met for 20 minutes prior to beginning the general senate meeting.*

II. Call to Order

**Alex Kim** called the meeting to order at 5:20PM

III. Approval of the Agenda

**Travis McCoy** moved to approve the agenda. *Seconded. Passed without objection*

IV. Committee Reports

**Faculty and Administrative Affairs**-The committee tabled R-12-21 indefinitely

**Academic Affairs**-The committee passed R-12-7 with a unanimously favorable recommendation.

**Publicity and Outreach Committee**-The committee discussed current Senate publicity over the last week

**Membership**-Travis Grandy noted the Senate auction would be taking place after the meeting,

**Campus Affairs**-The committee discussed R-12-23, and tabled it until next week

**Off Campus Affairs**-The committee got updates about pedestrian safety issues and software for the commuter Senate forum

**General Affairs**-The committee reviewed R-12-22, and said it would continue to review it next week

V. Chair's Report

**Alex Kim** noted the By George Café is now open to students and got over 200 students.

**Alex Kim** said last week's discussion represented what Senate is all about. He said Senate's job is to participate in debate, and that at times issues can be particularly contentious. He said it is Senate's purpose to provide an open and safe forum for all views to be discussed.

He thanked Senators for their debate last week, and promised senators that Senate leadership would continue to work to provide such a space.

## VI. ASUW Presidential Privilege

**Lee Dunbar** said he has been witness to blatant disregard and disrespect toward students and their right to express themselves freely. He said he personally apologized to Ashley Miller, Jill Edwards, Karl Smith, and others who received hateful or hurtful emails or phone calls.

He said he would do everything in his power to prevent such blatant disrespect for students' opinions.

He said Senate acts as a center for the community, and that the debate that takes place in Senate must be preserved.

**Rene Singleton** said that as an advisor, she thought the debate last week was superb both in quality and respect.

## VII. Board of Directors Report

**Jon Lee** said ASUW would be holding its annual night walk next week after Senate. He said the event was to promote awareness of on-campus safety in conjunction with the crime prevention committee.

**Hala Dillsi** said the Board of Directors finalized the voting process to be followed this year for ASUW. She said there was a decrease in spending limits as well.

She said starting spring quarter, Karl Smith would present how instant runoff voting will work.

**Ben Golden**, Student Lobbyist, said the Student Regent bill passed the House overwhelmingly.

He said the textbook bill passed as well.

He said online voter registration failed this year, but that it might be on the table for future years.

He said the code of conduct bill also failed and congratulated the UW administration and Lobby Day efforts for the success.

**Ben Golden** said the bill regarding vouchers for veterans would be supported by ASUW.

He said other issues being considered are the estate tax and holistic admissions.

He said legislators really liked the lobby day T-shirts.

He thanked Ashley Miller for her lobbying efforts as well.

He said students could check on lobbying efforts at [asuwoqr.blogspot.com](http://asuwoqr.blogspot.com)

### VIII. Graduate and Professional Student Senate Report

**Nick Payton** said President Emmert attended the last GPSS meeting. He said equal rights and domestic partnerships, among other issues, were placed on the national student agenda at a meeting in Miami.

### IX. Orders of the Day

#### **A. New Business**

##### R-12-20 A Resolution in Opposition to the Denial of Federal Financial Aid Based on Drug Convictions

**Karl Smith**, sponsor of the legislation, presented the resolution.

**Zach Tobin** asked if it would be possible to cite specific studies regarding statistics

**Erin Shields** asked about the significance of the second 'that' clause.

**Karl Smith** said this was an ongoing issue that the ACLU was addressing.

He said the provision was added with the hope of discouraging drug use in college.

**Shawn Fisher** asked if students convicted of drug use could not receive state aid.

**Karl Smith** responded he didn't think so, and that it only applied to federal aid.

**Erin Shields** asked if there were any time provisions in the bill.

**Karl Smith** said one conviction resulted in loss of aid for 1 year, 2 offenses resulted in a loss for 3 years, and 3 offenses resulted in total loss of aid.

**Katie Burns** asked if that meant students loss funding for 1 year after the conviction or one year total.

**Karl Smith** responded it was one year after the conviction.

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

#### R-12-19 A Resolution in Support of Holistic Admissions

**Will Rasmussen**, sponsor of the legislation, reviewed the legislation.

He said holistic admissions allowed the admissions program to consider background of applicants in their decision process.

It was noted that the committee recommended the legislation with a favorable recommendation.

**Alex Kim** asked about the issue of I-914.

Will Rasmussen said not allowing UW to collect background information makes admissions particularly difficult.

He said such a limitation would not allow UW to select the best candidates for open positions.

**Sam Al-Khoury** asked what the general feeling was beyond the UW campus.

**Will Rasmussen** said he guessed that most people in the Seattle/Puget Sound area were in favor of it.

**Deidre Lockman** asked what the demographic was for people who supported I-200

**Will Rasmussen** said the state was generally split over the issue between both sides of the Cascades, but that it did pass with around 59% of the vote in areas around Seattle.

**Shawn Fisher** moved to remove the language "Tim Eyman has filed" and "which" in the 4<sup>th</sup> to last 'that' clause. *Seconded. Objection.*

**Shawn Fisher** said that though he felt the resolution sounded like an attack on Tim Eyman and instead should address only the Initiative.

**Deidre Lockman** said she thought the language should be kept, as it was personally offensive that Tim Eyman continues to pursue such legislation, having submitted it to the Washington Congress twice for consideration.

**Mikhail Smirnoff** said that while he disagrees with Tim Eyman, that he thought personal references should be removed, as personal attacks on individuals was not appropriate.

*The motion was made to close debate. Seconded. Objection.*

*The motion passed. Debate was closed on the amendment.*

*The amendment passed.*

**Angie Wallace** said she thought a holistic approach is not a method of quota driven admissions and that holistic admissions were a positive thing for the university.

**Steve Valm** said he strongly disagreed with I-914 as it simply ignores social inequalities that exist today.

**Alex Kerchner** moved to change “expressly prohibit” to “would expressly prohibit”. *Seconded. Objection.*

**Alex Kerchner** said that the Initiative doesn’t currently have any legal force.

*The objection was withdrawn. The amendment passed.*

**Brent Ludeman** asked if there were legal issues involved in taking a position on the issue.

**Will Rasmussen** said the UW could take a position on the issue if the issue is given equal coverage to the pro and cons of the issue in a public forum.

**Jerome McCuin** said he thought many senators were generally convinced regarding holistic admissions. He said in 1998 Tim Eynman sponsored I-200, and recently pushed an initiative to limit gay-rights. He said holistic admissions is a useful tool that acknowledges the realities of inequalities that exist today.

**Colin Thomas** moved to change the entire text of the resolution. *Seconded. Objection.*

He said that the amendment changes some clauses in the resolution that he felt were not fairly stated. He said he thought the amendment made it a more open and positive resolution.

**Will Rasmussen** said he objected due to several factual fallacies in the amendment.

**Mikhail Smirnoff** said he mostly supported the amendment, especially the first 'that' clause, as it better presents the position of the university.

**Albert Chang** asked what specifically was changed by the amendment.

**Colin Thomas** said he changed everything but the last 'whereas' clause.

**Jerome McCuin** said he didn't feel Senate would be able to digest this large of an amendment in a single meeting, and that if senators are interested in it, it should be tabled for a week.

**Alex Kim** noted that there is precedent for replacing the entire text of the resolution. He said he hoped that Senate would consider the significant nature of the amendment.

**Deidre Lockman** moved to close debate. *Seconded. Objection.*

*The motion failed.*

*Division was called. Alex Kim called the motion dilatory.*

**Mikhail Smirnoff** moved to suspend the rules and divide the question. *Seconded. Objection.*

*The motion failed.*

**Will Rasmussen** said he had a couple of concerns regarding the amendment, the elimination of a 'whereas' clause, and the 'but' of the second 'that' clause.

**Steve Valm** said people in favor of the Initiative would call it a push for equality. He said weakening language was not conducive to the purpose of the resolution.

**Kareem Cervantes** moved to close debate. *Seconded. Objection.*

*Division was called.*

*The motion passed. Debate was closed on the amendment.*

*The amendment failed.*

**Brent Ludemen** moved to close debate. *Seconded. Objection.*

*The motion failed.*

**Will Rasmussen** said he would take a friendly amendment bringing in aspects of the last amendment and would make the resolution stronger.

**Travis Grandy** moved to add the first 'whereas' clause and last 'that' clause from the previous amendment. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

**Megan Sandoz** moved to close debate. *Seconded. Objection.*

*The motion passed. Debate was closed on the resolution.*

*The resolution passed.*

## **B. Old Business**

### SB-12-1 A Bill Restoring a Portion of the 2004 SRTF Proposal

**Alex Kim** passed the gavel to Vice-Chair **Erin Shields** for the duration of the consideration of his Senate Bill.

**Alex Kim**, sponsor of the legislation, summarized his resolution.

He said the Senate Reform Taskforce looked at how the Senate worked with the Board of Directors.

He said at the time, the only ways to amend the ASUW constitution was to get 5% of students' signatures or go through the Board of Directors.

He said the SRT recommended Senate have the ability to place amendments directly to the ballot.

He said at the time the Board of Directors disagreed with the reform and removed it from the proposal.

He said SB-12-1 would restore that ability to the Senate.

**Alex Kim** noted that Senate Bills call for changes affecting Senate and must be approved by the Board of Directors.

**Travis Grandy** noted it was passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

**Sam Al-Khoury** asked how many amendments have gone through Senate and been put on the ballot.

**Alex Kim** said few amendments have taken such a path, other than the Senate Reforms.

**Sam Al-Khoury** asked how many constitutional amendments have failed.

**Jon Lee** said none have failed in recent history.

**Alex Kerchner** thanked Alex Kim and Karl Smith for their efforts. He said at the time the recommendations were made, Senate acted simply as a committee under the Board of Directors.

He said a 3/4ths requirement for passage of an amendment is sufficiently stringent to protect the ASUW constitution from inappropriate amendments and that he strongly encouraged senators to vote for the resolution.

**Travis Grandy** noted it required 3/4ths of the total voting membership in Senate and that Senate had attendance the previous week.

**Jono Hanks** asked what the reasoning was for the Board of Directors to remove the recommendation.

**Alex Kim** said the Board of Directors at the time was concerned that Senate was not sufficiently representative.

He said there were fears that students could manipulate the Senate to place ridiculous amendments in the ASUW constitution.

**Travis Grandy** *moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.*

*Debate was closed on the amendment.*

*The resolution passed unanimously.*

R-12-15 A Resolution Encouraging the use of UW Library Electronic Reserves by Instructors and Faculty

**Travis Grandy**, sponsor of the legislation, summarized his resolution.

It was noted the committee passed the legislation with a favorable recommendation.

**Melissa Aar** said she thought Senate should strongly support the resolution.

**Cailin Magruder** said she thought the ability to use online reserves was a great resource for students and supported this resolution.

**Alex Kim** asked if this resolution called for the elimination of paper resources.

**Travis Grandy** said the library is in the process of conducting a survey on the use of electronic reserves and has yet to post their findings.

**Selma Dillsi** clarified that the resolution only encouraged the use of online reserves, but did not require them.

**Sam Al-Khoury** asked if electronic reserves are always free.

**Travis Grandy** said they are always free to students, and that the funding comes from the library's budget.

**Steve Valm** asked if there was a Senate Liaison to the Faculty Senate.

**Alex Kim** noted that ASUW does have a liaison to the Faculty Senate.

**Jerome McCuin** said his constituents were worried about professors eliminating course packs all together. He asked about the impact on the non-profit copy centers at UW.

**Travis Grandy** said the resolution was only encouraging the option be available to students, not requiring that course packs be eliminated.

**Megan Sandoz** said she was concerned because of the difficulty of using electronic reserves and feared paper copies wouldn't be available any more.

**Jon Lee** said this would affect mostly social science students. He said this was a cheaper way for students to get their course material. He encouraged senators to vote in favor of the resolution.

**Erin Shields** said she thought electronic reserves enhanced the material debated in courses. She said she thought it was a great step toward increasing availability from students.

**Albert Chang** said he supported the resolution because it saved paper, it cost less, and that for music students it was very beneficial.

A senator didn't think it was difficult for professors to choose between e-reserves or course packets.

**Hannah Richards** moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

*Debate was closed on the resolution.*

*The resolution passed.*

#### X. Announcements

**Alex Kim** said that the film After Innocence covers the lives of individuals who were wrongly convicted of crimes they did not commit and that it was playing at the Varsity Theater and encouraged students to go see it.

**Jon Lee** said Mortar Board is accepting applicants from junior and seniors, and that nominations for faculty members are also available.

**Lee Dunbar** said ASUW would be meeting with Administrators regarding tuition models at noon in HUB 208 tomorrow.

It was noted that the UW comedy show will be at 6:30 in Kane Hall on Friday.

**Erin Shields** said graduating seniors could apply to Teach For America by Friday.

**Magnus Gordon** said the HUB Crawl is coming up with a poetry slam, mocktails, and go-carts in the HUB Thursday night.

**Ashley Miller** said Boot Riley will be in Kane 120 February 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Alex Gwozda** asked if there was information online about the HUB Crawl.

**Hala Dillsi** said it was 10pm-2am on February 16th in the HUB.

#### XII. Adjournment

*The meeting adjourned at 6:50*