

Minutes
March 28, 2006
5:00PM – HUB 310

Respectfully submitted by Senate Secretary Travis McCoy

I. Committee Meetings (10 minutes)

Committees met for 10 minutes prior to beginning the general senate meeting.

II. Call to Order

Alex Kim called the meeting to order at 5:26

III. Approval of the Agenda

Jenny Serpa moved to place R-12-32 as the second item. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

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

IV. Committee Reports

Faculty and Administrative Affairs – The committee discussed R-12-32

Academic Affairs - The committee discussed R-12-32

Publicity and Outreach – The committee discussed R-12-32

Membership - The committee discussed R-12-32

Campus Affairs – The committee discussed R-12-29

Off-Campus Affairs – The committee discussed R-12-32

General Affairs – The committee discussed R-12-32

V. Chair's Report

Alex Kim said Steering Committee would be meeting at 4:00 on Mondays in the Board Room in the HUB. He noted Steering Committee was considering several important Organic Acts.

He thanked Senators for returning and said he looked forward to a great year.

VI. ASUW Presidential Privilege

Lee Dunbar encouraged students to write or co-sponsor resolutions in Senate.

He noted Student Regent applications are available at the ASUW website at www.asuw.org

He encouraged students to carry on an open and honest debate regardless of the press coverage present.

VII. Board of Directors Report

Hala Dillsi said a rally for marriage equality was taking place at Noon on April 4th on the hub lawn, and that representative Ed Murray would be present.

She said Colors was a new organization opening up that supported queer people of color that was opening that afternoon with a reception in the Walker-Ames room.

Jon Lee said he was doing a study regarding departmental practices across campus, specifically graduation requirements.

He asked if any senators had a department that required a higher GPA than the 2.0 required by the University. He said he was trying to discern the size of the problem and asked students to talk to him about the issue.

Gary Stute asked what the specific problem with that practice was.

Jon Lee responded that it influenced competitive majors and needed to be considered on a case by case basis.

He said he was also looking at the flexibility of courses counting toward multiple requirements.

He said an information technology survey was being sent out by the registrar and encouraged them to participate.

Shawn Fisher asked who made the 2.0 graduation requirement.

Jon Lee said the University set a minimum standard to be followed by departments.

Andrew Everett asked if there was a formal way to deal with courses counting for more than one departmental requirement.

Jon Lee said that issue was one that he hoped to address.

VIII. Graduate and Professional Student Senate Report

It was noted that the textbook bill passed the state legislature.

IX. Orders of the Day

A. Presentation of Findings, Government Relations Task Force

Secretary's Note: As Alex Kim was the presenter of the GRTF findings and the sponsor of SB-12-2, he was unable to chair this portion of the meeting. Erin Shields was unable to chair for health reasons and took minutes during this portion of the meeting while I led discussion.

Alex Kim introduced the PowerPoint presentation for the GRTF and encouraged Senators to pay attention to what is presented because they will come forward in the future as Senate Bills.

He noted that OGR exists as the ASUW's link to civic bodies and the Task Force worked to acknowledge OGR's successes, imagine new possibilities, and put forth recommendations. The Task Force met weekly to discuss these issues.

Melissa Aar explained the ideal model (in theory) for the lobbying process, featuring the BoD and Senate working with LSC and furthermore with OGR. Currently the model was functioning more with... (see slide).

Alex Kim said the issue was not about hierarchy, it was about the way in which the dialogue takes place. LSC is expected to oversee OGR, though also needs assistance with putting together events and programming. The proposed model would feature BoD and Senate working with LSC, then OGR, and then LPC.

He said the goal was to restore the role of the LSC (see slide) and this involves changing the membership of LSC.

Melissa Aar mentioned that there is more that OGR wishes that they could be doing, so the GRTF proposed creating new OGR staff positions. These positions would include a new Assistant Director, new permanent Research Assistant, and reconsidering the role of the Legislative Coordinator. There was also a recommendation to have weekly public reports from OGR.

Alex Kim noted that is important to improve connections with WSL, which is something that could be enhanced through implementing these recommendations.

Melissa Aar discussed the recommendations related to creating a more efficient legislation agenda. LSC will need to meet sooner to draft the document in a more timely fashion, the tier-system at this time was considered to be too restricting on the lobbyist, Senate liaisons will be expected to give weekly reports to Senate on the status of the legislative

agenda and present the completed draft, and finally the Senate and BoD will consider the legislative agenda concurrently.

Alex Kim discussed the recommendations related to the resolution conference and final passage of the agenda. Once Senate and the BoD have finished considering and amending the legislative agenda, the resolution conference will begin. The resolution conference will be composed of the Senate and BoD members of LSC, so that the discussion has continuity but the members will represent their bodies, not LSC in that context. After debating and approving a collaborative version of the agenda (must be approved by two of each body), the collaborative version must then be approved by the Senate and the BoD for final passage.

He said the resolution conference will issue clarifications of the legislative agenda when the lobbyist is unsure – the conference will reconvene if issues emerge, though if the conference cannot meet quickly enough the ASUW President will make a decision and ultimately be held accountable for that decision.

Andrew Everett asked why the Senate Vice-Chair was designated as one of the three Student Senate representatives. Alex Kim noted that the Vice Chair is the liaison to the BoD, just as two of the BoD reps are liaisons to the Senate, in the hopes of improving communication between the bodies during the process.

Gary Stute asked when LSC would start meeting.

Alex Kim said it would begin as early as possible upon election and appointment of all relevant liaisons.

Gary Stute asked if it would be better to appoint the liaisons prior to the end of the school year, so that LSC would have all members before the start of the school year.

Alex Kim said that it is difficult to often get commitment

Jon Lee asked about the difference in composition between the LSC and RC. Alex said the LSC creates the legislative agenda, though contains several at-large members not associated with the BoD or Senate. Alex noted that by only involving the specific BoD members and Senate members in the RC stage it is an opportunity to clarify the document with those perspectives in mind. Melissa Aar noted that the RC has two roles.

Jono Hanks asked about LPC. Alex Kim said LPC would be open to as many volunteers as possible, though the core group would consist of the

at-large members of the LSC (who are not part of the RC). They would work to organize events, such as the pre-session legislative reception.

Alex Kim asked senators to feel free to talk to him, Melissa, or Karl with any questions or concerns about the recommendations, which will be brought forward in legislation at a later date.

B. New Business

SB-12-2: A Bill to Implement the Changes Recommended by the GRTF

Alex Kim noted that for this measure to be on the ballot it must be approved by the BoD on Thursday, therefore it must be approved at today's Senate meeting, if Senate agrees with the legislation. Alex then summarized the legislation, which is related to changing the composition of the LSC.

Sheridan Gray noted that the Senate and BoD are giving up oversight of OGR and LSC through these changes. He noted that half of the BoD members are on the LSC, including the Director of Community Relations and Director of FAA, who are already over-burdened.

Sheridan questioned the timing of the Senate Bill, saying that the issue should not be considered lightly, and suggested waiting until issues such as WSL are more clear to decide on how our lobbying efforts should proceed. He noted that the Senate Vice-Chair is also over-burdened by the number of roles that that person must play within these changes.

Jon Evans encouraged slowing down the process of considering this legislation, so that the Senate can be more thoughtful of these changes.

Alex Kim said that the ASUW has a strong precedent of delegating responsibilities to sub-committees. The GRTF examined the role of OGR and determined that it exists as a method for students to engage in civic life in all circumstances. The GRTF felt that this legislation creates a committee in conjunction with ASUW precedent, thereby delegating power to a committee and ensuring oversight. Alex noted that WSL is not a variable in this situation, because this proposal will reform the situation on campus regardless of what takes place with WSL.

Lee Dunbar said that this legislation gives us the tools needed to have the BoD work with the Senate have an effective way to debate the issues and also address issues as they arise. He said that the BoD is prepared to debate the issue.

Karl Smith noted that the GRTF has discussed this issue at length and the process has not been rushed. The bill will go to the BoD and then to Judicial Committee and finally to the voters. Karl said that the liaisons on the committee are the best people for the job and said that this role would complement the Vice Chair position in particular. Karl said that OGR needs a committee and is seeking to codify a committee through this process.

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

Travis McCoy called division.

He noted that a 2/3 majority was needed for the motion to pass.

The vote was 62-20. Debate was closed.

The Senate Bill passed.

R-12-32 A Resolution In support of a Three-Day Competition Powwow to be held on the University of Washington Seattle Campus with Greater University Support.

Alex Kim resumed his role as chair of the meeting.

Jenny Serpa, sponsor of the resolution, presented the legislation.

She said that the Office of Minority Affairs had decided not to support the rental of the Hec-Ed Pavillion, and that it was needed in order to hold the event on campus.

She said there has been a significant lack of communication between the OMA and the groups putting on the Powwow.

It was noted that the event cost approximately \$30,000 dollars to put on campus and that \$8-10,000 had been raised by student groups to put on the event, but that they thought through fundraising efforts it would be possible to put it on off-campus if necessary.

Jenny Serpa said she hoped to pass the bill tonight.

The motion was made to place the resolution on second readings. Seconded. Objection.

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

Shawn Fisher moved to remove the fourth to last that clause. *Seconded. Objection.*

Shawn Fisher said he was afraid it would detract from the message of the resolution and didn't want to bring up the issue of land from years past.

The President of First Nations said that the passage was factually accurate and was necessary for the resolution.

Lee Dunbar said he did think it was necessary and that it added perspective to the resolution.

Nathan Bedle said he thought it was unintentionally inflammatory and didn't necessary achieve the aims of the bill.

Max Wagner said he thought it was important to make note that UW was on Indian land and illustrated the irony of the administration's lack of communication with the student groups.

Jon Evans said he wanted to make sure the 'whereas' clause was supported by a 'that' clause and if it was not that he entertained a motion to remove it.

Ashley Miller said she thought it was important to include and that First Nations was giving a gift to the university by choosing to hold it on campus at considerable expense.

Travis Grandy moved to close debate. *Seconded. Objection. The motion passed.*

The amendment failed.

Phyllis Ying asked why the OMA had decided to withdraw its funding support for the event.

Angelo Bacca said that in 2000-2001 Senate unanimously passed a resolution supporting the event against OMA's decision not to allow the use of Hed-Ed Pavillion, and that he was surprised the debate needed to be had again.

The President of First Nations said OMA said it was a financial matter, but that they had also been told it should only be one day or conducted without competitions.

Dan Boirum asked what a Powwow consisted of.

It was noted that a Powwow was a celebration and time to gather with friends and family and to dance, buy arts and crafts, pray for their families and to encourage others in the community. The annual attendance at previous Spring Powwows had been at least 5,000 people attend over the course of the weekend.

Jerome McCuin said he thought a Powwow would benefit the UW and Seattle as a whole. He said he thought the land argument was a valid one and was important to keep in the resolution.

Alex Gwozda moved to place the 'that' clause "THAT, most of all" to the top of the 'that' clauses. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

Sheridan Grey said the Powwow was a great event.

Hanna Lommers-Johnson said she thought it was a great event to help bring minorities to campus.

Selma Dillsi moved to amend the fourth to last 'whereas' clause to remove the words "used to be". *Seconded. Objection.*

She said that land doesn't lose nativity and that it gave validity to the Powwow.

Dan Boirum said it was public land and that Senate should not debate land ownership and instead support a worthy event.

Gary Stute said he was afraid it would make the issue a politically contentious one.

Jon Lee said he was confused as to why Senate was debating the issue instead of supporting a great issue.

Sam Al-Khoury moved to close debate on the amendment. *Seconded. Objection.*

The motion passed.

The amendment failed.

Jono Hanks moved to strike the second 'that' clause. *Seconded. Objection.*

Jenny Serpa said that two Powwows are held on campus and that the clause specifically supported the spring Powwow.

Travis Grandy moved to vote on the amendment and immediately vote on the entire resolution. Seconded. Objection.

The motion passed.

The amendment failed.

The resolution passed.

It was noted that students could volunteer to help with by emailing First Nations at fnuw@u.washington.edu

Kareem Cervantes moved to proceed with announcements. Seconded. Objection.

Alex Kim said that the motion required 1/2 majority as its intent was to close debate.

Gary Stute appealed the decision of the Chair.

Alex Kim explained that Sturges called adjournment as a simple majority, while suspension of the rules required 2/3s. He said the move to proceed with announcements was intended as a motion to adjourn, and thus should require a simple majority

The decision of the Chair was affirmed.

The motion passed.

X. Request for Information

XI. Announcements

Kareem Cervantes said Relay for Life was meeting on the second floor of the HUB.

Jon Lee said Mortar Board has extended its application to this coming Friday.

Melissa Aar noted that the Hunger Walk was taking place April 15th.

Jim LaRoche noted the First Nation's Powwow was on April 15-16.

Alex Kim noted that ASUW was sponsoring a Relay for Life team.

Jim LaRoche said Native Voices on April 6-8 was hosting a native film festival.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10PM