

Senate Meeting Minutes
Date: November 21, 2006
4:30PM – HUB 310

Respectfully submitted by Senate Secretary Alex Gwozda

I. Committee Meetings (4:30 PM)

II. Call to Order (5 PM)

Hala Dillsi called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM.

Hala said we have a full meeting today. She said we will keep close to time limits, and encouraged senators to keep the discussion concise yet complete.

III. Approval of the Agenda

John Naughton moved to not have the Parli Pro of the week.

Hala said there is none today.

Gary Stute moved to limit chair's report to 5 minutes. *Gary seconded. Erin objected.*

Gary said he wanted to keep things moving along, like the Board of Director's report.

Erin said we can trust the chair to deliver a short report that is important to senators. She said generally the President and Senate Chair are respected to take the time they need. She said the Board requested to put its own time limit on there.

Sameer moved to close debate. *Seconded. Objection. Debate closed.*

Motion fails.

Andrew Everett moved to discharge the committee from consideration and put R-13-4 on first readings.

Hala said that will take 2/3rds.

Mikhail said it's a simple majority.

Gary said the vice chair gets to rule as parliamentarian.

Gary appealed the chair's decision.

Hala said she had not made a decision yet.

Hala said she would rule that it takes 2/3rds to bring in the resolution.

Hala said the language is unclear in rules and by-laws.

Travis Grandy asked what rule it was.

Hala said it's in **Senate Rules Section 6 A. 4, under Committee Consideration.** (?)

Mikhail said Sturgis said the only time 2/3rds is required when debate would be limited or suspension of the rules. He said Senate rules forbid consideration by senate except by discharging committee allowed for in the rules, so it's not a suspension of the rules.

Sameer said we should continue with our meeting, and entertained a motion to close debate.

Jono moved. Melissa seconded.

Debate closed on appeal of the chair's decision.

Division was called.

28-30-7; chair's decision appealed, and committee decision can be discharged with a majority.

Sameer moved to close debate on discharge of committee. **Andrew Everett** objected.

Erin called for a committee report. She said she was concerned that someone has not gone to committee and talked there.

Andrew Everett said the committee tabled it, but a Facebook group shows there is an interest by 500 people support it in two weeks. He said all the resolution does is to have a person evaluate the feasibility. He said if it's controversial the whole Senate should decide on it.

Erin said it could be dealt with in committee.

Hala called for a committee report.

Stephanie said they considered it for 3 weeks in a row. She said they decided it would not be worth the resources and effort put into it, and would not end up with a positive

result. She said the resolution calls for a taskforce and that Washington rules and policies be repealed. She said the committee thought that was too far of a leap.

Sam moved to close debate. *Sameer seconded. Objection by Gary.*

Debate closed.

Committee consideration not discharged.

Erin moved to approve. *Sam seconded. Erin withdrew.*

Angelena Crown moved to put the public forum after leg agenda. *Seconded. Gary objected.*

Angelena yielded to **Bryce McKibben**.

Bryce said if we don't pass the Legislative Agenda in next three weeks, his first week in Olympia will be on weak ground. He said the presentation is very worthwhile, but we should make sure we get the legislative agenda done with first.

Gary Stute said first readings are this week, and there will be enough time. He said should be out by 7 PM.

Sameer moved to close debate. *Travis seconded. No objection.*

Hala called for division.

Gary said it takes 2/3rds.

Mikhail and **Hala** said it takes majority.

29-33-6. The public forum remains.

Karlyn Goetz moved to approve the agenda. *Seconded.*

IV. Public Forum – Jonathan Evans, Finance & Budget Director: ASUW finances (20 min.)

Senate was presented a PowerPoint presentation entitled ASUW Senate Financial Orientation; explanations or questions not explicit on the slides are noted below.

Jon said he hoped for 5 minutes of discussion time remaining. He said this presentation was intended to show the context and history and current issues with ASUW finances and budget.

(Slide 2) **Jon** said the SAF Committee gives a small portion of funds to the ASUW. He said the total number is considered in terms of anticipated students at about 6 dollars and 41 cents per student per quarter. **Jon** said we usually had a little extra money, but the committee said there was too much. So the ASUW changed and just asked for the money it needed. He said the extra money was actually covering up a lot of hidden expenses. He said there are many programs: Senate, UW Leaders, CORE, and more.

(Slide 3) He said we have 6 main accounting funds. He said we had 116 student employees, and 4 major arts and entertainment events, and a lot is going on as well this year.

(Slide 4) He said the fund Balance means money taken from general funds, like a savings account. He said Arts and Entertainment did not bring in as much as they spent. He said the Experimental College as well did not bring in as much spent.

(Slide 5) He said in 1998 there was an entity called ASUW Publishing that was driving ASUW into bankruptcy. He said they solved the problem temporarily by disbanding that entity. He said last year there was almost 200,000 dollars deficit last year. He said if we were to pay that off now we would lose a lot of money from the general fund balance.

(Slide 6) He said we have 100,000 dollars for liability funds for an emergency. He said after we paid all debts last year we still had some extra general funds. He said more entities were created for this year, and then SAF wasn't sure they wanted to fund these new entities, and ASUW would have to fund them. He said this year already 20,000 deficit is expected from this. He said the Experimental College and Bike Shop, if they continue, will also contribute to deficit.

(Slide 7)

(Slide 8)

(Slide 9) He said surveys are sent out to entities and personnel. He said we do not have set solutions at this point for improvement of ASUW, but that will continue to be figured out this year.

(Slide 10)

Rod Palmquist asked if the presentation would be online.

Jon said **Alex Gwozda** will put it on the Senate website.

Jono asked why the Experimental College and Bike Shop are under consideration and why not Arts & Entertainment.

Jon said we only give those two when they need it and otherwise they're more independent. He said we already did internal work with A&E.

John Naughton asked why they can't request money from SAF to fill the gap.

Jon said we will likely have to increase the request, but they have to be justified.

Sameer thanked **Jon Evans** for the fiscal conservatism, and asked how much was being spent on MBA consultants.

Jon said it was called the Business Consulting Network and he said they usually charge 1500 dollars, but instead lowered it to 750 for us, and SAF will pay 250 of that.

V. Chair's Report

Hala thanked everyone for their dedication and hard work and extra time for Senate, in representing student voices for those who cannot come to Senate. She said it is her expectation that good faith is taken in Parli Pro, and encouraged senators to share knowledge with others. She said the agenda is not linear, and we can move to any part at any time. She said disruption of discussion is not good, and encouraged tabling if we are not going to continue discussion tonight. She said the Legislative Agenda has widespread influence throughout the state and the institution. She encouraged us to finish first readings this week to be able to start amendments next week. She encouraged Senators to bring back the Legislative Agenda to constituents.

Alex Gwozda encouraged senators to use the online forum to discuss the Legislative Agenda.

VI. Committee Chair Reports

Jon said the Up 'Til Dawn event will happen after next Tuesday after Senate. He said he has more info about Relay for Life.

Melissa Aar said they discussed the Legislative Agenda.

Stephanie said they talked about tuition and fees, state funding, and diversity under Legislative Agenda.

Selma said they looked at the Health, Safety, and Welfare section and wrote amendments.

Jono said they focused mostly on tuition under the Legislative Agenda, and discussed R-13-6 first readings in committee.

Charles said they discussed Senate 101 and how to codify that to begin next quarter. He it is required for all new senators.

Jessica Kang said they talked about the Legislative Agenda and Senate 101.

VII. ASUW Presidential Privilege

Cullen said they had a Washington Student Lobby meeting. He said at www.wastudent.org they discussed the legislative agenda.

He said he is advocating for solution to conduct codes that entirely peer-based. He said he will put a resolution before this body to discuss this. He said there was a misquoted and poorly written article in the Seattle Times. He encouraged others who may be interested in writing a resolution.

Rob asked what day.

Cullen said on Friday it was in the Seattle Times.

VIII. Board of Directors Report (5 min.)

Mikhail said they appointed many volunteers. He said some committees are full. He said they allocated funds for the legislative reception. He said they appointed a Rainy Dawg Radio underwriting manager.

Erin and **Sam** read the following announcements:

<In process of collecting from Erin & Sam & ASUW Calendar>

Sam encouraged students to send him events to update them on the ASUW calendar.

IX. Graduate and Professional Student Senate Report (2 min.)

She said they discussed a resolution concerning veteran tuition waivers for graduate students. She said the USSA [United States Students Association] representative and another individual were elected to the board there.

X. Orders of the Day

A. Unfinished Business

a. 2nd Readings – R-13-5: A Resolution in Opposition to the Pacific Street Interchange as Proposed by the Washington Department of Transportation Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Hala said it is on vote now and asked for preceding motions.

Jon Solomon asked to scroll over and look at amendments made last week.

52-8-5; resolution passes.

B. New Business

a. 1st Readings – LD-13-1: 2007 ASUW Legislative Agenda

Rob Barnum-Reece, John Naughton, and LSC Coordinator **Sameer Kanal** presented first readings.

Sameer said he is the chairperson of the Legislative Steering Committee, which took last year's legislative agenda as a starting point, and each member brought forward discussion points and amendments. He said OGR will lobby in Olympia and locally on these issues, and Bryce and Hannah are limited to lobby on what is on the document.

John said it was a pleasure to serve as a liaison to the LSC, advocating Senate standing opinion. He encouraged input.

Rob agreed it was exciting being on the committee with interesting debates. He said one issue was whether it should be more philosophy-based or issue-based as an agenda.

Hala called for questions.

Alex Gwozda asked if the order influences the priority at all.

Sameer said there is no distinction about prioritization based on order.

Kim asked why there are no periods.

Sameer said there was no objection to removing periods this year, since grammatically they were not needed.

Matt York asked what the loan forgiveness program looks like.

Hala said we could now go through by section.

STATE FUNDING

Rod asked why capital projects and university operations are selected for expanding quality of education.

John yielded to **Bryce McKibben**.

Bryce said two entirely different committees consider physical buildings and other projects.

Hala asked what changed from last year's agenda.

Sameer reviewed the changes from last year, including: he said they swapped State Funding higher.

John said balancing to ensure equality was moved to academic because it fit better there.

Sameer said LSC members in the audience are invited to correct him if necessary.

Rod asked why the third bullet point was removed.

John said it was moved to the academic section.

Jon Stevens asked if "we oppose jeopardizing funding" was considered.

Sameer said it was not brought up.

Jon asked why there wasn't anything that opposed decrease in funding.

Sameer said he's trying to stay on intent rather than the why, but he said "maintaining" is definitely on there, so the latitude is there for the lobbyist to oppose the decrease in funding.

Alex Kim said the order does not matter, and asked if there was a reason State Funding was raised to the first position.

Sameer yielded to **Erin**.

Erin said she moved that because we need to emphasize the importance of state funding, and that it seemed to fall in logical order better.

Austin asked the definition of a peer institution.

Sameer said the UW defines itself in publications and addresses where he compares himself to specific peer institutions, including similar quality of education. He then yielded to Bryce.

Bryce said a committee made a judgment on this, and chose the top 10-12 states ranked, and in those states selected research universities. So he said from that there are about 10-12 considered officially as peer institutions.

Stephanie asked the body to speak louder.

TUITION AND FEES

Kim Chung asked why the second-to-last is not two separate points.

Rob said that point was the same from last year and no-one had issue with it, and suggested it could be brought up in second readings.

Hala asked for differences from last agenda.

Sameer reviewed differences, including: he said the second point in last year's was moved to an oppositional language. He said they removed the word "equally" before proportionally as redundant.

Neil Rotta asked what full tuition-setting authority is.

Sameer said it helps that **Governor Gregoire** has supported a cap.

Erin said undergraduate in-state tuition is set by legislature. She said out-of-state and graduate tuition is set by Board of Regents.

Austin asked how being in support of raising salaries in the health and welfare section contrasts to opposing tuition increases.

Sameer said state funding rise allows staff salaries to stay.

Jono asked if there's standing opinion that Senate wants out of state and graduate tuition set by legislature.

Sameer said we put it down last year.

Kim Chung asked if tuition levels change for all students every year, versus based on year of entry.

Cullen said the 6-10 year plan initially requested it, but now it's now more towards a cohort pricing and differential pricing based on year beginning attendance.

Bryce said they are exploring those options.

FINANCIAL AID

Sameer reviewed the changes from last year, including: he said the first bullet point is the same. He said the second sentence italicized has been reworded without change of content. He said we support expansion of "need and merit" to support both. He said the opposing part is based on R-12-20.

Alex Kim said he does not understand the italicized part.

John Naughton said it's somewhat ambiguous, but the intent is "that end" is higher education from earlier in the sentence

Angelena asked about drug convictions and if that means major or minor offenses.

John said there is a broad scope to it, and "any" is not ambiguous, and hopes the body continues to discuss it.

Erin said currently if there is any drug conviction aid is suspended for one year. She said other crimes are not considered under that financial aid ban, like rape. She said that last year they did not believe one specific area should be singled out.

Hala said it's R-12-20 in opposition to the denial of federal financial aid based on drug convictions.

John said it does have to do with the idea that drug offenses disproportionately influence minorities, and said he supported that resolution.

Sameer said one must check a box whether or not you've been convicted of a drug crime, but not check a box for a felony.

Hala said they can look at the minutes from last session.

Sabrina Fields asked what loan forgiveness is.

Selma asked what the lengths were for financial aid bans.

John said it was a second readings question.

Hala agreed.

MAINTAINING AND EXPANDING DIVERSITY

Sameer reviewed changes from last year, including: he said they did not change the first italicized portion at all. He said the one that is currently last was changed to oppositional language with the similar meaning.

Rob said many questions are probably on the last two points about holistic admission and exclusion of race. He said they were split into two bullet points because race is not used currently in holistic admissions.

John said the “race, gender, ...” quote is directly from Senate standing opinion, and the opposition is language from current state law.

Ehsan Aleaziz asked about undocumented immigrants, and if that differentiates between those born here or in home countries, and how they establish residency.

Hala called the second part a second readings question.

Sameer said it refers to parents being undocumented.

Rod asked for elaboration on committee from consideration on why that was changed to a negative form of the statement.

Sameer said we have a holistic admission approach now at the UW, and because of the initiative I-200 we are not allowed to consider race, but only overcoming adversity. He said they want to support the current holistic approach, but as well make sure to consider race.

Tyson asked what legislation that was from.

John said it was added from R-12-19 standing opinion.

Stephanie asked why the word race as chosen over ethnicity in the last bullet point.

Sameer said I-200 says race for sure. He said last year's was used a model for this year's, and that was last year's text.

Erin said we really did not discuss that in detail.

Alex Kim asked to clarify removing housing and insurance being removed, and explain rationale.

Sameer yielded to **Bryce**.

Bryce said he put that line in there last year. He said it was fully resolved and a success already last year. He said they edited a clause in another section opposing elimination of the rights of students.

Alex asked if it's OGR's position that the issue of equal access of GLBTQ has been resolved in state of Washington.

Sameer said it's approaching a second readings discussion.

Sameer said it's an LSC position at this point.

Hala called it second readings.

Charles asked if the second to last bullet point opposes the last bullet point.

Sameer said he thinks the committee said it's regardless of whether it concerns, not regardless of whether it's to be included.

Jon Solomon asked what that reference was.

John said R-12-19.

Kim asked the difference between race and ethnicity.

Hala said that's second readings.

Kim asked what questions are in order now.

Hala said anything about wording or intent, but anything about the value can be considered second readings.

Hala asked if she wants a definition of race and ethnicity by their opinion or by state law definition.

Cole Olson asked if opposing exclusion means they want race as a component of the application process.

Sameer said holistic implies inclusion of everything.

Cole asked if by including race that means if they want more of one race over another.

Rob said if it's a question of quota, we oppose any quota.

ACADEMICS

John said Washington Learns provides that language of the italicized portion.

Erin said none of LSC knew what the previous level was.

John said ensuring equal quality is to make sure that each program are ensured.

Jon Solomon asked if the credit limit refers to 180 or 205.

Rob said 205 credit limit.

John asked **Cullen** how it pertains to 6-years plan about credit limit.

Cullen agreed it's pertinent.

Bryce said it opposes tuition charge going to full after 125% of credit limit.

Jono asked for **Bryce** to clarify again.

Stephanie asked if they have discussed at all international students who don't get credits.

John said it's somewhat addressed there but not explicitly.

Aditya asked if there's any discussion of increasing access to people with disabilities.

Sameer said that should be included under the 'technological' language. He said it's the first clause under maintaining and expanding diversity.

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE

Sameer reviewed differences from last year, including: he said on the 6th point it now includes surrounding communities. He said there were other rewordings.

Rod said he had heard of some language on investment and corporate responsibility and asked to elaborate what the committee thought on that.

John said language was proposed but deemed out of purview of the legislative agenda.

Carmen Lau asked about expansion of health care services on campus, and asked if there are any.

Dane (?) asked to define commercialization.

Jessica asked what comprehensive health care is.

Rob said it's a second readings questions, but he would interpret as "complete as possible".

Tim (?) asked what full marriage equality for couples is.

Sameer said that means couples regardless of sexual orientation would have same rights under marriage law.

Rob said it's from R-11-10 language.

Tim asked if it means straight unmarried couples as well as domestic couples.

Aditya asked if a safer environment means environmental or personal safety.

Sameer said it's more to do with if the area is safe and less with environmental concerns.

Stephanie asked for more of follow-up about corporate responsibility and whether it's relevant to campus.

Sameer said there was language proposed and voted down that included it, and decided it's not something they should lobby on to the government.

John said student standing opinion was recognized as a base, but still turned down.

TRANSPORTATION

Sameer reviewed differences from last year, including: he said the last bullet point was added.

Hala encouraged senators to hold on just a little longer to finish first readings.

Lindsay Omta asked about transportation.

Sameer yielded to **Hannah**.

Hannah said transit and transportation entities are not talking to each other about their many plans.

Jono asked to explain the term 'easing transportation of students', and listed possibilities.

Sameer said it include all that he mentioned, anything that would ease transportation.

STUDENT ADVOCACY

No comments.

First readings completed.

Jono moved to adjourn with announcements. *Mikhail seconded.*

XI. Announcements

XII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM.