

ASUW Student Senate Steering  
May 13, 2005  
Minutes

Respectfully submitted by Senate Secretary Alex Kim

Call to order at 2:30

Roll Call

Aiko Akers – proxy by Garrett Parks  
Chris Barrows – proxy by Mike Leichner  
Nick Dayton  
Mae Diligencia  
Alex Kim  
Kelsey Knowles – excused absence  
Steve Kushnir  
Jon Lee  
Mike Leichner  
Joel Murray  
Garrett Parks  
Rene Singleton  
Karl Smith  
Zach Tobin

Chair's Report

Chair **Zach Tobin** said that he was pleased and gratified by what Senate was able to accomplish last week. He told chairs to continue to encourage senators. He said he'd like to talk about the Officer Election format for two weeks from now.

**Nick Dayton** said that candidates should be allowed to be present during the discussion period after speeches and questions.

**Steve Kushnir** said that there are some things that people might want to express that they might be uncomfortable in doing so if candidates were in the room.

**Nick Dayton** moved for the chair not to ask candidates to leave the room during the discussion period. *Seconded.*

**Nick** said that we were all mature adults and that anything we would want to say when candidates weren't there should be able to said even if they were.

**Mike Leichner** said we shouldn't prevent anyone from feeling uncomfortable about what they wanted to say.

**Garrett Parks** said that candidates had the right to hear why people were objecting to them.

Vice-Chair **Karl Smith** said that candidates being present would hamper the discussion. He described that it could cause a “chilling effect.”

**Rene Singleton** said that not having candidates present for discussion in the past has opened up the chance for peoples’ feelings to be hurt.

**Joel Murray** said he agreed with Rene because it added a measure of accountability to what people said about the candidates.

**Nick** said that Karl’s point about a possible chilling effect could not be prevented by not having candidates there, since it was expected that candidates would be informed by their friends after the meeting on what was said.

Membership Coordinator **Jon Lee** said that at the same time, people weren’t given a chance to respond to statements anyway during the discussion.

**Steve** said he agreed with Rene in the sense that a closed discussion may be more negative to the people running, but said that Karl’s point was more important so that we could make a better decision on our officers.

**Rene** said that one of the things that Senate did so well was talking about things in a productive way, and couldn’t think of anything someone might want to say that couldn’t be said in front of the candidates themselves.

**Nick** said a discussion with candidates present could promote better discussion because it would have to be better substantiated.

**Mike Leichner** moved to close debate. *Seconded. The motion passed.*

*The motion passed.*

**Steve** said that Zach not saying anything at all could create more confusion.

**Mike** said he didn’t think we needed to program Zach with what to say.

**Secretary Alex Kim** moved to close debate. *Seconded. The motion passed.*

#### Officers’ Reports

**Karl Smith** said he’d like to see the Vice-Chair’s job description changed to include the weekly events e-mail.

**Jon Lee** said he and Travis Grandy were working to change the bylaws in regards to what the Membership Committee would be doing in the future.

**Alex** said that legislation tools the website should now work without a problem, and added that he would now begin working on the site manual.

Legislative Referral

R-11-43: A Resolution in Support of Equal Course Evaluation Standards for All Instructors

*Alex moved to place the resolution in Campus Affairs. Seconded. The motion passed.*

R-11-44: A Resolution In Support of Expanding Undergraduate Academic Advising

**Zach** entertained a motion to refer the resolution to Academic Affairs.

*So moved, seconded. The motion passed.*

R-11-45: A Resolution to Endorse the Senior Send off Celebration

**Garrett Parks** moved to refer the legislation directly to the floor of the Senate.

*Seconded. The motion passed.*

OA-11-8: An Organic Act to change the name and purpose of the Off-Campus Affairs Committee

**Zach** entertained a motion to refer the act to the Steering Committee.

*So moved, seconded. The motion passed.*

**Mae Diligencia** said that basically, the Director of Community Relations has said that the Commuter Union would be too hard to put together. She said that nevertheless, we could utilize the network of commuters in Senate. She said this was to solidify the purpose of the committee.

**Alex** said this was a good idea that would help clarify purpose of committee. He said there were some grammatical concerns.

*The legislation was referred to Steering Committee for final consideration next week.*

R-11-46: A Resolution in support of American Sign Language (ASL) classes being offered at UW

**Chris Paredes** presented his legislation to the Steering Committee.

*Alex moved to refer to General Affairs. Seconded. The legislation passed.*

Approval of Agenda

**Zach** entertained a motion to place R-11-36 as the fourth item under New Business.

*So moved, seconded. The motion passed.*

*It was moved to approve the agenda. Seconded. The motion passed.*

Approval of Minutes

**Karl** moved to approve the minutes with minor stylistic changes. *Seconded.*

*The motion passed.*

**Mike** moved to adjourn. *Seconded. The motion passed.*