Executive Board Public Meeting Minutes

02.28.24 | SURC 236

1. Call to Order: 3:07
2. Roll Call

President

Executive Vice President

Senate Speaker

Director of Equity & Multicultural Affairs

~~Director of Governmental Affairs~~

Director of Student Life & Facilities

ASCWU Advisor

1. Land Acknowledgement – Senator Johnson

*Central Washington University acknowledges the people who have been on this land since time immemorial. The Ellensburg campus is on lands ceded by the Pshwanapum and other bands and tribes of the Yakama Nation in the Treaty of 1855. The Yakama people remain committed stewards of this land, cherishing it and protecting it, as instructed by elders through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands, and give thanks to the legacy of the original people, their lives, and their descendants.*

*We also recognize the histories of land theft, violence, erasure and oppression of Indigenous communities. It is not enough to only make an acknowledgement. We have a responsibility as occupants of these lands to hear the call to action made by Indigenous peoples, and to support their ongoing fight for sovereignty, equity, justice, healing, and the protection of land resources.*

This land acknowledgment was provided by the CWU Diversity and Equity Center.

1. Approval of Minutes
   1. Malik offers to the table to reapprove the meeting minutes from 1.21.24 and 1.29.24 due to lost documents.
   2. Speaker Johnson brings to question of whether these minuets had been approved previously and President Cantu confirms that they had been approved in a previous meeting.
      1. Speaker Johnson motions to reapprove 1.21.24 and 1.29.24 Senator Johnson.
      2. Director Granados seconded the motion.

Vote 4-0-1

1. Approval of Agenda
   1. President Cantu moves to the agenda and asks for approval. Advisor Bryant discusses amending the agenda to include election expenses under new business by replacing Erin Sargent with Advisor Bryant.
      1. Speaker Johnson motions the amendment
      2. Vice President Villa seconded the motion.

Vote 4-0-1

1. Reports
   1. President Cantu begins the reports.
      * 1. Community Policing Taskforce –Sending out Campus announcement
        2. Developed series of forums and focus groups

* 1. Exec. Vice President –
     + 1. Vice President Villa carries out his report stating he is working on finalizing committee appointments.
       2. Vice President Villa brings concern of the back office. He suggests there be a clean-up of boxes and random items that have been laying around. His solution is to go through the stuff and decide if the board needs to keep the stuff in the back or dispose of it.

Vice President Villa yields the rest of his time.

* 1. Senate Speaker –
     + 1. Speaker Johnson starts his report with the senate meeting they had that previous Monday. The senate, during this meeting, had approved their by-laws.
       2. Speaker Johnson follows up with a meeting he had with Provost Kurt Kirstein and Faculty Senate Chair Andrea Eckland during the meeting they discussed, the possibility of starting the fall quarter closer to Labor Day, a reason mentioned for this change would be to have students finish out the quarter in person. It was pointed out that students are leaving for Thanksgiving break and not returning. Also, during the meeting online classes were discussed. It was mentioned by Senator Gordon at the Senate meeting on February 12th that there should be a push for a contractual obligation requiring professors to be available for a specific number of hours a week based on the number of credits they are teaching. For example, if a teacher hosted a 3-credit class they should offer 3 hours of office hours per week. The school is considering switching from a quarter system to a semester system. He claims this issue is not on the agenda because it is not a heavy decision now.

* 1. Dir. Equity & Multicultural Affairs –
     + 1. Director Granados reports on the ESC gala. The ESC put in a funding request on Friday to add another ES representative award.
       2. Director Granados moves on to state that next month she will be reviewing her Orgs budgets to see who hasn't spent enough money. This will help them avoid feeling pressured or rushed at the end of the year to spend it all.
       3. Director Granados says that she has 119 applications for first term grad. If they need more funding they will go to other orgs. She claims that FASA donated 1,000 dollars for funding.
       4. Director Granados says she can’t do Monday ESC meeting if they want to vote on Fridays for budgeting.
  2. Dir. Governmental Affairs – N/A
  3. Dir. Student Life & Facilities
     + 1. Director Castillo met with the housing and dining board committee. The advising board wants to create an outreach program to focus on student feedback initiatives. This will students get feedback on policy procedures from housing and dining. The current committee is being affected by the lack of engagement. The committee is rebranding and taking on more student focus. Their current meetings have been overviews of conversations. This change may happen with other advisory boards as well.
  4. ASCWU Advisor –
     + 1. Advisor Bryant informs the board that there is a meeting next Friday, March 8th, with Paul. He is meeting with us about university advancements. Advisor Bryant asks that the Board shows up.
       2. They are doing interviews in April to see how many candidates we get. We need more candidates for provety. There are 3 by-laws waiting to get approved. There needs to be two more students to join the committee. This will be 1 to 2 hours a quarter, but ASCWU workers are ineligible to join.
       3. Advisor Bryant discusses a strategic plan that was started in September. He claims to have finished a draft and needs suggestions/feedback.
       4. There is an ASCWU scholarship available called the “US Bank Max scholarship in scholarship central. ASCWU board is not eligible to sign up for this scholarship.
       5. Advisor Bryant reminds the board that he will be out on the 12th, 11th, and 13th of march during finals week.

1. Presentations
   1. Robbi Goninan – Orientation Fee
      * 1. Robbie brings concerns about orientation funding. Since 2021 in the Covid pandemic the 200-dollar orientation fee has been removed thus causing Orientation to go unfunded. The budget has been tight making the orientation budget fall below a red line. The ELT says that funding orientation fees is a must. After going back and forth between different departments such as the Budget Team Counsel and the ELT it was finally approved. Starting this school year 2024-2025 orientation fees for first year students or 250 dollars will be reinstated. For transfer students they will be charged 100 dollars. Orientation will be required still. Early admissions orientation will be in April. Regular times will be in July. Late orientation will be in September for students who cannot make it in the summer.
        2. Discussion: Director Granados asks, “Where do the fees compare to other institutions?” Robbie claims that this fee is the cheapest compared to other 4-year institutions. Speaker Johnson asked what the purpose of charging 250. Robbie explains that there will be inflation going to 225 and by charging 250 they prevent changing the price for a couple of years. Speaker Johnson asked what the most expensive part of orientation is. Robbie states that the food is most expensive. She says that approximately 40 percent of the money goes towards food/dining. The dining advisory board approves funding, and the Orientation team must pay back the money in full with a 25% interest fee. President Cantu asks how orientation has been working during this time. Robbie says that it hasn’t been working well as they are constantly running into the red balance. She explains that the school needs to pull money from other places to get their account back to zero. Speaker Johnson asked if students could disperse the charges of the orientation fee throughout the year rather than pay in that quarter? Robbie says that students are eligible to make a payment plan to pay it back; however, there are concerns that this fee won’t be paid if students decide not to return after the winter break. Director Granados asked if financial aid could cover this fee. Robbie confirms that financial aid is a resource that can cover the fee. Speaker Johnson asked if there was something built in place where students complete this orientation but withdraw from the school? Robbie says that if the students join the orientation but withdraw from the college this fee will be removed. This does come with an exception, if a student were to do a hardship withdraw like other fees it is not guaranteed that the fee will be removed. President Cantu asked what happens if a student figures out how to pass through the orientation? Robbie explains that there are no repercussions, but they will still need to pay the fee. Speaker Johnson asked if all students who attend will need to meet with an advisor? Robbie says yes that is part of the experience. Speaker Johnson asked if 40% goes to dining where does the 60% go? Robbie claims 40% food 60% staff and materials to support parents. President Cantu asks if this fee would help pay for next year preview day? Robbie says that it would not help for future orientations.
2. Unfinished Business
   1. There was no unfinished business
3. New Business – joey suggests moving the budget review to the end of the meeting. discussion Speaker Johnson says no because he really wants to talk about the budget, and he needs to know the numbers.
   * 1. Director Granados motions to move the budget.
     2. Vice President Villa seconded the motion.

Vote 3-1-1 motion passes

* 1. Budget Reviews w/ ~~Erin Sargent~~ Advisor Bryant
     1. Advisor Bryant reviews B.O.D budget with the board.
  2. Election Commission Appointments - approved Kento and Emmet for mineuts
     1. Kento Ibarra
     2. Emmet Andis
        + 1. Speaker Johnson motions to approve the minutes for the Election Commission Appointments.
          2. Director Granados seconded the motion.

Vote 4-0-1

* 1. Election Materials – Lola and Pero got petitions schedule which may be different than last year. The chair says that it’s to be determined at this current time. The plan is to hire Kento. Lola recommended Kento due to his constant communication, being on time, and prepared with great questions.

Director Granado claims that there is no difference between the senate and the B.O.D. running in the elections, however she claims that there should be more specificity with what is just for Senate vs. what is just for the B.O.D and what’s combined.

Director Granado acknowledges that there are dates set for certain candidates each week but has concerns about conflicting schedules. Her solution is to have more leeway on what days these could be.

Director Granado takes a moment to talk about the kickoff on April 9. She makes this aware to ensure that everyone will be available that day as it conflicts with the election events. She suggests that everybody running should turn in their class schedules to the Election Committee.

Advisor Bryant steps into the conversation with some answers. To reassure the board, he says there is no difference in the schedule between the Senate and the B.O.D. during the election events. Anybody running will be a part of all events. To settle the second concerns Advisor Bryant claims that only the April 10-19 are set in stone for candidate forms. The rest of the dates are not yet determined because they are all based on the candidates' schedules and availability. There were some wording issues that he pointed out as well and instead of being a debate they will now be called forums.

President Cantu asks, “if there are more than 2 people running, should [the candidates] end up on ballad anyway?” Advisor Bryant says

Speaker Johnson asks why the terminology changed from “debates” to “forums”. Advisor Bryant clarifies that even though it is called “forums” now that if more than one person is running in a position then there will be a debate. The change of wording made it so that it wouldn’t be confusing. Director Granados suggests changing the name to “forums and debates.”

Advisor Bryant asks if there are any thoughts about a primary and a general. Speaker Johnson states that there should be a primary if there are more than 3 people running for the position rather than just two. This way Speaker John believes that it will shorten the process. He suggests that they should come back and reevaluate the schedule once the declaration has been closed. This will determine the need for a primary.

Advisor Bryant states that if the primary is not needed the elections would jump to the forum. Director Granados brings concerns to student engagement by having a primary. She explains that students may feel less excited about voting the second time around. Speaker Johnson counters the argument by saying by not having a primary if there were multiple people running for one position then the elections may get messy. He doubles down on having a primary if there are about 4 people running to bring it down to two people. Speaker Johnson states that if there is no need for a primary, the forms should be extended to the 26th.

PACKET DISSCUSSION   
Speaker Johnson speaks first claiming that all the hours in the packet are wrong. Advisor Bryant says that was on purpose because they were leaving it for the B.O.D to fix. The goal is to update these dates. Advisor Bryant asks if the board is comfortable with doing 24 hours? The consensus was yes.

Director Granados says there should be more information about the job positions. Speaker Johnson suggests putting in the job descriptions from the by-laws into the packet. Director Granados suggests giving a brief job description rather than a long description from the by-laws.

Speaker Johnson announces that the GPA standing should be dropped to 2.0 flat instead of 2.5. That is still to be determined.

Speaker Johnson carries out the conversation to pages 7 and 8. On page 7 it states that receipts must be turned in on May 3rd while page 8 states that they must be turned in on May 13th. He is requesting a solid date.

On page 9 Speaker Johnson states that officers should not be allowed to endorse other candidates in public or private. He suggests taking out that part and having anybody a part of ASCWU be subjected to this rule. Director Granados counters that only people employed by ASCWU should be subjected to this rule.

On page 9 under drug and alcohol Speaker Johnson also wants to change where it states that endorsing alcohol through the campaign may cause you to be disqualified. He would like it to say you *will* be disqualified.

On page 10 under social media policy “post from friends may be monitored” Speaker Johnson requests that should be removed because the candidates cannot control what their friends post.

On page 12 Speaker Johnson has many questions. His first question is “how are fines applied? (Are they run through student accounts? Do they pay the student government?) Do we have the power to fine a student? What happens if they are not paid? Do we have a way to get that money? Who does the money go to? What are the guidelines to the fines?

Advisor Bryant takes the floor to answer some of the questions. Fines issued are determined by the Election Committee. This can be put on the student account and if you don't pay it will go through the University. It would be paid to the ASCWU board. Guidelines to the fines are to discretion.

Speaker Johnson would like a rubric for violations during the elections. He adds later that slander should be cause for disqualification. He would like to take out hosting without candidate advisor signing off because it doesn’t exist.

On page 15 Speaker Johnson had a question additional authority, “what is frustrate the election”? He wants clarification on this point or to get rid of it.

On page 17 Speaker Johnson requests that the Election Commission should be required to show up to the events. He questions why candidates should need a proxy and suggests getting rid of that exception. President Cantu suggests the chair of the Election Committee should be required but the whole commission should not be.

On page 19 Speaker Johnson finalizes his thoughts with ASCWU staff should not be allowed on any campaign. He supports his claims with concerns of ethical error.

Advisor Bryant suggests that the board tables the packet conversation to finish the agenda items. Speaker Johnson agrees until the changes in the packet have been made.

Speaker Johnson motions to approve

Director Granados seconded the motion

Vote 3-0-2

* 1. Ping Pong Expenses Tabled

Vice President Villa says he wants to host a Ping Pong event on April 24. This will be a tournament duo team style. The winner will get a trophy. There will be pizza and snacks. This tournament will be open to anyone. There will be two tables. He needs to approve funding for Ping Pong balls, a trophy for winning snacks and pizza.

Director Granados brings concerns of student engagement since it is on a Wednesday.

Speaker Johnson motioned to table the expenses

Director Granado seconded.

Vote 3-0-2

* 1. Election Expenses Tabled

Move all tabled items to the next special meeting. Charles motioned. Nick second 3-0-2

1. Public Comment N/A
2. Announcements
   1. Speaker Johnson announces the senate is hosting a brunch 2/29/24 from 11 to 2 but he not available till 12. He wants help from 11-12. Director Granados and Vice president Villa agreed to cover.
   2. Speaker Johnson announces Wellingtons recall Wednesday at 2
   3. Speaker Johnson reminds the board about senate meetings on Monday.
   4. Director Granados reminds the board that Equity meets Fridays at 11
3. Adjournment: 5:06