

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY**

**Senate Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday, October 6 • 7:00 p.m. • Ford 102**

1. Call to Order  
**Meeting called to order at 7:00pm**
2. Roll Call (Clerk Carstens)

3. Approval of the Agenda  
**Motion to move club approval up  
Chen/Landoni  
Approved**

**Motion to approve the agenda  
Carlin/Denning  
Approved**

4. Club Approval

3.1.1. Baking Club

Carlin: So we will start with baking club. This is people who like to bake, with probably bake sales for a local charity once established.

BCRep: I am VP of baking club. We want to include people who are interested in culinary arts. We want to have bake sales to help local programs, like Willamette Academy, and that sort of thing.

**Motion to approve baking club  
Carlin/Steffy  
21/0/0  
Approved**

3.1.2. American Sign Language Club

Clay: I've been taking sign language for three years and I want to engage the deaf community in Salem. It's about learning the basics. When I lived in San Diego we had a sort of club like this. It's about increasing awareness of deaf culture and learning a new skill.

**Motion to approve ASL club  
Dausmann/Steffy  
20/0/1  
Approved**

3.1.3. Philosophy Club

PCRep: I'm a philosophy and politics major. This club has been dormant for about three years. I have worked with the philosophy department to bring in a space where students can have philosophical discussions, and also critique papers and strengthen writing skills.

**Motion to approve  
Bormann/Chen  
21/0/0  
Approved**

4. Approval of the Minutes  
**Motion to approve the minutes**  
**Clay/Lund**  
**Approved**

5. Ruth Feingold

Feingold: Greetings, I'm Ruth Feingold. I am now the Dean of the CLA.

Whipple: Ed Whipple, VP of Campus life.

Feingold: I was invited here to introduce myself and to let you know what my role is here. My door is always open to you. I am very interested in listening to the students of Willamette. My general concerns are academic, and then anything having to do with academic success. I would love to see that your energies are put to good use. I want to ensure that we are getting students what they need. We have been talking about changes to the general curriculum. We want to make sure that you have the tools to be successful in our modern world. We are trying to be more integrative with those programs. I want to hear from you all about these changes and I definitely want to get to know you guys. I will be teaching next year, so if there are any english majors here hit me up. My focus is post-colonial literature. Any questions?

Steffy: Best way to contact?

Feingold: [Feingold@willamette.edu](mailto:Feingold@willamette.edu). My office is Smullin 108. Come in and look for me anytime, but you can email me, or contact my assistant. Her extension is x6285. I am really looking forward to working here.

6. Ed Whipple

Whipple: One thing that Dr. Feingold didn't tell you is that she is actually a lot of fun. I've got a keurig, and Dr. Feingold has an espresso machine in her office. Thanks for inviting us to ASWU. It's very important that we create these connections and dialogues early. I don't like the rain... It should be a sunny and warm evening instead of whatever this is.

I'm a Willamette Grad, and trying to transition back is hard with the rain. I washed dishes in Matthews, I was a ballboy for the football team growing up. I was an English major, so I really resonate with what the Dean said. I went on the first study abroad program to France from Willamette. That really compelled me to go to grad school after I graduated from Willamette. I think the most important relationship that you can have in undergrad is with the faculty. I had a terrific experience with my faculty, and I hope that you are all pursuing those relationships now in your academic lives.

I want to talk for a minute about student government. They are very valuable to the governing of an institution. It's about shared governance, and no voice is more important than any other. Liz and I have worked a lot together this summer. In terms of having a strong student body, it is important to work towards community. Everybody has opportunities to join various communities, but it also means that we need to work together to have a strong WU community. You either have a winning season or a losing season when

it comes to student government. I think a couple characteristics of strong teams are doing what is best for Willamette. You have to think about how to leave the institution stronger. You also have to have an understanding of the issues. You have to be an advocate for students. That doesn't mean championing every cause, but rather being able to articulate their positions. I hope you have a plan, a direction for the year. It is important to prioritize. The last characteristic is working together. You have to come out together, with a plan that you can support and at least live with. There are a lot of tragic things happening in our national politics right now because people can't work together or respect one another. Those are some of the characteristics that I think make strong student government. This is your student government, your community and you have to move it in the direction you think is best. We will support you in what you do as it moves the University in a better direction. Don't hesitate to reach out to me, I'm happy to come and visit with you any time. If my door is open, it's open. Come by anytime.

P. Gill: Can you talk about how you could be an asset to senate projects?

Whipple: Bishop Wellness, housing, recreation, athletics, chaplains, student involvement. I'll work on anything fun. If you hear something, please come and check it out. I can send you to the right person.

Chen: Can you talk about the rumor about 3 years of required housing on campus?

Whipple: I've heard that rumor too. That's how it used to be here. 1. We don't have the room currently. 2. If juniors are going to live on campus, there has to be something that attracts them to wanting to live on campus. We will involve students in any kind of discussion about that. I don't think it is anything in the immediate future. We are focused right now on renovations, York, Lee, and Shepard, and maybe next summer Matthews. The key is to provide a quality residential experience to Freshmen. The number one goal is to fill halls because people want to live there. I would argue that we grandfather it in. It would not be a surprise, students would be engaged.

Mackey: Last year there was no transparency, rumors were not rumors, they were facts being hidden from students.

Whipple: I would hope that if you hear something you can ask about it. I wasn't here last year, so I don't know what was or wasn't said. That communication has to happen on an ongoing and regular basis. I will always come to you guys if you need me. Sometimes there are issues that can't be talked about right away, but even with that we should be upfront.

Feingold: Sometimes it's difficult to know what students want to know. Let us know what the things you want to know about are. Sometimes a decision gets made that doesn't seem like it will be controversial ends up being so. Don't make the first step be that you are deliberately being shut out, but call us out if you feel as though you weren't included in a process.

Whipple: You've got an advisor, Lisa should be able to respond, and if she can't answer then we can come in. I know last spring was very difficult for the University, but everyone needs to move forward together. On that note, please try not to use "the administration" be specific who you are talking about, because it is not appropriate to assign feeling or opinions to the entire body of administrators, just like it is not appropriate to do that to the students.

Steffy: Why is Sparks cutting back on their hours?

Whipple: We are looking at the hours. It's budgetary. We are moving toward staffing over there from a risk management standpoint. I haven't seen the hours, but Bryan has been asked to look at those. I am concerned about safety mostly. We need a building manager there whenever it is open, so if we have money it will be open.

Steffy: Sparks is a huge outlet to physical and mental health of students.

Whipple: I agree, but when it comes to usage patterns we have to look at that. It's a great facility. This is definitely one of those things that we need to solve together.

Upoff: Do you want student input on changes to general ed?

Feingold: This fall the academic council will be developing a framework of resources. We will be looking at all sorts of resources. I will be inviting people to come to devise curricula and propose them to us in the Spring. We are doing data mapping to see when people satisfy MOIs, and how students think about those intersecting with their majors.

P. Gill: In the work that I've done with both of these administrators, one of the things that we should try to keep in mind is to be willing to listen, and in turn we will be listened to. We as a group would appreciate that you would pledge to take our concerns seriously. One of the largest issues last year was that when concerns were raised they were not listened to. We as a group would really appreciate it.

VP Kittelson: Thanks for coming in.

## 7. External Programs Reports (President Gill)

P. Gill: External didn't meet this week because I had an engagement during the meeting time. Andrea gave me a collegian update. Papers are coming out on Wednesdays, and getting done at 10pm. We've been concerned with pay by the hour in the past, but those issues are getting resolved. I am checking in with the financial people for both of these groups. Most of their costs are printing. They are on budget and doing well. I'm really happy with how the collegian and WEB have been responsive and just really open. SARA is interested in becoming an external program of ASWU, so we will be thinking about that. I also reached out to the outdoor program and I have a meeting next week. ASWU sound has a meeting next week as well.

## 8. Officer Reports

### 8.1. President Gill

P. Gill: I have been talking with the career center for the opportunities fair. We gave someone a stipend last year to do this. I have nominated Max Dale to do that job this year. One of the things that I worked on this week was a partnership with the CDSJ. We want to have a panel with administrators about their willingness to take part in that. Karen Wood is really excited about that. I met with Carol Long this week about doing a Teach In. That's where you pick a subject and students and faculty focus in on that subject. They are very effective as a means of activism. The OCHA meeting is next week, I'm excited to see you guys there. I will be taking notes about all of that. I will be sharing those with you, and we can put together a response as a group.

### 8.2. Treasurer Morita

T. Morita: No big updates for tonight, but Finance Board hearing is this Sunday. I have been looking into finding a presenter on the endowment.

### 8.3. VP Kittelson

VP Kittelson: One on ones. If you haven't done it yet I will keep emailing you until you meet with me. You need to meet and talk about what projects you are doing, especially if there is someone leading the project please respond to them so that the project can actually get completed. Along with that, I am going to have you guys report on your projects. Kate has been really good about reporting and I want to see more of that. I will be inviting Bryan in to talk.

P. Gill: He came and talked to me about that. Conversations are being had, and students are on those boards.

## 9. Judicial Report (Chief Justice Henderson)

CJ Henderson: We have two things today. We made a bill template, so you literally just have to fill in the blank. Just make sure that you fill it out and there won't be any issues. They need to be sent to us 48 hours in advance. I went through the bylaws and there are a lot of revision suggestions. We are going to go through them and then talk about the way that you guys could change these. For example, article 1 section 2, you guys don't have a process for changing the bylaws written into the bylaws. The next one is just a repeat. The third one is that there are two instances where there is old, outdated language that makes it irrelevant. The next one is that the relationship that WEB has with Senate is no longer clear. Next one is that those committees keep changing so it doesn't make sense to list them in the bylaws. Number seven is funding precedents. It is too specific at the moment. So you could write them together, or just write a bunch of really short separate bills. Those are the bylaws at the moment, and I think they are too long and unnecessarily complicated. I would suggest that you guys do this soon.

## 10. Senate Reports

Chen: Update on swing set. I emailed Reed College and this is what they sent back. They are frequently used, it makes people happy and relieves stress. Maintenance is minimal and we add chips once in awhile. It does not add liability. My next task is to see who my contact person is on Willamette.

## 11. Old Business

## 12. New Business

### 12.1. Committee Appointments

12.1.1. Greek housing board - Allie Kerkhoff

12.1.2. Gerardo Jauregui- BOT and College Council

12.1.3. Thao Tran- BOT Access and Affordability Subcommittee

12.1.4. Max Kroner Dale- Opportunities fair director

Carlin: What is Greek housing board?

P. Gill: Greek organizations who are requesting housing. Allie is not affiliated.

Reyna: Is the Board of Trustees Access and Affordability a new thing?

P. Gill: No, but the subcommittee is a new focus for them.

### **Motion to approve the appointments**

**Wellman/Landoni**

**20/0/1**

**Approved**

#### 12.2. [Funding Precedents Bill](#) - First reading

Troesken: This bill is being proposed because there is an issue in precedents in funding. We have to go into the bylaws and edit them every time we want to make an exception. We think the finance board should create precedents, without involving the bylaws.

Wellman: So you would make dollar amount precedents, but they just wouldn't be in the bylaws?

Troesken: Yes, and it will be made available to clubs.

Wellman: Then why is all of Senate not making the precedent, why is it just finance board?

Troesken: Well this allows for more flexibility. I feel that it should be finance board's responsibility.

T. Morita: Clubs would be aware because it would be in the handbook. We will meeting on Wednesday at 4:10 to set these precedents.

Lund: What was the reasoning for not giving funding to entry or entrance to events?

Carlin: It is referring to a club paying admission to an event

T. Morita: It has been in our precedents for a while now, and it has to do with not funding giveaways.

Pekich: It is weird that we say that both what we can and can't fund. I feel like this limits students in a sense.

Carlin: I have seen plenty of things asked for that are not on this list. It has not discouraged people from asking in the past.

Upoff: Why wouldn't we just write a bill that says that finance board revisits those precedents and proposes those to senate?

Troesken: I hadn't thought of that.

Pekich: That's totally cool as well. I just am confused about the list and why it is so specific.

CJ Henderson: If you have a list that is just dos or just don'ts it gives you more wiggle room. Without the dollar amounts, and removing the specificity would allow you more ability to make exceptions. This keeps you from violating the bylaws.

VP Kittelson: This is a first reading, so you can change it. Chat with Colin about what changes you want to see. We aren't voting until next week, so express those concerns and we can make changes to improve it for next week.

Upoff: I do think that the precedents should be brought to senate. I don't think sole autonomy should be of financial board.

Pekich: This should focus more on the process of precedents, not on the actual precedents.

VP Kittelson: Talk to Colin and get those changes in there for next week.

13. For the Good of the Order  
Clay: Thanks for approving my club.

**Motion to adjourn meeting**  
**Upoff/Mackey**  
**Approved**

14. Adjournment  
**Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm**