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

3. Approval of the Agenda
   Motion to approve the agenda
   Bormann/Lyons
   Approved

4. Approval of the Minutes
   Motion to approve the minutes
   Carlin/Landoni
   Approved

5. Ken Pifer
   5.1. ASWU Endowment
       Pifer: Thank you. I shall begin with an introduction, because I’ve met a few of you, but most of you have not met me before. I work in Finance and Accounting. We have four departments or subdivisions. Accounting, student accounts, payroll, and purchasing. Odds are that you have interacted with at least one of those areas by now. So that’s what I do. I was asked to come and give a report on the ASWU Endowment. I want to give you guys a little bit of background on that. By virtue of your leadership you guys have the ability to know a bit about the University’s finances, and the Endowment is a key part of that. So here are some basics about the endowment.

It is funds that are set aside to be invested in perpetuity, and the income from those funds are supposed to be used in specific circumstances. Student scholarships, faculty, and just for the university in general. The endowment is something that changes and moves kind of slowly. If you want to make a change that the endowment is administered, that can also take some time. In the short time sometimes it performs really well, and sometimes we lose money. The next part is a core principal of endowment management. You've probably heard the preservation of purchasing power. That means we want to ensure that future generations get the same benefit as current generations. That is what that really means. There is another side to intergenerational equity. IT’s a balancing act. We want to make sure that the current generation also receives an equitable benefit.

One of the key elements of that is a spending policy. There is a policy for how much we take out for current funds, but the main idea of the spending policy is to sustain intergenerational equity. When we have a year that has negative returns, we need to be able to smooth out those funds, there has to be consistency from year to year. This all doesn't happen in a vacuum. There is state law that manages how endowments are managed. There is Oregon state law, and it is basically the same across states though.
There is an image of a three legged stool. There are three primary components to endowment health. They are spending policy, additions, and investment returns. The investment returns are when an endowment performs really well or really badly. Another factor is spending policy, which is where we are careful with how much we take out. The last component is additions, which allows for greater spending and investment. We have a commitment to increase the amount of scholarship funding that is provided from the endowment. That will mostly come from gifts. There is quasi, which is the institution putting money into the endowment, instead of receiving gifts. When we talk about how the WU endowment has performed over the past thirty years, we are talking about all of those things.

So when it comes to spending policy, we look at the expected long term return, adjustment for inflation, and spending policy distributions. The current thinking in the endowment community is that a sustainable spend rate should be in the neighborhood of 4-4.5%. These are based on current projections, but as we saw earlier this week, projections can be wrong. This is a dramatic change from what you would have seen ten years ago. They were entirely different numbers. The distribution would have been closer to 5-6%.

So the first thing is that for the year ended June 2016, we had negative returns of -2.97%. We’ve been working the past few weeks to get some survey data of what endowment returns for peer institutions. We were actually square in the middle of our peer group. In the northwest five group, two institutions performed better, -2.47% and -2.60%, and two performed worst at -3.8% and -5.40%. So in the current year we have a positive return. We are keeping up with what we are taking out so far this year. 5.72% is our spend rate for the year to date. In this year, fiscal ‘17, we took steps to reduce the spend rate. That will continue over the next five years, until it is at 5%, until 2022. If we went to 4.5% it will be a million dollar cut, and that would require direct budget cuts. If we reduce slowly overtime, that gives more room to our budget. The endowment overall decreased significantly last year. This is a graph of our endowment values. Our endowment peaked nine years ago with 261 million dollars. Most of our peers have recovered to their pre recession values, but WU did not act as quickly as our peers and so we are still working to fix that.

One of the conversations that is occurring around the endowment is the nature of our investments is what we are invested in. So whether in our investment process, we should look at the social and political impact of our investments. If you would like to know more, or would like to be part of that conversation please let me know and we will get you involved in that conversation.

Any questions?

Chen: What does spending usually go to?
Pifer: Spending is a distribution. It is a transfer from the endowment to the university’s general and specific fund. 4.5 - 5 million goes to scholarships and that is the biggest chunk, the next goes to funding the overall operations of the university,
and the next biggest chunk goes to funding faculty chairs. There is marked money for internships, lecture series, research, all of those things.

Reyna: When you talked about the sustainable spending rate, what is the university spending too much on?
Pifer: It is proportional. Everything that the endowment supports is being a little bit higher than it ought to be. Across the board everything needs to decrease slightly. I will talk a little bit about scholarships. Distributions will drop, but the reality is that financial aid funding at WU is a set amount. The question is what is funded and unfunded. About 10% of the current amount is from the endowment, so we really just need to pull more money from the general fund to pay for scholarships. Please don’t worry about your scholarship money.

Chen: How will these cuts get made?
Pifer: The primary impact of reducing the endowment distribution is the general fund. Most of the funds that are currently coming from the endowment need to get picked up from the general fund. So the Hallie Ford Museum of art has a healthy amount of endowments. There will probably be some reductions there. Other questions?

Okay, so the ASWU endowment more specifically. The ASWU found is a bit of a different situation. You guys don’t take out a regular amount, and you can withdraw however much you like. Even though you can withdraw at any time, it is important not to view the endowment as a savings account. It is a long term investment, and is not to be used lightly. It has been historically a more long term model. The endowment is restricted to SRI. That means that we are making some changes to the way that it is structured, so that the SRI funds will be separated from the rest of it. The income needs to be tracked separately from the rest of WU’s endowment, which is not the case at the moment. SRI is Socially Responsible Investing, sorry should have said. When Willamette made that option available that was the term they used. So SRI funds have a position about carbon emissions. They would not invest in stocks of companies that do oil exploration, arms dealing, alcohol, tobacco and drugs are also some restrictions on some SRI funds. It’s values based, and so the question becomes whose values. That is one of the challenges that we have to grapple with. The ASWU endowment began in fiscal 2002. ASWU has put in $203,021.42 and removed $41,447.00. So there has been a net investment overtime. ASWU has done that. It has been a long term investment. This chart show the investment v. the market value. In the height of the recession there was a bit of trouble, but since then the investment has become worth more on the market value. You’ve accumulated a significant amount since 2002! There have been years of loss, and years of gains. YTD for ASWU is about a 7% return. So that’s about all I’ve got. If you have any questions about either the endowment in general, or the ASWU endowment let me know.

6. ADAA Club

ADAA Rep: My name is Johanna Lyons. Today I’ll be speaking about disability on our campus, representation and what we want to do about it. It is a misconception about our campus that we don’t have disabled students. We don’t have a receptive campus for students with disabilities, but we want to make ourselves more visible. Medical rights are a big concern for us, and we want to have a conversation about residential and academic changes. We’ve spoken with Scott in housing to make it more accessible. They are some of
the least accessible to those with disabilities. There will be a lot of changes, like first floor washing machines and dryers. We hope that they will make them available to other students who can’t do stairs. We’d love to see something more available kitchens. Right now most of them are in the basements. A lot of issues are with Bon Appetit, and there is a lot of contamination in their kitchens when it comes to allergens, and that is a common complaint that people have. There is a huge community that feels like they can’t eat from Goudy. We’d love to see more knowledge on what accommodations there were for students, so we want a kind of mock list of what is out there, and a process of how to go about getting those. In the academic realm we want more technology with help for learning disabilities and vision impairments. We could seemingly easily get braille machines, and out loud reading tools. In that scenario, we need professors to have better compliance with those accommodations. Professors can change scanned documents into a readable format, but don’t always know about it. Some of our members of our club have spoken about the quiet testing space in Matthews. That space and the area is not necessarily an appropriate space. If you need a silent space that does not cut it. The changes to Bishop are a big issue on campus, and a complaint we have heard frequently. We don’t have anyone that prescribes at Bishop, so you have to leave campus in order to get an accommodation to make living on campus easier. That is a baseline of the ideas that we have currently, we meet every Tuesday 5:15pm, in Eaton 105. jmlyon@willamette.edu is the best way to get in contact with me.

Reyna: What can ASWU do to support you?
Rep: Just get the conversation going. Unless you are disabled, you don’t see a lot of those things unless they impact you personally, so please just talk to your friends that have disabilities.
P. Gill: What community outreach have you done?
Rep: We are a new club, so we are trying to get in contact with as many people as we can, but we are in the process of gently outreaching. We want to do a program in Opening Days next year, at Reality Check, or even give pamphlets out to new students.
P. Gill: If there is anyone that you want to talk to we can help facilitate those conversations.
Rep: Yeah, we’ve been talking to Laurie Fontaine.

7. External Programs Reports (President Gill)
P. Gill: I had to go to a meeting about setting the tuition with the Board, so we didn’t meet this week.

8. Officer Reports
8.1. President Gill
P. Gill: I went to a meeting today to talk about the university tuition setting. They set tuition at a 2% increase, so that is not an official setting, but that was the recommendation. That is the lowest tuition increase since 1964. There were six of us today who called in. I wanted to talk to you guys today about how we wanted to respond to the concerns about the election on our campus. I appreciated the feedback that I got, so thanks
for the comments. I have a final draft that I want to share with you all now. If anyone feels uncomfortable signing your name to it, please let me know. That’s all I have for you guys.

8.2. Treasurer Morita

T. Morita: So I want to start by saying that I hope you all enjoyed that presentation from Ken Pifer. This week I met with club approval concerning the precedence that we set for gas, which is 20 cents per mile for the first hundred miles and 15 cents per mile for all miles after that.

Wellman: How did we interpret the approval?

Henderson: It needs to be a yay or nay or a hand vote. This is the external document, so you don’t need a bill to change it.

Wellman: I just thought that even if we were to make changes to that external document that we needed to approve it.

P. Gill: Okay maybe we can agree that in the future we will project it, vote, and that will be our method.

Uphoff: The highlighted text is the change.

**Motion to approve change**

**Markey/Chen**

**Approved**

18/0/0

8.3. VP Kittelson (Senator Uphoff)

Sen. Uphoff: Kristen did not send me an update so I’ve got nothing.


Judicial Report: We talked about interpretations of the bylaws. I can give you the actual bylaws and the interpretations of what they actually mean. I set up office hours Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-11:30am. In the actual office. We found another problems with the Bylaws. The WEB portion has not been updated to be reporting to the EPC, and we need to fix that. Come into my office hours and I would love to chat with you about how to update those changes. Another issue is that we have the over $1500 bill that one part says it goes to Senate, and one part goes to the Finance Committee, so we just need to resolve that.

10. Senate Reports

11. Old Business

12. New Business

13. For the Good of the Order
Dausmann: I mean a lot of you probably know, but there is going to be a rally about this historical upset of an election. We got a rally going at 3pm. We’re not protesting Trump as our president, but rather the hate and bigotry. This is about standing in solidarity with marginalized voices.

Markey: There are two protests, so I moved the event back to 3pm so that it will be a joint protest. It will be nonviolent.

Dausmann: We are going to be sharing some articles, some signs, there will be administrators there too.

Markey: There is a gathering in Shepherd hall tonight to make signs. Also, if any of you guys want to help let me know.

Dausmann: We are hoping for a couple of hours, and then a march to the capitol.

Chen: So my approved educational rave at 9pm on Saturday. The school is paying for it.

Wellman: How’d you get them to pay for it?
Chen: I have my ways. Student activities is paying for it.

**Motion to adjourn**

**Markey/Dausmann**

**Approved**

14. **Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm**