**Associated Students of Willamette University**

**Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, October 2 • 7 p.m. • Montag Den**

1. Call to Order (VP Smyth)

**Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm**

1. Roll Call (Clerk Hladick)

Kaptanian and Steffy absent

1. Approval of the Agenda

**Motion to approve the agenda as amended**

**Ekstrom/Saiki**

**Approved 20-0-0**

1. Approval of the Minutes

**Motion to approve the minutes**

**Ekstrom/Saiki**

**Approved 20-0-0**

1. Officer Reports
   1. President Oswill

P Oswill: The first thing we have been working on is the confirmed honors and awards chair who resigned. We have four people to interview, so we will have the nominee by next week. I have been working on my report for the campus safety summer focus group. The Collegian has not yet sent me an external programs report. The external programs committee will begin an assessment of WEB and the Collegian to look into how they are running with ASWU oversight.

Saiki: What is the meeting time?

P Oswill: It will be weekly and based off of when the groups can come talk to us and who is involved with external programs.

* 1. Treasurer Ebert

T Ebert: This week I allocated the budget we approved last week. I was also involved with some interviews for the honors and awards chair. Another thing that is kind of a bummer is that we forgot to include something in our office budget that we approved last spring. We forgot the money we traditionally allocated for the outdoor program to provide rental equipment, which is $10,000. Also since Late Night Eats is still in its trial run, we also need to allocate that program $2,500.

I also met with Bob Olsen, our liaison for the endowment. I will have a formal report when he sends me some more materials. We have about $165,000 there. We can pull it out whenever we’d like, but we have some restrictions here nevertheless.

* 1. VP Smyth

VP Smyth: I have been having 1:1 meetings with the freshman senators. I also have been working on the treasurer referendum and the upcoming senior election.

1. Judicial Report (Chief Justice Cusick)

Cusick: This week we decided how to replace the senior senator that resigned. Senator Elisabeth Saul resigned and we have decided to fill the vacancy. The senior senators will appoint a proxy until the class-wide election. Article 5 section 1 explains that an election is not possible until the end of october. In order to be fair and representative, the seniors will nominate a proxy until that time.

1. Introduction to the ASWU Leadership Consultant, Kaitlin Plunkett-Franklin

Plunkett-Franklin: I am a leadership consultant. I work with performing arts groups and ASWU. My purpose is to assist you in any way that you may need. I see my role as being able to take you all to the next level. I specialized in event planning and recruitment of members, as well as conflict resolution. I would love to get to know you all better, and be more involved with you this year. My office hours are on Tuesday afternoones between 3pm and 5pm.

Saiki: The LC’s recommended many clubs to have a rainy day fund as a part of their request for funds. We shot this down in multiple requests, because it is not something we fund for clubs. I was just wondering how we can communicate this with you to not have this in problem the future.

Plunkett-Franklin: I’ll communicate this to the rest of the LC’s and let them know that this isn’t a thing. If there is anything I can help clarify to them in the future, I would really like to communicate that with you all. I would love to pass any information you have off to my colleagues.

1. New Business
   1. Approval of new Saturday shuttle trips

Lamptey: I took a survey of the CLA and found that we would like to have 2 activities a month. This could be a trip to portland once a month or a trip to the zoo or the aquarium. It’s not really to make a profit but rather to break even.

Gill: What happens if you have reserved the buses, and five students show up? If you don’t fill the amount of seats you have, do we lose money?

Lamptey: Technically yes. There is a separate set aside budget for the ASWU shuttle fund. Depending on how reservations go, I probably wouldn’t go on the trip if no one responded. My thinking is that I can get at least 50 people to pay $5.

Ekstrom: I like that you’re offering varying times. My only concern is that students won’t go and won’t pay.

Lamptey: I’ll offer a cancellation period, but there will definitely be a cut-off in which payment needs to be made. It won’t be based on if you’re there or not.

Sader: Previously through WEB, they had tickets to the portland timbers game. I was hoping to be able to stay in portland and not get on the same bus home.

Lamptey: I do not know about liabilities. If people do want to stay, I need to know about it before hand. To get back to Willamette would be a student’s own prerogative.

**Motion to approve shuttle trips**

**Ekstrom/Saiki**

Wright: Is this a trial program similar to LNE?

Gill: It has its own external program fund. We have already allocated money, so we aren’t losing any money since its already been budgeted.

**Approved 20-0-0**

* 1. Club Approvals

Ekstrom: Whoever is in charge of e-mailing out the clubs failed to do so. As such, the student athlete advisory committee will be next week.

* + 1. Student Athlete Advisory Committee
    2. Pre-Law Society

Anderson: I am looking to start this program because there has been a lack there-of. I would like to have help and inform students about what comes after undergrad. There is a similar program is for students applying for vet school. We have upwards of 50 students interested. We have scheduled events right now and additionally we are gonna set up a mock-law class. Anything to get students thinking about law school.

**Motion to approve pre-law society**

**Gill/Hartman**

**Approved 20-0-0**

* + 1. Games Unplugged

Willamette university has a few groups that play table-top board games, like Catan. A lot of these games are extremely elaborate and expensive. Our aim is to create a WU community of nerd culture. I know that it exists, I see people that play these games but they don’t come together. This very powerful social force is fragmented because we don’t have the space for it. I would like to have a Willamette space for the nerd community. I’d like to bring Willamette to the nerd community at large: it comes to a crossroads of its evolution. We are facing an issue of inclusivity, particularly with sexism. Part of our specific goals is to combat discriminatory tendencies. We want to reach out heights of publishing and other guest speakers like that. David Altman, is considering different community outreach programs to share our spirit.

Hernandez: Are you looking into having other events?

Speaker: We would like to have public nights. Right now we are using my own personal games. With ASWU funding, Willamette could have its own base. The idea is that we could have them out, supervised, and have other people participate. We are looking to collaborate with different clubs for very big and extravagant clubs. These games range from $15-$100, and with more money over time we could collect a very impressive stock. We are looking at partnering with the community in order to have maybe discounts on bulk orders.

Tran: How many people are interested?

Speaker: We have 100 signatures of people interested. At our unofficial meeting, we had 35 people come. It’s growing as word spreads.

**Motion to approve Games Unplugged**

**Saiki/Gill**

**Approved 20-0-0**

* + 1. Asian Coalition for Equality

Chann: This club focuses around Asian-American identity as well as other marginalized communities on campus. Currently with this class, Asian-American is the most self identified form of minority groups. There is a lot of cultural clubs on campus, but there isn’t one for Asian-Americans. We are here to talk about 1st generation or 2nd generation students, and we would like to be an official club.

Wright: Do you have an idea of the operating expensive of your club?

Chann: We want to get speakers, but we are applying for grants because these are so expensive. Otherwise, we hope to be operating under around $500 to $600 and hope to help get funding from others. We had about 60 people show interest on the list. Weekly we have about 10 to 15 members. We are also attending other clubs’ meetings and hope to get more people to come and seek forms of involvement.

**Motion to approve the Asian Coalition for Equality**

**Proxy Kaptanian/Saiki**

**Approved 20-0-0**

8.4 Budget Adjustment

VP Smyth: We need to add the $10,000 for the ASWU operating budget.

**Motion to approve**

**Saiki/Tran**

**Approved 20-0-0**

T Ebert: Last week, Meg asked me to edit an item for cheer club and their pom poms. I thought I had changed it. They would like to request $400 instead of $200. Poms are bought individually, not as a pair.

**Motion to approve budget change for Cheer Club**

**Saiki/Tran**

**Approved 19-0-1**

1. Sustainability Presentations
   1. Joe Abraham, Director of the Sustainability Institute

Joe Abraham: It is great to be here with all of you student leaders. There is some relatively new stuff at Willamette, that reflects some things that are to come and are exciting. In the history of sustainability, we have re-organized. Some of the accomplishments include a campus sustainability council, the center for sustainable communities, a 4E framing of sustainability, grants, retreats, speakers, and more, “greening of operations” and the purchase of Zena property in 2008. Basically we have seen an upward trend. We transitioned a lot of things happen in 2008. Many of you may have not seen the activity that pre-dated you. I believe WU is a community that has a lot of interest in sustainability and getting these things going. Under president Thorsett, a lot of this reorganization occurred, including the creation of my position. There is also an executive committee that oversees this, and an advisory board, as well as a graduate student representative. The advisory board works with me to present proposals and representation to the campus wide community.

We are emerging with new things which is exciting, because of the new opportunities. I would like to encourage you all to take the time and recognize that they are new and shapeable. One of the things we are trying to work on is connectivity. I think that the connectivity really helps, so that these committees all work together and have representation. Slowly over time, we start to build relationships. There are two new committees on zero waste and a bike friendly campus.

Last winter we were able to get $25,000 from a grant. There were 6 students who were able to work through internships. That is something I would really like to continue creating these opportunities to help students apply what they learn at school.

I think the best thing we can do to move forward as a university is be strategic about how we support the projects that we work on. The president’s office is supporting AASHE Conference to bring 20 students, and we also have a speaker coming: Mitch Thomashow. He published a book about 9 sustainable ways to engage students and staff in sustainability.

Gill: Is there a listserv that this information gets sent out on?

Abraham: The bearcat bulletin is a great resource. I sent it out to all faculty, and have tried to get it out. I think that this university struggles with internal communication. If you have any suggestions please let me know!

* 1. Kurt Wade, Chair of the Green Initiative Fund Committee

Kurt Wade: Some things that we have done are ratified the constitution and our bylaws. It took some time, but I think both of those documents are good to go and up online. We will revisit the constitution and bylaws in December to see what needs to be changed. We are giving out calls for mini-grants from $500-$2000. We plan on giving out $10,000 in grant funds to support sustainable projects. Coming out next week you will see a little PR blitz notifying students and staff how they can go about applying for these things. Pretty much what we are doing now is letting people know they can send in proposals. We will stop taking proposals in on November 2nd. Our biggest decider is how big of an impact their project will have on students. 1,637 students stayed the fund in while 315 opted out. The current fund is over $40,000. We have yet to work through a lot of details but we are planning to have larger projects in the spring. There is still a seat for an ASWU senator. Jerome is doing a great job as treasurer, and we would love to have another ASWU member. We meet mondays at 4:30pm.

Ekstrom: I just want to say I think you’re doing a great job and I’m very excited to see where you take the program this semester.

1. Senate Reports

Ekstrom: I think that one of the best things we can do as representatives of the community is a. pass the budget, and b. our senate projects. If we can say that we did this, x,y, and z, we can really have a presence that is effective on campus. I think that these things can really publicize us. I think we should make a group pledge and set some goals. I think we should make a goal of getting 6 projects done this semester.

Brinster: I think that we also need to be thinking of the community service project. We could possibly volunteer at the halloween fair.

Ekstrom: I agree and I like that idea. Do you think we can make this commitment to each other?

Sader: I suggest 4, so that each of the senate classes can focus on a project.

Saiki: On the 16th at 9am I have an appointment with Amy Green to go into the passport date. It looks like the office of international education is pretty sure that they’d be really behind the idea. If anyone wants to come they are welcome.

Kaptanian: I’ve thought of a great Senate project idea, it deals with University committees. Students stand on many committees and boards throughout campus, yet not many know who they are, or even that these decision making bodies exist. I want to create a central system that would detail what the committees are and what they do (the blurb we received as we approved student representatives). The system should also reveal who the student representatives serving on said committees are, as well as their Willamette email address. These student body reps would be responsible for posting minutes of meeting/and or summaries of meetings to this system. If this interest anyone, please contact me.

I’m also interested in restarting Bylaw Committee, which would work on, you guessed it, changes to the bylaws. Please contact me if this up your alley.



1. For the Good of the Order

Symonds: I was thinking that I couldn’t claim as many projects as I’d like to on behalf of Senate. I am kind of lacking with good suggestions. Talk to your classes, and hear from students about what they want us to work on.

Hernandez: I don’t know if its possible to maybe create a suggestion form.

VP Smyth: We have one on the website as of this week. Class whips will be e-mailing it out.

Tran: I am gonna send out a template to familiarize community members with senators. I’ll send it out soon so that I can bring it back.

P Oswill: Campus safety advisory committee will be starting soon. I tried to find someone available from ASWU, so if you know someone who might be interested, or you’re interested, please let me know.

VP Smyth: Many people find the knocking distracting and difficult to hear. If anyone has suggestions please let me know.

1. Adjournment (VP Smyth)
   1. Next meeting will be Thursday, October 9 at 7 p.m. in Montag Den

**Motion to adjourn**

**Brownlee/Brinster**

**Approved 20-0-0**