



ASWU Meeting Minutes 02/08/2017

In attendance: President - Breanna Lyons, Executive Vice President - Norma Heredia, Financial Vice President - Jeff Debray, Secretary - Tristan Renz, Activities Coordinator - Bailey Vallee, Cultural Events Coordinator - Camina Hirota, Marketing/PR Coordinator - Brenna Bruil, Senior Class Coordinator - Gretchen Van Lith, Special Events Coordinator - Rachel Henson, Spiritual Life Coordinator - Mike Christie, Sustainability Coordinator - Whitney Jester, Natsihi Editor - Michaela Mulligan, Whitworth.fm Manager - Evan Jaeger, Whitworthian Editor - Karlin Andersen, Arend Senator - Christina Locatelli, Baldwin Jenkins Senator - Shaun Fisher, Ballard Senator - Maddie Gregory, Boppell Senator - Emily Gates, McMillan Senator - Josh Miller, Off-Campus Senator - Jordan Dale, Oliver Senator - Hannah Underwood, Stewart/Village Senator - Abigail Hochberger, Warren Senator - Mae Curtis, Off-Campus Representative(s) Grace Meiners, and Michael Hafermann, Arend/Boppell Representative - Amber Van Brunt, Duvall/Oliver Representative - Ethan Clardy, and Warren Representative - Alex Fergus.

Absent: None

Tardy: Duvall Senator - Andy Weeks, Baldwin Jenkins/Stewart Representative - Alexander Mowery, Off-Campus Representative - Laura Mecier, and Sports/Tournaments Coordinator - Luke Atherton.

Guests: Caitlyn Heredia, James Parrish, Dustin Fischer, William Tadlock, Michael Durka, Amelia Brown, Chase, Alex Stroming, Devin, Peter Houston-Hencken, and Devin McAllister.

Meeting was brought to order at 5:03pm in the AWSU Assembly Chambers

Mission Statement read by Shaun Fisher

Motion to approve 01/11/17 minutes by Christina, second by Hannah, approval unanimous.

1. Mindy - Chapel Guest

Mindy Smith - Good evening everyone, I am one of the campus pastors. I have brought with me Chase which is in charge of marketing and event coordinating. We wanted to come and talk to you all about the Refugee Rally which is planned for this Sunday held at Gonzaga University in the John J. Hemmingson Center. Not only is this important to the university, but when I was flying back to Whitworth two weeks ago I was stuck in Denver. I was upset that my flight was delayed as a result of the protest that had erupted the night she was traveling. She explained that as a result of her privilege, she was granted certain things at the airport, that weren't received by others. Because of the Executive Order that was signed, it directly and immediately impacted people. People in countries with limited or nonexistent water systems, and really dangerous places. While I was experiencing this, I thought of Mark Finy, of World Relief. In Spokane they have resettled almost 10,000 refugees in our community. The majority of the funding has been halted, due to this order. If we do not act and provide assistance, it is likely that 35 employees will be laid off without additional funding. She inquired with Mark about what we (community) could do to assist. I and others went down and sat with him, and he encouraged them to organize a rally in support to educate and promote their mission. We know that when students show up, changes happen. We have been advertising this event at churches, through social media and meetings. The goal is to have 200 Whitworth students, 200 Gonzaga, and 200 refugees along with community members to show support and rally behind them (refugees and organization). This is meant to be positive, educational event along with some

entertainment. We will be celebrating the diversity. We have heard refugees are very scared resettling here recently. This will be an all faith event. I would ask you in these current times, what is moving you? There is minority groups which are fearful and we will rally around these individuals. 2pm on Sunday. This entire event is funded by supporters.

Chase - The biggest push is for advertisement. Please direct students and those interested to our Facebook event page, both for the event and carpool. There will also be a video-taped interview by Beck Taylor, which will be shared tomorrow. Please share it all over. This will be incredible; the mobilization has been moving. Questions?

Camina - Lacy Nguyen is organizing an event tomorrow to make posters in solidarity from 5-7pm in the HUB MPR.

Shaun - How political is this event going to be?

Mindy - This is a gathering in solidarity. This isn't an anti-trump rally, and not meant to be political. We are trying to get people to show support financially, because of the funding cease and educate individuals on the issues that surround the refugee community.

Shaun - Are you worried about non-supporters showing up, and other protests starting around the event?

Mindy - No. This hasn't come into our radar. The overall response has been overall positive thus far.

Chase - We are partnering with other groups including the Center for Global Engagement at Gonzaga University, and World Relief. All the presidents have agreed to speak at this event.

Mike - If there is backlash, remind them that humanity \geq ideology. This is a human issue, not political.

Dayna - If students are against this, please bring them so they can educate themselves on the issues at hand.

Mindy - It's meant to be education, so they will learn every angle of this issue. To equip students with the knowledge needed to develop their understanding.

Chase - Refugees will also share their stories, which will be extremely powerful.

Mindy - Once you hear them speak about their lifestyle before, and their incredible gratefulness of the opportunities they receive, you will be moved.

Norma - Will this be documented?

Chase - Yes, this will. It will be my job. We will put out a mix of videos and photos after the event.

Breanna - Thank you for your work and for sharing this event with us.

2. Club Updates

a. Jubilation

Devin - Jubilation is a dance ministry club. We offer many different types of dance styles. Our primary purpose is to teach worship and praise through dance movements.

Alex - We have dance practices event week. We are starting Spring Semester schedule, so posters will be going up soon with all the needed info. "So you think you can dance" event is coming up in mid-April, we use it as our main fundraiser. This is open to all students and it is all just for fun. Also, our Spring Showcase will be on May 7th. This event is where all the jubilation classes will showcase their routines.

Shaun - What are the different styles you teach?

Devin - Tap, Hip Hop, Ballet, Spiritual Movement, and Contemporary Modern.

b. Athletic Training

Brandon - Good evening, I am the President of the Athletic Training Club. Our purpose is to bring awareness to the career field of athletic training. This year we have been focusing on the Master's' Program, which will be available within the next few years. We also work to enhance the different exposure to the field through volunteering and committee meetings. To start the semester, we have focused been bringing awareness to younger students. We will attend a district meeting in Tacoma next month. Around a dozen of us will be going. Any questions?

Breanna - I know of a friend who is coming to Spokane for an athletic training program, have you heard of it?

Brandon - We have not. We have attended and assisted before, but I haven't heard of anything this year thus far.

Breanna - I have been asked to give them a tour, I would like to have you guys join me on that, if you would be interested.

Abigail - How to get connected?

Brandon - We do a lot of advertising in the Fall, so we reach out to the majority of new students. Although we are well known, especially through the athletes, so students can get in contact with us that way.

Jeff - Senators can also direct any interested students to any club to the website for all information.

3. Job Descriptions

Breanna - We need to vote on job descriptions, although we were not able to hear from Karlin at last meeting with her thoughts on the Whitworthian Editor position.

Norma - Rachel made the changes to all job descriptions that have been discussed, and they are sitting on a table outside of Chambers.

Karlin - I am proposing a change with how the Whitworthian interacts with ASWU. This discussion started a couple years ago. This is not something that was decided overnight, and a lot of thought has gone into this proposal. Essentially, I would like to see my position no longer be defined as a coordinator anymore, moving more towards the president of the club, outside of ASWU. Essentially the things I am asking for are on the slideshow. My goal would be to move to editors and staff interviewed and hired by myself (current editor) and our advisor (or replacement). Changes to staff and other editors, job description updates and the related would go through these two individuals.

The purpose for this the principle that it is very uncomfortable have the relationship like ours between the journalist and the government. I choose to distance myself this year, meaning I did not want to sit in on a committee. I also haven't attended any of the retreats; I didn't want to hear anything that the media should be reporting on to be the voice of the student body. I know of students, who have since graduated, that believe the Whitworthian was seen as the mouthpiece of ASWU. I don't think that's how we are seen now, or I would hope so. I also feel that removing ourselves, even if it is just the separation on paper, will make a difference in the perception. This is intended to protect you as well, as a mutual separation between the two sectors. As we know, the planned parenthood article cause controversy last semester. We are not a paper put out by ASWU, but an extension of the organization. Separated, and meant to protect. There was a time last Spring, where we were unsure of our obligation to report, especially during elections. Normally something happens during elections and the editor feels very conflicted. This would allow for a freedom of all student voices. This separation does not mean next year that we will not produce papers. In fact, we hope to increase our presence online. The Editor in Chief would still do things similar to the role I have done this year. We are funded by you, which is a very complex relationship. We will still have representative attend these meetings because I believe it is an important place to see what is going on, and receive information I reached out to other universities to see what they are currently doing and what their relationship looks like; Gonzaga is run separate, in fact they are funded for through student life. PLU is the same. Whitman is more tied closely together. Some responses even stated that it was odd that the media is so close with the government.

Jordan - Why do you see the need to separate the Whitworthian, as opposed to the other media organizations?

Karlin - I believe the yearbook gives a very different feel that covers the student life, but focuses on creating memories. Meaning that it does not cover the University as it happens, in real time. Whitworth.fm (radio) is very student run, there is not an editorial board. Students want to do shows and create thoughts. I am speaking just for the Whitworthian and just my opinion.

Michaela - I agree with most of what you said. I understand the need to be separate, so that you can report objectively. It would be confusing for some of the media to be separate and some not. I'm wondering how this separation would be done though as it is ASWU funded?

Karlin - Clubs are getting funding but aren't necessarily ran by ASWU.

Breanna - Funding would be my worry. What would the structure look like?

Karlin - ASWU would still fund it (Whitworthian), but we would have different relations. We would propose a budget at the end of the year, along with everyone else.

Chase - In the hiring process, the EVP and the Dean of Student Life would no longer be part to the hiring process?

Karlin - Yes

Chase - In the budget approval process, would it be a line by line itemization or a general budget (like clubs) approval?

Karlin - I did not know that clubs purposed an overall budget, that was not itemized. I would propose

a categorized budget.

Chase - Getting to the root of the problem, I think it's hard to give money and hold accountable the paper, if there is no oversight by ASWU. The use of funding worries me.

Karlin - There would have to be trust.

Breanna - I think this is very incredibly complicated. Where do you see conflict of interest if we are still funding it?

Karlin - I think the separation would just break the tie. I see this in a two step process, first would be to separate from government, and then second we can separate monetarily further down the line. I think that you in trust in the leadership for the use of funds. We would come and do an update similar to clubs. There would have to be a level of trust, which the gravity of this would be incredible.

Evan - I am confused with the relationship. You are free to report on everything already anyways, right? The Whitworthian is not going to report on anymore information by being separate. Why the shift, besides the matter of principle?

Karlin - Yes it's principle. As far as this year, I haven't served on ASWU Committees. I don't have a wealth of information because I have stepped back from this involvement. Mainly the separation would just be on paper. The Student Handbook states the Whitworthian is "owned and operated by ASWU".

Bailey - It seems like the real issue isn't just the information on paper. Even if you are separate, money talks and if we are still funding the paper it will still look like you're in our pockets. I don't think that you should be required to participate in certain meetings and committees. Not every committee is confidential although, there are many different roles someone in your position could play. Looking at the requirements of your job description and your responsibilities, and the changes that could be made is something we could look into. On paper, it will always look like we're connected.

Whit - Do you know how much you would be asking for with the budget for next year?

Karlin - No, I have not done the budget yet. I know we have 7 paid editors, which has raised with the minimum wage increase. The cost of salaries, and printing are the biggest expenditures. The other large expense is our website.

Whit - My concern, with making it a club, is that club members would be getting paid. Other club members produce products (like the Whitworthian), but do not get paid. If you remove yourself from ASWU, it raises the conflict.

Karlin - It's a class as well, so there are many different ways that the Whitworthian could be described.

Dayna - This conversation has come and gone in the last 48 years. ASWU has allowed the media to be both connected and separate. There has been time where media feels it needs to be apart of us, so they can better be involved and report on the insider scoop. The other phase is that they want to an outsider, so they can report from that side. There isn't a good or a bad. It depends on what's going on in the culture. Their job (media) is to comment on the job that we (government) do. It comes down to if the media can better comment on the story, by being apart of the inside or outside. This has happened numerous times.

Karlin - Part of what we do, is give the students who serve as editors practical training for the real world, which is separation between the media and government.

Dayna - They are connected in the real world. It's a matter of perspective. There is not a better or worse way to view this.

Breanna - We are running out of time. Thank you for all of your comments. If Senators and Reps have any input, since you will be the ones voting, please voice it now.

Alex M - There is so many things on the table right now, can we do a straw poll vote?

Breanna - I think it would be easiest to change the requirements and job description.

Jeff - One change is the hiring process as well.

Breanna - Is that something that the assembly votes on, or constitutional amendment?

Dayna - No. There is nothing stated on who hires the positions, it has always been a spoken rule. Out of curiosity, do you have an advisor for next year?

Karlin - No, there is not an advisor yet. The Journalism Department guarantees that we have an advisor, though.

Breanna - Voting will be done through email tonight.

Karlin - If you have any more questions, please email me and I will be happy to answer them.

Whit - I was not here when the job descriptions were discussed.

Rachel - It can still be changed.

Breanna - We need to vote on all the updated job description excluding the Sustainability Coordinator position and the Whitworthian Editor.

Motion to approve all job description (excluding Sustainability Coordinator and Whitworthian Editor) by Breanna, second by Christina, approval unanimous.

4. Announcements
 - a. FVP

Jeff - Over Jan Term we had two requisitions to fix the pool table in Duvall and additional funding for the Computer Science club. Unallocated is currently at \$4,058.38 and Capital \$13,927.14. I would encourage all dorm communities to see what improvements you can make to the community, and fill out a requisition for funds. There is also an opportunity to attend a leadership forum in the beginning of March in Olympia. Basically you would be put in small groups and throughout the weekend you would hear from different speakers. At the end, there is the Governor's Prayer Breakfast. Anyone interested in attending? There will be an interest meeting in Lied Square this Friday at 3pm for all interested to obtain additional information.

- b. EVP

Norma - Timecards are due shortly, please make sure to fill them out. I have already sent out the

timeline for elections. Interest meeting for candidates for leadership will be at 9pm. We are hoping that will be okay with night classes, and if people can not attend, we will work that out on an individual basis. Applications open on the 15th. Giving the candidates a month to decide, and enough time to encourage to run. Please put this information in your newsletters, where the applications will be online. I am working with Tim to coordinate the Executive Position Candidates Primetimes with the RD's. Coordinator positions are hired, before elections. Reason we are opening application early is so they have enough time to complete them. We want to recruit students to submit applications, who have decided ASWU is their first option. Job descriptions on table are the updated ones.

c. President

Breanna - Spring fest was on the agenda, but since we are running short on time, we will talk about this next week. Constituency Report will need to be started tonight. 40% responses of your community is the goal. Electronic survey will be sent out.

Norma - Use your BOB's to help you (Senators) collect data. Great opportunity to reconnect.

Breanna - Leadership fair is next Wednesday, February 15th in Lied Square from 11am-1pm. We will talk more about this at GE. Electronic surveys will be sent tonight to senators.

5. Reports and Vibes

Hannah - Talking to residents in Oliver, many of them are simply confused and don't follow current events. They are stressed out by everything and do not care to really know. Students who do follow the news, feel okay to share their opinion. The ones I asked did not feel hostile to speak on campus. Many don't want to take the energy to engage. Rather focus on other things.

Alex M - Mood around BJ is that freshmen are all in this together. We talked a little while ago about get away spaces. We created a get away room downstairs, to get away. We will keep trying to improve that space. We will see on how that goes, and we can talk further on how this idea can be applied to other dorms

Norma - Kudos to you Alex, great job.

Abigail - Many students feel uninformed or apathetic. Ones who have an opinion are not scared to speak out. They are worried to trust the news they read. Not sure where to turn to get truthful news, because of the fake sources. Many don't want to hear it anymore, and have learned to just accept it.

Jordan - A lot of the same for Off-Campus. We are becoming a more diversified campus, although for a lot of students on campus, it doesn't affect them. People who are passionate about the issues and are against it, are openly speaking out and others don't care.

Maddie - Many are not educated, and if they are, most of the information is coming from Facebook and other sources. Whitworth is isolated at times, so they just don't have the information. Most students are concerned about the budget problem as well or even more, so we should address that.

Christina - I talked with one RA, and the general consensus was a lot of people are not really affected. They can't have an opinion, feeling like they can't speak out, because everyone deals with things differently. She suggested to have someone come on campus and present information on what it means to be white privileged and what that means in the world. Not meaning to be negative, but more to understand how we can use that to create change. More education on the subject and how

we can develop our own opinions. Also tonight there is an event at 7pm, in the Music Building by Johann Buis who is talking about Nelson Mandela and how you can have the strength to sing while in Prison. Really amazing guy, really encourage you to go.

Dustin - Student at large. I am actually a student who attending the Budget Committee Meetings, and I am concerned. World languages are being cut, in particular the German and French departments. I wanted to bring this to your attention. Students are not happy about this.

Breanna - Thank you for coming. I spoke with Beck today about this. Beck noticed that you are there. He explained they wouldn't cut any programs for some time. These programs are on a watch list, but nothing will be cut in 2-3 years. Not as many students are in these programs, and their focus is to better support and build program. This conversation changes when students speak up, so continue to do so.

Evan - The budget reallocation has been a well thought out process. No matter what, all programs if cut, would be taught out for all current students. This wouldn't be a fast process.

Brenna - Hearing the senators talk about students being uneducated, I think it's important to know, what type of events your residents want?

Bailey - We need to hear ASAP so we can plan these events.

Brenna - We are meaning, would they like to see movies, open conversations, speeches, etc.?

Christina - I think they would like to see two different sides, and have speakers on both sides of the issues. Talk about the different views and start to create conversation. Break the ice on the controversy.

Andy - In Duvall, the events that have got the most participation have been speakers (well known professors).

Maddie - Events are great, I think it would be beneficial to put out a list of reliable sources.

Mike - Just because one disagrees with a news source, doesn't mean it's not reliable. Maybe we could hold an event on that. The event I did last month (Jesus and Donald Trump) was 90% Trump fans, which is a muted group on campus right now. These 2 conversations on campus need to be brought together.

Josh - I like Mike idea, but I think a less talkative event would be better. We should inform on current legislative going through currently, so students can stay informed.

Bailey - As far as events, would it be better to do more of a traveling prime time? Would it be more accessible or appealing if it's in the dorms and part of the conversation? Instead of students pursuing the event on campus, we would go to them.

Christina - I feel like that would be a long process.

Bailey - I'm not worried about time. It could even be a week long event.

Emily - Some people don't like primetimes, so there is also that.

Bailey - We could hold primetimes throughout the week, and at the end hold one big event on

campus? For off campus students, and students who did not attend primetime.

Breanna - It's 6:30 so if you need to leave, please feel free to get up. Thank you.

Andy - As far as wandering primetimes, I think that the people who will go, is the people who would attend anyways. I think it would be more valuable to have individual prime times.

Shaun - I know BJ seems gets a good attendance at roaming prime times. Off of that point, I sent out an informational article and a survey to residents last night. I haven't got very many responses.

Josh - Survivor is happening again this Spring, February 24-26. It's going to be awesome. Please sign up, and direct residents to email him for info and to sign up.

Rachel - Posters are in your boxes, so please hang up. Please include the information for Spring Survivor in your newsletter. Also, there is a Phil Wickham concert in Spokane on March 4th at 7pm. I am buying tickets for that. They will be sold at the info desk for \$5. Only a 4-minute drive from campus at the Calvary Chapel.

Tristan - I think that no matter what event we put on, we should record it or put out subsequent information electronically so students who were unable to attend or did not feel comfortable to attend, can still get information.

Breanna - Guest thank you for coming. Any comments from you guys?

Motion to adjourn at 6:37pm by Christina, second by Gracie, approval unanimous.