



ASWU Meeting Minutes 02/15/2017

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, Spiritual Life Coordinator - Mike Christie, Sports/Tournaments Coordinator - Luke Atherton, 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, Duvall Senator - Andy Weeks, McMillan Senator - Josh Miller, Off-Campus Senator - Jordan Dale, Oliver Senator - Hannah Underwood, Stewart/Village Senator - Abigail Hochberger, Baldwin Jenkins/Stewart Representative - Alexander Mowery, Warren Senator - Mae Curtis, Off-Campus Representative(s) Grace Meiners, and Laura Mecier, Arend/Boppell Representative - Amber Van Brunt, Duvall/Oliver Representative - Ethan Clardy, and Warren Representative - Alex Fergus.

Absent: Special Events Coordinator - Rachel Henson and Off-Campus Representative - Michael Hafermann.

Guests:

Meeting was brought to order at 5:01pm in the HUB Multipurpose Room

Mission Statement read by Norma Heredia

Motion to approve 02/08/17 minutes by Shaun, second by Mae, approval unanimous.

1. Budget Town Hall

Caroline Simon - Thank you for inviting Rhosetta and I. It is a pleasure to be here and receive feedback from you all. I want to leave the majority of the time for you to ask questions, so that we can engage in conversations. This Budget Reallocation Project has been going on since last spring. There has been a tremendous amount of work and though from then until now. We are currently in the last stages of finalizing those reports. There have been several committees that have been developed to look at different aspects of this task. Highlights of the Academic Program Review Task Force (APRFT) Report, has received a lot of great discussion, and we have revised certain sections. Beck is expected to hear from the committee and decide if he is considering the recommendations. The committee was charged with evaluating the programs, their goals and their cost effectiveness. For the most part, it is based on how many students are taught per course, per professor. They focused on the combination of centrality, quality and interconnectedness. Words in red on the PowerPoint are to show that those items have since been reconsidered. They also made observations about the quality, liberal arts focus while still meeting student's academic demands. They recommended to reduce the administrative overhead, but keep enough administrative to keep things on track. Take collective responsibility, through ongoing curricular review and coordination of course scheduling, for keeping the academic program cost effective as it serves shifting student goals. In our work, some departments have one major but several tracks, and what we found is that there isn't a good definition of what those two

means. We had in the draft report. The APRTF talked about raising the minimum number of students in a course from the current 8 to 10 was purposed but we removed that from the plan. Reducing expensive programs that have significantly above-average cost per student credit hour. Some programs are just more expensive than others, and we understand that, such as science labs. The committee did identify programs that they think we need to keep an eye on, while working to increase their enrollment and cost effectiveness. They focused on the programs that produced less than 5 graduates per year. History and Economics have been tasked to increase their cost effectiveness although they have more graduates. Noted that not only at cost effectiveness but also at centrality and interconnectedness with physical education and coaching minor. As I commented in several places, perhaps if we had more athletes on the task force, maybe these programs would not be on the list. We recommend relocating Leadership Studies to the School of Business, and phasing out the Community Transformation Minor. Phasing out means they would teach the courses and degree out for everyone currently registered for the minor. They also purposed restructuring and consolidating the International Studies and Cross Cultural Studies program which now is 4 different programs. We now turn to the Budget Prioritization Process. Our goal and task was to find \$3,00,000 in new revenue and by reducing expenses. We sought this in the proposal of growth in the academic areas, as well as non academic programs which would include adding an additional sport (Women's Lacrosse) and to increase dorm occupancy. We are looked at ways for expense reduction which would mean we would look for less expensive ways of doing things. As far as revenue enhancement ideas go, we are looking at increasing enrollment in programs that already exist which would include summer school, and graduate school enrollment. Reducing the overload credit ceiling has been discussed, but this topic has produced many questions. We have been thinking that moving it to 16 credits, but that is on the Contingency Plan right now. We recommended to increase Non-Academic revenue by holding back fees. Facilities and tech fee has already been approved by the Board of Trustees. Another example would be Increasing housing occupancy. Originally we proposed a Jan Term Fee, but that has been discussed. This has been added to the Contingency Plan as well. We have been thinking a lot about this. Whitworth is on the high side of the credits of how many credits you can take for the amount of tuition. You could receive 92% of your education in 3 years, compared to other universities. Early graduation is on the rise and cost us \$500,000 in foregone tuition revenue. Currently you can take 156 credits for the base tuition price. Only 15% take the full load, and graduate right on time. Jan Term is included in tuition for the fall, so especially Students are not paying extra. We found out that very few students take 5 credits in Jan Term. We also looked at Non-Personnel Operating Expenses in various areas, targeted to redeploy money to keep only vital goals and programs without raising tuition. There will be a significant personnel cost reduction as well, however there will e no non-voluntary termination of employees. The major decrease comes from the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program or VSIP, which enough staff and faculty took this year. We are in the final stages of this process. The Budget Steering Committee will finalize their report soon and submit it to Pres. Beck Taylor. We will be revising the draft. Pres. Taylor gives the final decision on which recommendations he will take, and which he will not take. He will be finalize his report shortly after.

Breanna - I know this has been thoughtful process and the committee has been great in accepting feedback. Thank you to all the guests for coming. Please raise your hand if you would like to speak and

ask any questions or provide your input. Please state your name before speaking for the sake of minutes.

Nadia - I'm a double major. I took 17 credits and this semester I am overloading. I came to Whitworth for the credit that students were allowed to take. I know this opinion is heard and if the ceiling was instituted, I think that would have to result in the change of general education requirements and/or other changes so students could still obtain their degree(s).

Deante - I wanted to talk about the credit overload. In the music program for example, if you look at the math of when courses are offered, it is impossible to finish in 4 years without 17 credits per semester. This hits really close to home for a lot of my friends. This is a very strong major on the campus, and I would hate to see this program be put in trouble. Also for lessons and ensembles are 1 credit each. A lot of the students who participate are not music majors, and they are already taking full load, but also taking these additional class. This is a major reason I came to Whitworth. There may be a need additional waivers for credit overload. There have been some semesters where I have taken more than 17 credits. We shouldn't be limiting those opportunities.

Caroline - I want to clarify that there is a considerable number of courses that are on a waiver right now. Those would most likely not change. What this would mean is students would be over the credit limit quicker. Currently the waiver is only for 1 credit, and most music classes.

Chris - I am not a music major, but I participate in 2 ensembles. I'm a freshman, but have class standing as a Junior. As a prospective student, this may be a deterrent. German and French are very important.

Carol - There is nothing in the report to discontinue the programs.

Chris - Many music required the ability to read basic Italian and French. I know that as looking at a music program, that would bring up a lot of questions for freshmen.

Sydney - I am a double major in Music and International Studies. I am taking 18 credits this semester. Do you have a plan for what the International Studies restructuring or consolidating might look like?

Carol - There is not currently any recommendation of a plan. What has been suggested is that the political scientists and historians get together to create one major with possibly 2 tracks. This would mean we wouldn't have to have 4 programs competing for a small number of students interested.

Sydney - I know other schools call the same degree International Relations, so maybe that could be looked into.

Hennas - I am an International Student, math major. Lowering the credit overload, would limit us as students. If you took 16 credits per semester without Jan Term you would have 128 credits, which Whitworth requires 126 credits to graduate. The additional credits allow us to shift our schedules and structure them with how courses are offered seasonally. Most students don't take all 17 credits. Also we have had a few music majors speak, I don't know how to put this. I've noticed that the university is focusing on its budget but is still constructing new buildings. I would think that the university would make these additions at a better time.

Caroline - The annual budget is the annual budget. We construct new buildings when we receive donations from outside individuals. When we have enough donated money, we expand our facilities.

It does add to the operating costs although, such as electricity and heat, which affects our annual budget. We build buildings when we either have high student demand, or when we have generous people to donate the money. We also think that the new music building will be a great recruiting tool for prospective students.

Hennas - If we cut credits. I don't know what the best course of action would be. I know the German program is very small as I was a live lab instructor. Also, I don't know how to word this but I think it is unfair in regards to the amount of financial aid that goes to athletic students.

Caroline - We are a division three school, which means we can only distribute scholarships on the categories of financial need and academic. We are prohibited of awarding scholarships for athletics.

Hennas - I know several athletes who have very low GPA's but receive a significant scholarship.

Caroline - Those students are most likely showing enough financial need. 90% of current students receive aid on the basis of need. It doesn't have factor with athletics. We give money for need, to help students. We think students benefit that from an environment which they can learn among other students from different socio-economic status.

Mae - On one slide it shared that we are one of the highest universities in regard to the credit amount, compared to others. I think that students maybe would not come to Whitworth as a result of lowering of credits. There is a considerable benefit of this for prospective students.

Caroline- They are other schools, that we compare ourselves too. We are reconsidering that plan and have move it to the Contingency Plan. We need to do more studies to see the effects and benefits.

Isabell - I am hearing that in Fall in 2018 that the French Minor wouldn't be available. Can you speak to that?

Caroline - The entire report can be found on Pirate Port. Discontinuing that minor is only a contingency. What I think has started this rumor, is that we have asked the World Language Departments to reduce their expenses. One way they could do that is by making the choice themselves to cut the minor. If they decided to do that, the program would be taught out (phasing out). There is currently other things I am looking at to expand our abilities to meet Whitworth Student needs. Currently I am talking with administration at Gonzaga to see if we can develop a cooperative arrangement with them for World Languages.

Matthew - Following up to that comment, Whitworth has recently announced itself in the protection of undocumented and international students. World languages are a huge part of that diversity. As part of the political dialog turns more contentious, I really think we should try to preserve and protect those programs.

Caroline - The best way to preserve them is for more students to enroll in those programs.

Peter - I have read that the French, German and Coaching minor are currently on the Contingency Plan. Can we get a more concrete answer of what this means?

Caroline - We were given a goal to reallocate \$3,000,000. Currently we have discovered enough techniques for only Tier 1 Decisions to be about \$3,500,000. We can't predict the future, but we have pretty great confidence that Tier 1 will be enough to put the University on firm footing. The reason we developed the Contingency report (Tier 2) group, is so that if we have to reevaluate in the future we

don't have to go through this same process.

Breanna - Thank you so much to Caroline and Rhosetta for coming this evening. Thank you so much for guests coming this evening, and providing input. If you have any further insights or questions please feel free to email me at blyons17@my.whitworth.edu. Guest may leave or stay for the rest of the meeting.

2. Club Re-Charter
 - a. Weight Lifting

Jacob - President. Thank you for the opportunity to come present. Our mission statement is "Discipline, motivation, and guidance are key to obtaining a healthy lifestyle. We are dedicated to helping students create goals, teach proper lifting technique, and provide a comfortable and enjoyable atmosphere in the gym." We are very passionate about fitness and we want others to experience the benefits that this lifestyle can have on you. Weight lifting is a great exercise for the stressful lifestyle. Emphasize the importance of living a physically fit and healthy lifestyle. Our goals are to incorporate spectrums of diversity as much as possible which would include people with different athletic capabilities, people who have weight training experience with weights, and who have little to no experience. Also we would formulate a team of experienced weight lifters to carry out the purpose of the Weight Lifting Club. By create a sense of community we would meet people where they are at. We would create a workout plan. Get a group of people to come together. Many would come in without the proper guidance and motivation, which we could help to guide them in the direction. We currently have 60 students interested just by word of mouth. If we incorporate advertisements on Facebook and such we could get even more people. Lifting meets will be held three times a week from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in the U-rec or Scotford. We would conduct meetings (if needed) and progress meeting once a month from 4:00 to 5:00pm on Saturday. In meetings we would discuss current situations and where members can show up and provide input for future plans and expectations of the Weight Lifting Club.

Suhail - ASWU Funding would be for use of off campus activities such as training events. The use of the UREC and Scotford won't cost anything to us. Once we do establish ourselves the goal is to get apparel for members of the club, to distinguish ourselves. We do have a graphic design. Funds would also be used to provide rewards and prizes. We want all people to participate. Some funding might be used for those who cannot afford the apparel, which we would seek to support them

Jacob - Events we have planned is the Body Weight Olympics which would be held April 18th. Body Weight Olympics will be incorporating various body weight platform exercises and lifts in which individuals perform and compete amongst each other. Then on May 5th we would hold Strength Wars. Based on strength statistics and body stats, members will be placed into classes and compete against one another in trials consisting of various forms of lifts. Great way to bring in students of all backgrounds and promote the school atmosphere. Thank you very much for your time.

Jeff - Thank you so much for coming and the awesome presentation. I will email you later tonight, and let you know the results of the vote.

Jordan moves to charter the Weight Lifting club, Grace seconds, approval unanimous, 1 abstention.

Shaun - Just curious how they would reserve the hours in the UREC?

Breanna - They will work with UREC to figure that out. That would be between them.

Jeff - We know have Club Updates.

3. Club Updates

a. Ultimate Frisbee

Casey - We have planned 3 events this Spring. We have fundraised over \$1,000 in the fall to cover half of the jersey costs, which is exciting. We are going to host an intramural tournament this Spring. This tournament will be held when the snow is gone, which any student can participate in.

b. Social Finance

Katie - Secretary. We finance microloans to businesses in foreign countries. We will do a fundraiser at Springfest where we will ask for donations and sell the products to provide money.

Abbie - How can people donate?

Katie - We will meet next week to discuss the details which are still undecided and information will be sent out afterwards.

4. Reports and Vibes

Camina - Event coming up next week on Tuesday the 21st. The Movement: 50 Years of Love and Struggle will be in the MPR at 7pm. It is going to be really cool, with the same people who came for the Black Jew Dialogs. Will consists of a show and play. You should be there, or make it your primetime. Also on February 24th I am partnering with the Black Student Union which will be holding the Soulful Showcase in the dining hall. Please put this in your newsletter. Diversity monologues are due on Wednesday.

Mike - Chapel has decided to put on an event on the subject of immigration. On February 20th at 6:30pm in the RTT will be What's the Big Deal? Christian Peacemaker's Perspective on Immigration, Refugees, and Executive Orders by Director and Cofounder of Global Immersion Project. The Chapel is partnering with the Global Immersion Project for future spring break trips.

Luke - This weekend there is basketball games at home on both Friday and Saturday. Also upcoming is the North West Conference Championship. This will be on Thursday, February 23rd. If both Whitworth and Whitman win their games on Thursday, we will play Whitman in Walla Walla on Saturday the 25th. I am looking into ordering shirts and chartering buses to go to Walla Walla. If this does happen, I will send out a campus wide email.

Heaven - Representing the UREC. National Recreational Day is on the 22nd. We will have games and t-shirts in the lobby, and just promote recreation. We are brainstorming ideas to do around campus as well. Laser tag was on Monday, and it was great. Outdoor Rec still going on trips and working on advertising for spring break trips. Grand Canyon Trip already has a waiting list.

Gretchen - Remind you tomorrow at 7pm in the RTT, there will be The Re-birth of a Nation: The Racial and Religious Politics of the 2016 Presidential Election by Dr. Layrcia Hawkins.

Bailey - Next Wednesday the 22nd at 6pm we have a special guest on campus. The Dating Doctor is coming. In the MPR, and it will be really hilarious. Wherever you are in your relationship status, it will

be awesome. Also, we talked about having a traveling primetime and a major event at the end of the week. We are looking towards the end of April but I need to hear from you about what kinds of topics we should talk about. I will be sending out an email, so please be looking for that.

Jordan - Our results from the Survey for off campus were surprising. Overwhelming opinion saying that they voted for Trump and ASWU is coming off as very liberal and not very open to perspectives. Only let's you see first 100 responses, so maybe there is another side, if we upgrade the account to see other responses.

Bailey - There has been an email that we need to make a payment.

Andy - Constituency report. Results we got online a lot more valuable. In person report found that a lot of residents did not about the current Federal Legislation. Conservative individuals feel like they cannot voice what they feel. No safety issues at this point. Other than not having the sidewalks clear and too much ice.

Alex - Warren constituency report, and also the ice thing. Lots of I don't knows and would like to see more educational opportunities. If there is something affecting them they don't have any idea what it is.

Mae - To add to that, I had a lot of people who said they feel safe voicing their opinion. But important to keep in mind that many do not. Lots of students are concerned about the environment and their education and their funding. Coming from both conservative and liberal students.

Sean - Constituency. Thanks Bre and Alex. Nice to talk to everyone about it. Very happy to see how informed people were about all of the different policies. Interesting to see the wide variety that people are interested in. The thing that stood out to me the most is who feels safe on campus. I would like the amount of no's to be zero. All aspects of school life are important.

Jeff - Quick intro of Dr. Hawkins

Dr. Hawkins - I know how hard you all work - you make changes no one else can. I will be giving a talk tomorrow about afterbirth of 2016 elections. Please come tomorrow night. Thanks.

Alex - I want to go off of what Sean said. I talked to a lot of students who said they didn't feel safe.

Abbie - Bailey for you, students said that they want to speakers on legislation and what they mean. Also cultural stuff but mostly what legislation means.

Hannah - Same. Talked to a lot of conservative students who feel like people gang up on them when they share opinions Light posts behind Arend and also ice. More speakers on the liberal side come but would like to see more conservative speakers or at least a discussion/debate.

Christina - Students said they were unaffected and were like what issues. People said they felt physically safe. One person said they are afraid of people who support trump. Feedback for feeling more safe - felt student government was against them. Lots said they don't feel safe because of posters in the hub because of saying that "you are safe here". Would like to see some sort of dialogue - big and open or small. Have someone come and talk about the environment.

Alex - I wanted to say that it's super important for people who are conservative that they can voice their opinions but I think we need to be careful about not swinging too far and isolating the other

side.

Whit - 17 Eco-Representatives, two in warren. Printing t-shirts for eco-reps. Working on "Wasted: A Lent Project"

Maddie - Ballard Residents didn't know what I was talking about. Need to be more education on the subject. "Hard to get truth from media." Only felt safe to voice opinion if coincided with majority.

Andy - Residents in Duvall want a speaker for environmental issues.

Sean - Eco reps in BJ want to do a compost challenge.

Emily - Boppell didn't know much on legislation. Recommended an Info night and hear professor's opinion. New clocks in u-rec for announcements.

Lauren - Laser tag, would be awesome to do Jan-Term intramural laser tag.

Breanna - Good ideas. Senators please type up report and send to me. Please give it to me by next Wednesday. Shout out to Whitworthian. Beck gave high praise. Thanks for help setting up room. Straw poll: do we like room down here? Ended up 9-9. To be decided. Shout out to swim team!

Bailey - Motion to adjourn, second, approval unanimous.