

We, the Associated Students of Whitworth University, are dedicated to representing our diverse student body with integrity, empathy, and respect. By engaging in open dialogue, we aim to cultivate an inclusive and supportive campus community, lead with authenticity, advocate for equity, and strive for every student to feel valued and heard.

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**2024-25 ASWU Meeting Minutes February 5th , 2025**

**Executive Members:**

Isaac Price | President PRESENT

Bobbi Jo Crittenden | Vice President PRESENT

Michael Stavridis | Financial Director PRESENT

Salwa Mehreen | Communications Director PRESENT

**Coordinators:**

Chloe Crandell | Campus Activities Coordinator PRESENT

Gwen Brantner | Club Coordinator PRESENT

Sophie St. Jacques | Cultural Events Coordinator PRESENT

Sierra Pauley | Senior Class Coordinator PRESENT

Jude Ruetschle | Spiritual Life Coordinator PRESENT

Aubrey Lathrom | Traditional Events Coordinator PRESENT

**Senators:**

Aloisa Morales-Saldana | Arend Senator PRESENT

Abby Ruffcorn | Ballard Senator PRESENT

Kenzie Lebsack | Baldwin Jenkins Senator PRESENT

Eli Roberts | Boppell Senator PRESENT

Jordan Voigt | Duvall Senator PRESENT

Niraj Pandey | International Student Senator PRESENT

Michael Barnes | McMillan Senator PRESENT

Abi Prather | Off-Campus Senator PRESENT

Avery Hamilton | Oliver Senator PRESENT

Eli Harris | Stewert Senator PRESENT

**Representative:**

Madalyn Dotson| Incoming Student Representative PRESENT

Harmony Pakootas| Incoming Student Representative PRESENT

Austin Read | Off Campus Representative PROXY

Esperanza Gui | Off Campus Representative PRESENT

Jayce Palm | Off Campus Representative PRESENT

Cheyenne Rodgers | Off Campus Representative PROXY

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**Meeting brought to order at 5:00 pm**

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**Mission statement read by Eli H**

**Approval of Minutes 12.04.2024**

*Motioned to approve minutes by Eli H*

*Seconded by Eli R*

**Favor: 15 | Oppose: 0 | Abstain: 0**

**What’s up Whitworth**

Ally: hello I was asked to talk about our lovely lovely mascot Mr. captain patches himself so just some things that we've been that patches been at, he's been at most of like the men and woman's basketball games and yeah we didn't get a chance to get him out any football groups but next year hopefully um things that patches is going to be at the honors scholarship event on the 9th and the 23rd captain patches business card handout on the 12th also hopefully gonna be at the men's womens basketball games against pacific which is the bigger event and then also the mascot skate downtown on the 22nd sounds really really awesome to us and then also the scallywag 3 on April 12th and then some of our hopes and dreams for patches and so we hope that patches can go to these two games slash events like the spring season we also are still working on the technical things and then we want them there to support the athletes and our help motivate our student body Yep bringing it for next year just supporting our athletes so that's all about patches thank you.

Sophie: so the ISC asked me to promote the belonging weekend it would be on February 17th one of the big highlights that there will be a speaker , she's the mayor of Spokane and so I put the two Flyers on the front I'll have more Flyers later in the week that I'll put in your mailboxes so you guys can put them up in rentals but until then maybe just like take a photo to make sure you guys have the info it's like 1 big kind of belonging weekend but then they kind of highlight is the mayor speaking.

Annaclare: hi friends I'm gonna get over here so you can all see me I know a couple of you hi I am alum of Whitworth I graduated in may my name is Anna Claire I'm currently serving on AmeriCorps service term which is like a national service program in the dornsife Center for community engagement over in wayerhouser come say hi if you're ever interested in community service opportunities or outreach. I'm just here to kind of put something on your radar that's like very much still in the works which is a bus awareness project that we'd like the Dornsife center to help support here in the hub essentially we've all probably heard of the university bus pass program at some point that the idea that students can pick up their bus passes and get unlimited free rides on all public transit in Spokane previously the dornsife center in some of our service opportunities and educational trips has wanted to utilize the bus pass program as like a free and more environmentally friendly form of transit for those events and we've also been asked by faculty to sometimes help facilitate that but there isn't really a great resource in place yet for our school to know about this program on a regular basis and also train people on how to use it so I'm just throwing this out there that I'll be back in two weeks to kind of have a longer discussion about this but essentially I just emailed Isaac and said hey I have this idea for like an awareness program that we could run and maybe promote some training materials that will improve our student access to this so again im Anna claire you'll see me around more probably in the future but I'm just here to kind of put that in your mind so that you can start thinking about and noticing what might work well for some kind of project related to that.

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**Special Guest**

Ali Adame-Pineda: my name's Allison I am one of the I work at the dornsife center. Belief is basically a mentorship program and so February 28th we will be hosting around 30 local high school students all from Spokane area on campus and we will be inviting them for an overnight conference and this is just kind of to build their skills and just kind of talk about what what does like life the high school look like whether they're interested in a 2 year 4 year or a trade school program we're kind of just there to help them prepare them for that so they'll be stuff like mock lectures activities games skill building but we essentially need your guys's help we need we are in desperate need of volunteers and mentors the application is due tomorrow but we are looking for on campus dorm on campus students who live on rooms we're interested in becoming a mentor and are interested in posting a student with them and kind of being their body with them from Friday to Saturday I'll volunteer basis and look really good on your resume and if that's something that you would be interested in or maybe if you're you don't live on campus but you still wanna volunteer we will be posting some volunteer opportunities on the search page but yeah I have some Flyers here and then we are also to believe downstairs right now if you have any questions please please reach out we would love your help thank you

Carson Woods: what's up y'all my name is Carson if you don't know me please get to know me I'm super available I'm going to get coffee with you guys but I am the student coordinator for the outdoor rec program at Whitworth in a few weeks I'm going to be talking a little bit more about our program and our program needs but right now what I'm gonna be doing is just kind of stocking the flame and just kind of start sharing like what we've been able to accomplish this past semester so with that being said we've gone on 12 trips or outdoor rec so that means 12 like fully bands of people going outside which is amazing we've served 64 participants in that which has been absolutely great just getting people outside experiencing new experiences or experiences our demographic is a lot of like international students and returners which is great and also a lot of first years that have joined into our program and so yeah so with that being said you know I'm gonna be talking a little bit more later in a few weeks about some potential requisition requests but for now you know I just wanted to kind of get that out there that we're running some really cool trips and it would be amazing if we could get your help in trying to promote some of those trips so we get students outside so in the next week or two weeks we're gonna have two snowshoe trips going out so this day or in a in a week we're gonna have one that's going out to mount Kit Carson which is right next to mount Spokane and then another trip we're going to go up to snow peak which is in kind of the Colville National Forest so I would much appreciate if you guys could kind of spread the word about those trips so we can get more students outside thank you

Tim Caldwell: hello everyone my name's Tim Caldwell I work in student retention at Whitworth and might be thinking like what's retention what is persistence my job is to try to help you all graduate from Whitworth it’s a new role Whitworth created just this last fall and I've been working hard for a lot of different people to try to figure out how do we help students persist how do we help you all graduate so I'm also jumping on the captain patches bandwagon here so we've partnered with a company called EDsight and what we're gonna be doing is we're gonna be bringing captain patches to life right so captain patch is is going to be launched as like little personal Siri Alexa for all of our undergraduate students and so what's really cool about this is captain patch is going to be an AI chatbot and we I have been behind the scenes populating like 300 questions all about Whitworth and all this stuff and trying to figure out how do we do this well. what's really cool about this AI chat bot captain patches is that we're creating the thing called the patch chat which is captain patches talking with you students directly so there's this proactive way the reactive way so on February 12th we was mentioned earlier February 12th captain patches is gonna be passing out his business cards in Leeds square from 11:45 to like 1230 we've got a phone number for captain patches we've got patch patches at wework.edu and e-mail for captain patches so passing out some business alright we got some uh table tents going on the dining hall tables and what's great is there's two ways that captain patches are gonna interact with you you all can just send a text to captain patches and like yo patches what's in the dining hall today right and it's gonna take you to Sodexo like the little thing that you download to get the menu right if you want captain patches when is spring break I need to get out of here right it's gonna say hey here's the academic calendar here's the spring break it so any kinds of questions that you have 24/7 Whitworth related right count the patches what's your favorite color captain patches what you know whatever it might be you can send that and captain patches will respond and so that's one really cool thing that we're trying to do to help students the thing that I'm really excited about is the the proactive thing which happens on the side captain patches every seven to 10 days is gonna text the campus check in how you doing what's going on are you struggling any areas finances well-being academic social life whatever and you can say yeah I'm struggling or whatever and captain Patrick asking questions at some point we're gonna gather a playlist of favorite songs across campus and send that out but you're going to be able to interact with captain patches and patches then is going to point you to the right section if you need help if you need extra help patches are gonna let me and my team know and we're gonna try to come along and support students the idea is we're trying to get the student voice more in line with what is actually going on and then how do we support students better so this is on the 12th this is what captain patches is gonna send out sometime around lunch just this real basic hey here's who I am you know I'm a robot so you know I can only do what I could do but here be ready for me to be texting with you at that point captain patches is gonna be live and you all can ask patches whatever it is that you want and then watch patches go I am gonna ask in a month I'm gonna wanna come back to this meeting and I want you all to say Tim those answers are awesome or those answers are not so good right because I'm gonna need some feedback to make sure that I'm populating patches with the best information so is just gonna be a demo of what patches is gonna be like so patches text shyanne hey how you doing what's going on you know good neutral nervous overwhelmed Shane is being a little nervous a little overwhelmed right well tell me more captain patches says which way is are you feeling overwhelmed so Cheyenne says ohh it's my Wellness I'm just not feeling great Wellness wise OK So what resources give me you know are you facing any issues that might make it hard for you to retain right ohh I'm retaining guy I'm the persistence guy OK now you see where I'm coming in here right OK so she texts back yeah sorry to hear this right triangle the patches is saying hey I'm sorry it's struggling so tell us a little bit about what you're struggling with cheyenne's a student athlete and she's used to her parents always making her food for her special dietary restrictions and things like that it's making it hard for her to be at Whitworth so she's typing that in and then patches is gonna respond with hey here's some resources for you here's some things that are going on and really what's really cool about this is you all get to then kind of tell me what is going on and what you might be struggling with and then it allows me to figure out where do I use my resources and who do I need to come alongside as opposed to just putting the whole student body on blast trying to figure out what's going on so this is just kind of a basic thing I wanted to make sure that you guys could see this so that was sort of the reactive part you can also text patches and go from there if you have any comments if you have any questions about that feel free to reach out to me Timothy Caldwell at whitworth.edu but I wanted to make sure that you are the first students that I'm telling about this because it's important that as as well as the the student body representation here that you all are aware and if you hear of any problems or issues or things please feel free to send that along to me and I'd be happy to help out with whatever I can any questions about captain patches. alright. thanks so much appreciate it.

Dr. Micki Abercrombie-Donahue: I met some of you before this right before the Christmas break nice to meet you I'm Mickey and I'm the new chief diversity officer and I'm coming to talk to you today just briefly it's really packed tonight for all of you so I'm gonna just deal with what's most immediate your schedule is packed right. one of your esteemed colleagues here in leadership is writing an article in the Whitworthian that's gonna explain the the new policy that whitworth has developed in response to the executive orders that have been issued at the federal level that are impacting students that would look for student. so we issued a statement and then I'm holding follow-up question and answer sessions over the next week in addition to that we will be continuing the reformatting the democracy and discourse format and continuing that over the next four months with dr. Bert. in addition to that I wanted to share with you that Minase and I will be working together to do focus group interviews with student leaders across campus we're willing to come talk to us with interviews regarding campus experience campus climate and campus response not just to the policies that we put out on the website this week but other policies maybe forthcoming in the next week. we're interested in getting feedback from you and in addition to that we are relaunching the Advisory Board the student Advisory Board the forms of programming that comes out of my office so all of those things will be relaunched and my door is always open to you I've already spoken with several students on campus related to their comments or questions and concerns but I want you to know that my door is always open you can e-mail me or you can reach out to me I will my e-mail has my cell phone on the bottom of this easiest way to get a hold of me you won't text me if you don't feel comfortable I want to encourage all of you who are interested question and answer sessions are open to the faculty students and staff , its open to the entire campus. I want you to know that if you don't feel comfortable talking to me about open setting that I'm very very willing and I invite the opportunity to speak with you one-on-one privately and confidentially any place on or off campus if that is best for you. I'm inviting students from every different political religious social cultural social linguistic background to talk to me about these issues because I want to have a good idea about the entire campus and where the entire campus is with these issues and how they're experiencing the policy changes in addition to that I understand that the policy changes are going to have a different impact on different segments of our population and so it may not be impacting some people but it may be dramatically impacting the lives of others and so I want you to know that the resources that are available are just the beginning of what we're planning and they're really just the kind of the jumping off point related to individuals all across the campus who are working together to make sure that students feel safe and that everyone feels like that they can continue to have a positive experience at Whitworth regardless of their identity. any questions?

Niraj: yeah ohh like you guys put out a statement and there was you mentioned that there was a policy change . could you briefly tell us what were/ was the policy and what changed?

Micki: yes that was a good question so the policies that existed before under the previous administration so there's multiple policies related to the multiple levels of citizenship status and so that's why these question and answer sessions are so important is that having worked a lot into parts of the United States and very aware that frequently people don't understand what those differences are I'm not dodging your question there's 7 different people's statuses that we will be talking about and migrants and international students are two completely separate populations with the full range of citizenship status within them the policies are going to impact those groups people differently and so I'm not dodging your question what I will say is that the response to that question is complicated and it's gonna take me time to answer if you can't we're scheduled schedule morning noon and afternoon sessions to try to get everybody booked in. in addition the article that's coming out should do a good job of explaining at least the background but I think there's probably gonna be follow up sessions as well because there's multiple policy changes in response to those two executive orders so and the policies are designed to make sure that students rights are protected and all those groups and they were balancing those rights with those legal changes at the federal level so our goal is to protect our students to make sure that they continue to enjoy and they feel safe yeah.

Todd: do you wanna touch on embedded in that statement of our report there's a link to the division of student life web page

Micki: yes thank you so the cover statement because we understand that most people they spend like maybe 30 seconds reading things if you hit the hyperlinks it goes into a detailed description of the policies as they impact different populations it links them to student life it links into external sources of support we're just rebuilding that website from previous presidents that have been here for back with live links and new sources of support in addition to those links we're bringing speakers onto campus to bring the most up-to-date information from people who are attorneys and things in the community the biggest challenge that we're having is making sure that all the students and faculty and staff have the accurate information and that's what we're trying to provide we wanna get you information that's accurate so we're going to be pulling people in from the community who are actually doing this work. the answer question yeah

Sophie: is there any sessions offered to students specifically breaking it down for them to understand like within their rights not necessarily the policy changes but more like

Micki: So, if you e-mail me and you ask for those sessions if the students e-mail me and ask for those I will provide them to you. this initial group of sessions is just a launching point the information about student status is confidential I can't even see it so I don't really know what the students concerns or needs are until you talk to me about them or someone brings them to me and then I will respond immediately and I will hold side sessions for different groups of populations because again I worked in Southern California central California and the LA bas in this is very complicated I've spent my whole life studying different impact of policy changes and so I wanna make sure that I give you the right information and that's gonna require breakout sessions

Niraj: I mean this this might be just referring to the breakout sessions but yeah I think the question that might be bothering a lot of students certain demographic would be and this could be a very simple answer is if ICE asks for report or students immigration status is Whitworth, can Whitworth or will Whitworth provide that information

Micki: yeah that's the question right. That's the question that everyone wants to answer to. so I in the in the time that I have I'm gonna take a run at it. OK so if you look at the resource and you look at the policy change so legally uh the the information that's on this campus cannot be taken from this campus without a warrant. OK so the process and the procedure that we put in place is we have a verification of the identity of the officer because there's been a lot of confusion across the United states on people who are posing as officers on campuses and causing a lot of confusion even making jokes in dorms and stuff that they are ICE when they aren’t ICE so we're gonna modify we just modified the policy today we're putting a verification step in that the ID has to be verified through our security system and so that we know who we're actually talking to.and so once that ID is verified then that person immediately is set to people who are trained in the registrar's office and our compliance officer so that they can verify if you have a legal document that actually gives them access they can't get access to FERPA protective or protected or HIPAA protected files so they can't get into those OK So what that means is that those warrants we have to check and make sure that those warrants are legal and binding OK they the ice has been active in this community already we know that they've been moving around the campus the entire time they've chosen not to come on to the campus and not to do this right now even though that that that status related to those sensitive places has been revoked so at this point we haven't had to activate those protocols but those protocols are in place to make sure that that that legal information is in place but as of right now they haven't activated that and we don't release that information to the public. does that make sense.

Niraj: so if they come to the campus with a warrant signed by the judge then you have to release that information?

Micki: you are not legally bound as a student on the Whitworth campus to provide them access to your residence. you're not legally bound to require them to give them access to your apartments adjacent to the campus that's your decision as an individual. Whitworth university has to comply with the law OK in addition to that students Dakka students on this campus also have civil rights and so Whitworth university has established a protocol for ensuring that and believe me it's very complicated OK to making sure that the civil rights of those students are also respected in this process OK and so my suggestion is if you know someone or you are someone who is in that status or concerned about that status that you come talk to me personally anyone you know and that will walk them through what those rights are in addition to that posted hyperlinks to legal services as well we're gonna bring those people on campus so that people know what those legal rights really are so we're balancing competing legal rights but you are our students and you came here entrusting us and basically your parents let you come here u came here assuming that we would care for you and that you would feel safe on our campus. in addition to that we're Christian university. Our DEI statement that's grounded in our Christian identity that's connected to Christ and christ love. so I want to assure you that that is part of all of these conversations and that we're balancing those rights with the changes legally at the federal level it's very very probable that all of these things will hit the court system so in addition to providing you with information on your rights we will walk you through what will likely happen as universities around the country kind of navigate this and these claims have the words. that answer your question yeah. OK alright so please come talk to me please don't be afraid to ask me questions please attend the question and answer sessions and if you don't feel comfortable there please ask me for a one-on-one or group breakout session where you do feel safe to make sure that you get all the right information thank you.

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**Student Highlight**

BobbiJO:this week our student highlight is Vernon glass he spoke at the MLK March last month and did really good job and we are highlighting him for doing that.

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**Club Updates**

Gwen: we'll just start with the club updates as the easiest one.

Elise: hi I'm Alice we are part of camp kesem on Whitworth. it's a national nonprofit that supports children through the longer periods of cancer diagnosis we have an upcoming friends and Family Day that is on February 22nd it's gonna be in the ABC room this is where the campers gonna come, see their friends it's also for families and community contacts currently we have 20 campers signed up with more to come but camp is July 7th through 11th it's a free four day of camp for these children.

Rachel : Hi I'm Rachel if you don't know. This is aly, co president for gen action

Aly: so we're gonna talk about it but Jen Acton has kind of gone through a rocky rocky start this semester in the last semester. We've been really advocating for theme of whatever side you kind of land on we want you to be educated we want you to be prepared for anything that comes to like reproductive rights.

Rachel: so really what's kind of brought us to this meeting is we were already kind of planning on coming to aswu meetings this semester but on Monday when our club coordinator she sent out an updated club manual has everyone here had the chance to read the updated club manual ? Oh my God two people. I think it's important Aswu for our associated students supposed to know what our clubs are being like the standard we are being held to so if you don't know what Gen action is we are a Planned Parenthood affiliated club here as a chapter on campus they are national chapters throughout the US but we are one here in Spokane and something to know is that as we said we are not pushing agenda our club you can even look up on Planned Parenthood there's like 4 bullet points of like what Gen actions are for and we are here to bring like sexual awareness and health reproductive rights. education is our biggest thing. this kind of timeline starts technically 2013 fall but we have an event in the fall called sex in the dark and it is an event that is used to bring in a safe space to have anonymous sex related questions whether that be reproductive rights whether that be queer sex we've had questions about periods it's really supposed to be a safe space. there was pushback in 2013 in the fall from campus ministry about our events because Forest Buckner dean of spiritual life claims that Beck Taylor our past Whitworth president him and forest had a verbal policy that if sex were to be discussed on campus, campus ministry had to be present to showcase a Christian narrative and specifically the narrative that sex must occur after marriage. this wasn't being enforced Gen. action which started in 2016 by Sarah dixit if you go back to our Instagram you can see like our first time advertising this specific event sex in the dark was in 2019 and it was happening then without campus staff there or pastoral staff there and if Beck Taylor was president in 2021 why didn't he enforce this himself in 2019 so it wasn't until this semester that we really got severe pushback about meeting campus staff there and that if they were not gonna be there we couldn't have our event and now with the new club manual that was all sent out to everybody on Monday there was a specific clause in there that states that this is not a written policy and I believe that there should be some discussion if that is going to be what students are being held too. but I really just wanted to bring it to your attention because before coming up here two people had raised their hands saying that they knew about the policy and based off of the club manual that I had that was emailed to me in October before the update the only written policy on sex ed conversations was that an invite had to be extended to campus not that they were actually required to be there and they were requirement of the perspective that they were bringing so if we preach DEI if we preach like inclusion if we are not trying to like have any restrictions I don't understand why this is the narrative that has to be pushed and if our panel of sex in the dark is incorporated it's all fully faculty that are here and every faculty here brings a Christian perspective so why does that Christian perspective have to be the one we even tried to invite outside pastoral staff ones who are part of safe queer churches and it was told that it was either our staff or nobody so that was just what we wanted to update you on and we will be coming to more as of meetings we will be trying to keep having events this semester and our plan is not to let this just slide anyways that is all.

Sierra: just for clarity's sake you said 2013 did you mean 2023

Rachel: Yeah I did mean 2023

Sierra: OK I just wanted everyone else to understand the timeline

Rachel: yeah this wasn’t trying to be enforced until 2023 fall and then finally if they claim that this is beck Taylor's verbal agreement with forest Buckner why wasn't beck Taylor enforcing it while he was here just the thought for your noggin.

Annaclaire: Does campus ministry run sex education events?

Sierra: Lauren Taylor does have Bible study that does revolve around like sexual things and kind of like creating a space for it but I don't know that it's like a event.

Aly: it's not like a public event she specifically it's around obstacles of survivors and talking about like purity culture influence on how they how that looks like after it's not working

Lubben: BSU speaker- The keynote presentation by Dr. Nsombi (Dr. O), will provide insights into a major contribution of the Black Culture. The presentation seeks to educate the campus community through research, discussion, and dialogue.  The topic affirms that students of diverse backgrounds with roots in African/African American culture will be valued, seen, and heard providing a pivotal component of Belonging at Whitworth in alignment with the Whitworth and ASWU missions.

 Lera and Jenny: Swing and Ballroom dance speaker- Woodside Swing is an organization in the Spokane area that teaches lindy hop and other social dancing. Our proposed event is a workshop from Tom Hamming, an instructor from Woodside, to come in and teach attendees the basics of lindy hop. Tom will lead us in the basic 6-count lindy hop step, and then teach a few different spins. The workshop will last about an hour, and then we will play music for an open social dance where people can practice the steps they’ve just learned, similar to our club’s usual events.

Anu: Business club speaker- Jordan Lester, CCIM, MBA, is a Commercial Real Estate Broker at SVN Cornerstone, specializing in the acquisition and disposition of multifamily investment properties. With a primary focus on Spokane County, Jordan brings expert knowledge of market trends and a commitment to maximizing his clients’ financial goals. His career in real estate began as a broker’s assistant at SVN Cornerstone, where he gained valuable experience before transitioning into a full-time broker role. Beyond real estate, Jordan has a background in collegiate basketball, having played for Robert Morris University and Whitworth University, where he also served as a team captain. His experiences in sports have shaped his leadership, resilience, and teamwork—qualities that continue to benefit him in his professional career. Jordan will discuss key aspects of the commercial real estate industry, leadership in business, and how skills from athletics translate into professional success. His presentation will provide students with insights into the Spokane real estate market, career strategies, and personal development.

**Motioned to approve****Business club speaker (Catherine)*****by Eli H***

*Seconded by Eli R*

**Favor: 14 | Oppose: 0 | Abstain: 1**

Gwen: I'm actually not done yet I'm so sorry first of all if you have any questions about all of that especially if you have questions about the club manual that Gen action referred to that is in teams but if you would like me to send to you again I can. second of all my committee is lacking 1 aswu member and I need them immediately because I cannot do without a member so I need someone right now wait on my meeting time is very flexible but right now it's on Tuesdays at 4 . Harmony. OK I have one more thing I have to say because I have a night class and I need to but I should have said it during what's up Whitworth but as a dance minor I hear a lot of concern from everyone who has declared as a dance minor that they will not graduate with their minors me included. courses are not being offered anymore that we are literally required to take. I was supposed to take coreography this semester and it was dropped because apparently there wasn't enough registration there's debate on the fairness of that because we know of at least five people that were registered in that class that you know classes have run with that number before for education departments and other departments but the class was dropped we understand it's a dance minor so it's not a huge priority but we're feeling kind of neglected anyways so that class is not offered and now I tried to do an independent study because it was literally my only option and now we're being told we can't do that either so we literally have no options and like at least three of us graduate next year and we're not getting these credits so it's a little like were declared as these minors and we can't do it now so it's a little concerning I just wanted to bring that up for everyone to know about and I know I don't know if it's happening in like other departments but like definitely the arts in general are kind of give being a little neglected so that's a concern and I want to let you know that I do have to leave thank you for listening to my yapping.

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**Communication Director Update**

Salwa: Super quick, thank you so much for your constituency reports you guys are doing great uh the second one is student leadership fair sign up here is the code I've already sent you all emails for the sign up she tried to sign up for an entire hour but there's like 30 minute slot so that it just to be flexible but please try to look like at least one hour and yeah you'll get all the all the information over there for photos Jays I've already taken yours but she's not here Avery if you have OK I have a night plus I have to go to so next next meeting after the next meeting if you just drop by my office for a second then I'll just take a quick picture of you and Speaking of photos Isaac is a Vernon glass here hi can you please send me one of your pictures its smehreen26

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**Financial Director Update**

Michael: OK everyone account totals are here Finance Committee is still determining a time to meet so most likely be sometime next week but TBD on that do you have any questions great.

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**Vice President Update**

BobbiJo: hey guys let's start election timetable. so SEC which if this gets approved I will be emailing the people who are we're on SEC last semester and letting them know we have a lot of changes this year it's a lot longer if you ran for if you did an elected position last year you know you only had three days to campaign now you have 4. I also which is one more day but it's the whole week it's the whole week give me a break that's all I could do. ohh you can't actively campaign on election time plus it's the week after we get back from spring break where you're doing your campaigning so we would start early March like the first full week of March is when SEC will meet and then the first or the second full week would be when applications open and we'll have interest meetings applications will close March 14th and then Thursday March 20th which is the Thursday before y'all spring break is when mandatory election meetings are and then the Monday that you guys come back from spring break is campaigning. campaigning ends on Thursday the executive date would be April 1st at 6:00 PM I'm hoping to get it into next meeting with Dan tomorrow to see how we can figure that out that's just to get more people to be able to be there because it's not a very well attended event and we want it to be more well attended so we know who they're voting for and then Friday April 4th would be Election Day and if needed runoff would be Monday April 7th questions comments .

Nirja: yes for the election can this year we start thinking about how we should not have the whole school board vote for the international senator?

BobbiJo: we figured it out. because the problem before with the system we were on they didn't have tags for international students but because we're running it through pirate port now we can tag all of the international students so it was fixed last semester right yeah so it's been it's been done OK

**Motioned to approve****timetable by Eli R**

*Seconded by Eli H*

**Favor: 15 | Oppose: 0 | Abstain: 0**

BobbiJo: yeah OK I'm gonna change it a little bit I'm gonna go to urec data collection I put a link in teams this is a thing that you can e-mail to your constituents and you definitely should the urec is trying to get more data for intramurals. Yes, so spread the word yes send that e-mail because it's a link QR code and then put it in your newsletter. Okay, one on ones I have 16 people to meet with in a month and I have 5 schedule. That’s problematic isn't it? that's not even a third. I'm required by my job description to meet with all these people and I'm not harassing you guys this time and if you don't schedule you're not meeting your contract and if you're not meeting your contract that's another conversation. so schedule your one-on-one through the link in the e-mail I have sent multiple times.

 OK now for the fun stuff off campus name changed to commuter so I haven't had a chance to talk to any of The off campus people about this yet but you might have heard because if you've had your one-on-one with todd. Todd explain it.

Todd: the language across campus during this hiring process was that off campus was associated with like say off campus programs and so it just it there was confusion as krista maroney was developing the job description and So what came out of it is the use of commuter.

BobbiJo: yeah so essentially off campus insinuates that it's like students traveling abroad commuter insinuates that we live off campus and commute to Whitworth and then it just it just provides consistency across the board across all student leadership programs ohh this is not something that you have to decide on today I'm gonna give you guys a week especially off campus people please talk to your constituents about this or just think about how you feel about it and then we will we will talk about it not next week because I won't be here but the week after that we'll talk about it and do a vote to see if that's something that we want to change and then I will do all the work finding every single time we stay off campus in the bylaws anyways. that's just not me saying no I'm not saying that I think it's a good idea. OK last one changing financial director to a hired position we have talked about this every year I've been in ASWU . I think it's a great idea I've this is my third year now and we're talking about it again Michael thinks it's a great idea. so basically what I did was in the constitution this is the only change this is the only time that it talks about who is elected. so in article 7 which is elections Section 1 it currently says the student body shall elect all executive officers except for communications director senators and representatives I am voting for suggesting the change of the student body shall elect president vice president senators and representatives so that it doesn't it no longer includes financial director because what we found is this the financial director isn't necessarily like a job that needs to be voted on by the people it needs to be someone who knows what they're doing because they're working with they're working with all of our budgets they're working with requisitions they're working with clubs these are all things that they need to know how to use an excel sheet they need to know how to manage money they need to know how to talk to people it's just something that seems like it would be better at a higher position and Michael if you have anything to add to that that would be awesome.

Michael: I mean I don't really understand I've had the same spiel for like a couple of years I just think that it would be more sensible to have this position hired cause in the same way that communication directors hired cause like there's a particular set of skills involved with like doing the job I would say it's kind of the same for my position and again this is my third time saying this so hopefully you guys get the point.

BobbiJo: so yes as you can tell Michael and I are tired of having this conversation every year please for the love of whoever's financial director next year make sure make your decision wisely this is also a constitution change so that means it is also voted by the student body means it has to get through us to get to the student body.

**Motioned to change the Financial Director Position to a hired position by Kenzie**

*Seconded by Eli H*

*Discussion:*

Niraj: I know like currently Michael's position is kind of bureaucratic and it's just like you know people send him send us like the other committee requisitions and we just you know decide arbitrarily but I think in the future the student body could decide to have some intentionality to Orient where their money goes and that really like whether that money gets approved to do what they want to do is really up to Michael and the committee so I think that that is of course like I think the student body can kind of with their vote decide whether they have the skills but also whether they are the the money that their their money is being used in the way that they want I know there's not much intentionality right now but I think in the future there could be and we should

BobbiJo: I'm not gonna lie to you. I have ran three different elections every election is just a popularity contest. from my first election being that there was four off campus people running and four off campus Rep positions to the year before there I was off campus senator I ran against the first year so who do they know more? the person who's been in aswu the first year or me? if that's all it's ever been so I don't know necessarily if they're voting not saying that your job is not like OK I think Michael is great at his job but most of the time in future someone who maybe has no clue what if me and Michael both ran for financial directors and I won I don't know how to do anything but I could still run for it so I just I think having it be a hired position because you do have the committee that you're not making the decisions the committee is and what is the committee made-up of ? the assembly. and people who are from the student body so essentially you're being like you're not making any of these decisions really. even budget committee is ran by all the execs. so like who are elected positions are there there's other elected positions that are on the thing there's students there's the student body involved in that as well so everything that the financial director does is also tied to the assembly so he's not necessarily the only one making these decisions

Eli r: I think you hit it right on every expect in the end where it's not just Michael making the decision we have committees set in place to have discussion and where their money is going and that is made-up of student body but also with that being said without it and with it being voted have someone coming to the position I think that's what is trying to be said is that there may be qualifications that in place so that our money is being spread equally it's being taken care of and because it is an important thing also because it is a popularity competition sometimes not saying that it's not OK let me finish let me finish because Michael been here three years he knows what he's doing but that's what you said. also if we want to move on we also still have like constitution changes that go on later on there are concerns being brought up about not having the student body's input.

BobbiJo: really quick sorry information so before you go I wont be here next week so this is going to be voted on today I'm going to set up an excel sheet and put it on teams for tabling and then tabling is next Friday because this needs to be done before I start all of the election stuff and we just approved the timeline where election stuff starts on March 6th so it's like this has to be done today or it doesn't get done at all this year and it's a problem for next year's team with keeping that in mind with elections literally right around the corner here I just want to put that out there.

Niraj: I would say the way that I love you both but the way that you're approaching it I think is not good because I know it is yes it is a popularity contest and I think if we double down and bite into that I think we are one like not advocating for an educated like electoral base for like people should know who they're voting for people should care about as we enough to kind of care whether they're financial director whether they're international president vice president know what they're doing right. so if we are just going to double down and say it's a popularity contest and they might not meet the qualifications yes that might be the case one day we might just vote in some random person as the finance director and everything could go in shambles but maybe that is needed for students to kind of understand why we need to actually be paying attention to this otherwise association will be in shambles you see what I mean so that's why we shouldn't just completely make it a bureaucratic process or just make that position of bureaucracy immediately is what I would say and there's things to be said about the Finance Committee and the budget committee but I think we're right on track so

Harmony: I'll just I think like sitting here listening just trying to think I feel like you could keep it as an elected position but add like prerequisites that makes sense like you can't apply to front for the position unless you have these certain skills

BobbiJo: point of information technically all the job requisites have a specific requirement but I for one have not read a single job description in my life right before I replied for an aswu job so I didn't know what I was getting into besides that I was representing people so with Michael because it's because it's a elected position people might be thinking that they're voting and also being completely honest the only exec that has the power to vote unless they're proxying is Isaac in the very very very rare chance there's a tie. Yes there's a tie in a vote and it's 50/ 50 yes and now the only one that could break the tie is Isaac I can't break it Michael can't break it so I Iunderstand having the requisites but they're already there

Michael: I love your enthusiasm always niraj. no like you genuinely care and that's a good thing so I hear your points and like again I encourage everyone to listen to niraj because like he's making good points he's the same points that have been made the last two years which is why we haven't changed this position so again everything you are saying is valid from my perspective I'm just saying being in this position I do think that it requires like a certain type of individual and I can see that yes the student body should like have a say in where their money is going so I hear you however there are requirements in you know that aswu constitution around how committees are formed as I said like as a committee and Finance Committee are both made-up of student body at large and as your members again I do hear your point though because in theory like not every aswu members who sits on those committees is voted in either like only some as members or voted but like I guess they are ways of of kind of like dealing with that issue and then also what I will say about this position is like it's so like I necessarily have a direct constituency you understand what I'm saying like I think that the same reasons that salwa’s position is hired is the same reasons that my position should be hired and we haven't had any issues with the communications director position and that's been hired as was long as I've been here so I mean I understand your points though niraj.

Niraj: just one sentence I'm just very adverted to aswu becoming more and more of bureaucracy and in general if you do not like bureaucracies I like student representation and I think like the electoral base can should be thinking about who they're putting into ASWU and making just certain like 2 out of what 4 executive positions like hired positions is like I think diminishes that so just putting that out.

Bobbijo: to be fair, the only two exec positions that have positions that have kind of constituencies is me and Isaac I mean I work with all of like all of the assembly right so my constituencies are all of you and then you got like we made it if we made a diagram it'd be like me all of the senators and reps and then all of your constituencies it's like it makes sense that like I'm a voted in position right and I Isaac does the background stuff that I don't do .I think isaac’s the face to the university and I'm the face to the student right like that's what our jobs are that's essentially there's more to them obviously but Michael's job is a lot more of that working just with you guys about when your constituencies come to you more of a little bit of background work not diminishing your job at all like I think it's a very important position I just think it being hired would be of the better idea I don't know what I'm trying to say

Michael: I also want to point out that this vote still needs to go to the students so this is the hurdle that we haven't even been able to get over in my view is like if the students feel strongly about you know this position being hired then that would be reflected in the vote but I guess that would be my assumption so yeah I don't really know what else to say about that

Abby: I think that like a really good point that ultimately like we are representing like the other students and so to let them truly make that decision we should just like pass it and then give them the opportunity to make the decision because ultimately like it's not about us it's about who we're representing

BobbiJo: we should be back yeah especially because we don't have the week to like go to constituencies and then come back and report I think this would just give us a better idea of what the student body wants and not just what we want as people I mean you know you've been aswu for three years as well like you've had this conversation with the past two years as well so you like I think just passing it along we'll get the right idea to be able to let like later teams know that this probably won't work so just leave it how it is or if it changes then it changes

Salwa: can we please move on to voting.

BobbiJo: yes if you have more question send me an e-mail.

**Favor: 12 | Oppose: 1 | Abstain: 1**

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**President Updates**

Isaac: the first thing I had was just that I met with Rosetta it was actually touched off by Nicki is that there are resources on the student life website on whitworth and so my ask is that you familiarize yourself with those such that you can support your constituents effectively provide those with them and share that website or something as well the second thing is just to add on your calendars on the 25th of doctor salkin who is the Dean of sciences is brand speaker on the part of it as well to talk about hate speech that's on the 25th it's gonna be 6: 30 in the RTT. that's just something you have on your radar .

**Upcoming / Past Events**

Chole: thank you Cortana hi guys ohh this short sweet. Trivia night that went really well. If you weren't there ohh that's too bad for you because you had a chance to win. we did have a couple of aswu members. that was fun that was good lots of people came. its definitely something we should continue doing

Aubrey: I sent out a calender invites you guys a couple used to go like before break and I still have 7 people who have not responded to me and if we just have the people I have right now I can't put on casino games so I need people to reply to my invite please I don't wanna say names so please just check your

BobbiJo: no actually why don't you say names because this is getting ridiculous that y'all aren't answering your calendar invites.

Aubrey: some of them left at this point. Michael S

Michael: I don’t have it, can you resend it

Aubrey: Sure I can do that. Gwen , jude, nirajSophie was on it Ben and Cheyenne

BobbiJo: ohh update I'll go ahead and take Ben off Ben has stepped down from his position as neighborhoods representative so you guys know anyone in the neighborhoods who's looking for a four hour week position send him my way because but yeah so he stepped down over Jan term so yes please respond to calendar invites please.

Aubrey: so that's that's the calendar invite I'm sitting on e-mail by the end of the week with your job some training information I'll talk next week about some dress code things hoping to go a little bit like we did last year found it just OK great just hoping a little bit nicer I'll have a presentation for you guys next week just keep it short if you guys have any questions you guys need anything let me know yeah thanks

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**Constituency Reports**

**Arend**

Aloisa: Arend's constituents are doing great and are slowly getting back into the rhythm of doing homework. They all seem excited about the spring semester and my upcoming event Gatortine's Day. Monday's primetime went well, as there were plenty of constituents conversing. Arend does seem lively but also has its quiet days.

**Ballard**

Abby: This week in Ballard we have had a lot of fun! We had bracelets and brownies and had an amazing time and around 40 people attended total! Residents are very anxious for Christmas Break and are excited for some downtime and time with families and friends! Ballard residents have been excited about all the Chritmas decor and had a Christmas decorating time in Ballard last night! BMAC XMAS is this friday in the chapel! we will bw having an ugly sweater contest and white elephant gift exchange!  there will be a ton of yummy food and it will be a great time to foster community!

**Boppell**

Eli Roberts: Boppell residents are doing well. Residents are excited to be back on campus and reunited with friends and faculty after going their separate ways for Jan Term. Our first Tuesday night Prime Time was joined with Oliver: *Climb Time Prime Time* was a fun time utilizing the U-Rec. There was about 15 residents shared between Oliver and Boppell in attendance. 2 residents have expressed concerns with ice on the ramp leading from Hawthorne Hall to the residence hall. But since the initial conversation, Maintenance has been diligent with de-icing and salting. Other than that, Boppell residents are excited for a new semester and getting back into the rhythm of classes.

**Duvall**

Jordan: The residents of Duvall have mixed feelings about the snow. Some love it and aren’t use to seeing it while others hate it and want it gone. Residents have been getting into the swing of classes and are looking forward to spring semester. Prime times continue to be popular and we will be having our spring ratification meeting tonight at 9:45pm.

**International Students**

Niraj: The international students are well. The ISC is filled with stooped sleep-deprived heads hunkered down studying for exams or finishing up our projects and just generally prepping for finals week. We are exhausted after an amazing and memorable I-fest and the thanksgiving break was not long enough. Most of us stayed here, some of us visited friends and it was fun. Now, we are just waiting for finals to be over and winter break to start. Overall, all is well.

**McMillan**

Michael Barnes: McMillan has had a pretty good start with many new faces back on campus. There is  A lot less energy than at the start of the spring semester, especially with the snow. Milk and cookies which only occurred once during jan term is back in full force and will be occurring this Wednesday. The constituency is excited to be with their  friends again and get some energy back into the residence hall.

**Off-Campus Students**

Abi: Off campus students are back! First week of school for most students have been mostly uneventful. The snow has made parking a bit of a hassle and driving a bit scarier but we are ready to conquer spring semester.

**Stew-Ville**

Eli: Though they were like a ghost town through the month of January, the halls of Stewart and the Village have livened up a little, with the residents who were away for Jan Term now all back for Spring Semester. The new semester seems to be starting off nicely for most of the students, while a rouge few have reported already being stressed out. Overall, we are glad to be back, hating the snow and slush that's outside, and ready for the challenges of this new semester.

**Baldwin Jenkins**

Kenzie: As BJ residents come back from our well-rested winter break and/or Jan term break we finally made our ratification meeting official since we had it last night I have also noticed that the residents are also enjoying the snow as well as some are going sledding and even having snowball fights

**Oliver**

Avery: Oliver is doing well! I just got back from a jan-term trip and forensics tournament so I haven’t been in Oliver for a while but it feels good to be back! Everyone is getting back into their routines and adjusting to their new Spring schedules!

**Incoming Students**

Madolyn: The first year students are doing okay, engagement has slowed down a bit as the weather gets colder and classes continue along. Many students are opting to stay indoors and sleep in and are grateful for daylight savings time even if it means it gets darker quicker. Many students are sharing feelings of anxiety and tiredness as the semester goes on, but are finding different ways to have fun and connect with others.

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**Shoutouts:**

Sierra: I will talk so fast I promise. Gwen is not here but I have my office hours which is meeting with some people and she was so professional and she's working really really hard for club fair. she's just really really good at what she does and I just don't think she gets enough acknowledgement so if you see her tell her she's doing a good job.

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*Motioned to adjourn meeting by Eli H*

*Seconded by Kenzie*

**Favor: 16 | Oppose: 0 | Abstain: 0**

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**Meeting adjourned at 6:23**

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