

ASWU Minutes 2-19-2014

- I. Call to order- Ian 5:00pm
- II. Mission Statement- Faith
- III. Minutes- approved!
- IV. Introduce Guests: Alexandria, Christina, Austin, Sarah, Abby, Lauren, Christie, Ashton, Michael, Alexis, Olivia, Jennifer, Maddie, Sarah, Dana, Veronica, Erica, Danny, Darian, Vince, Catherine, Ashley, Chad, Kaitlyn, Juliana, Carly, Jessica, Naomi, Sarah Jo, Jerica, Heidi, Kaley, Tyler, Octavio, Ashley, Will, Mark, Josif, Ashley, Sam, Kevin, Eli, Skyler, Blake, Dylan, Jordan, Katie.
- V. Big Cheese Awards: Erika Boyd! Does a great job bringing what she hears going on around campus to the table and takes things outside of ASWU (asking facilities about crosswalk lights, etc). Awkward Middle School dance was awesome! And Bergen Smith! Doing an amazing job planning so many different events and all the trips during breaks.
- VI. Club Update (**5 min**)
 - a. Chess Club
 - b. Tyler: Last semester we met on Saturdays from 3-5, this semester same day 1-3 in Weyerhauser 111. If there are a lot of members we are looking into doing a tournament.
- VII. ACM Club
 - a. Michael: ACM Club is awesome. This year we will be doing an intercollegiate hacking/security competition. That will be interesting!
- VIII. Beck Taylor (**45 min**)
 - a. Budget Discussion
 - b. Beck: Its fantastic to see everyone here. I have read several emails. I applaud you for being here, this is what students ought to be doing: speaking up for what they believe in. Gaining information and insight into the decision making process in the university and educating yourselves! Introductory comments: It's important for students to have a complete picture of what's going on.
 - c. Beck: Quick review: Not a "budget crisis". We are reconciling some of our wants and needs with some of our resources. Financial health of institution is strong. At the institutional level this is not a crisis, but for certain individuals and programs this is crisis. Keeping things in perspective at the institutional level but also recognizing that this affects peoples' lives. We didn't hit our numbers. Whitworth is tuition dependent- we count on numbers of students to hit tuition goals, and in the fall we missed on all accounts. Missed approximately 30 students

in the freshman class and graduate studies programs also lacked. Second largest enrollment in Whitworth history, but shorter than what we expected. We also paid more in financial aid for the freshman class, and we are glad we did, but it did not match our budget expectations. We will meet challenges this year. We will be able to meet budget shortfalls in ways that are transparent, and we have ways to meet these challenges. We will balance fiscal year 14 budget with short term remedies. Most important: even if we reach short term challenges this year, we have long term challenges as well.

- d. We knew that fiscal year 15 would be tight. Fall of 2010 the class was the largest freshman class Whitworth had ever had. We knew that FY15 would be tight, this situation this year has made that problem worse. It went from a lean year to deficit year. Stabilize undergraduate enrollment- we want to keep population at approximately 2,300 and we knew we would have to pay a price. We've been growing; our programs and infrastructure all anticipate growth. In higher education there is great inertia. To put on the brakes, creates a cost of keeping enrollment steady and we are seeing that shadow price. We need to think strategically about how we are stabilizing enrollment.
- e. Financing the budget: thinking about things we might want to stop doing to help reach our goals. As we build next year's budget, important facts: We want to replace all categories of expenses that we had to borrow from this year. There will be inflation. Cost of running the university as we are, increases approximately 3% a year. We are shooting for approximately 625 freshmen. Continuing to see reductions in continuing studies enrollment. Result of things we're doing: we asked the board to pass the lowest tuition increase in 13 years. 4% to some isn't welcomed news, but the costs of the institutions go up north of 3% every year. We have goals we need to fund. We want to continue to pay our employees. All of that including other assumptions results in approximately a \$1.34 million resulting operating deficit. We can't make this go away.
- f. Process: I don't want to give the impression that administrators simply conjured up these ideas. This was part of a long process beginning in October. Representative task force including students, staff and faculty. Charge: to think as a group, solicit input from outsiders as to how to put the university on a more stable financial footing. Delivered report to me on December 9th. Draft plan to university council, and was finalized on February 12.
- g. No joy in doing any of this work: cutting budgets is not fun. We don't have any expensive bad things going on at the institution. If we did our work would be easy. We are choosing between

good things: programs that are life-giving to the institutions. None of the things we are proposing feel good. We tried to give a lot of priority to things that did permanently lower the cost price of the institution. We didn't want to have everyone pay in a certain percentage, we wanted to make hard decisions. The effected programs have been in conversation all along (shout out to Kristiana Holmes at the health center). They have been valued in this process, and they have been involved. Also Lindy and Dinorah Scott. This is at least the 4th time I've talked about these things. It has reaffirmed the values of this institution. We value ideas, transparency, and the ability to disagree. We can come together and make decisions together.

- h. Proposed budget cuts. The highlighted items are the ones that could most directly affect students.
- i. Costa Rica: In its 4th year of operation. We've had incredible successes in Costa Rica. The emails I've received from people speaking passionately about retaining the center talk about the great experiences you have had. The outcomes are not debatable. It is encouraging to hear those stories. This is an emotional decision because this is a beloved program. There are many people who have worked to create something out of nothing. It was an entrepreneurial effort. It is emotional because we know it has repercussions. Its not just students and staff, it's the community in Costa Rica. We have a presence there. We employ host families; work with internship sites, etc. This makes this decision even more difficult.
- j. The challenges we are having in Costa Rica are reaching capacity enrollment on a regular basis, and providing a sustainable academic program. We need that center to be at capacity in order to justify the investment we are making. We also need to recruit faculty from WU to work on programs, and these have been challenging. 2 ways to think about this: 1) Financial. Is the program supporting itself? Answer is no, it isn't. Has received massive subsidies form the university to maintain existence. 2) Its an educational program. Can we justify the opportunity cost of the program because of educational outcomes? The outcomes support what we are trying to do, but we aren't seeing it in the scale to justify the opportunity cost. I have moved on to Plan B. Plan A was the original plan (30-40 students per semester, honors Jan term, summer trips, pay back debt over time). Plan C: Sell property and invest that money into other sustainable study abroad opportunities. I'm not there yet. We need to see what differences we would make to make a sustainable operation. By suspending the operation, we can save money and come together as a community and see if we could make this thing work going forward.

- k. Student health center: provides an important service to campus. We've all used it. Healthcare today is changing dramatically. The service hasn't been explicitly paid for in the past. With the risks involved in delivering health care today, I'm not sure the university should be in the healthcare business anymore. Last year we decided we weren't good at doing retail (bookstore wasn't successful) we were losing approximately \$100,000 a year in the bookstore. So we found Barnes and Noble and contracted. We are asking the same thing about healthcare: is it something that we could ask someone else to provide for us if they could give us the same kinds of services on campus. To become a student at WU you need proof of insurance. If you buy student health insurance, premiums have grown greatly. We no longer will require students to provide this because the government is doing this. Are we providing health services at a sustainable price and could we do better if we asked a third party to do it? 1) Ask students to pay for services they are receiving 2) Ask students to pay and contract with a third party, but we are out of the healthcare industry. Student health center fee would be approximately \$120-240 per academic year. There's a range because we haven't decided what kind of institutional presence we want on campus. One concern is that we know the healthcare center connects students to other support services on campus. Kristiana and her staff will direct students to other services on campus.
- l. Student printing: Idea to lower the student printing allocation by 50%. It begins to support our sustainability efforts on campus, moving toward paperless environment, hoping that your pressure will help us move in that direction. Work with instructors to lower paper usage.
- m. Guest: Did you look into the yearbook fee or the ASWU fee?
- n. Beck: I want to complement ASWU for coming alongside the institution, there will not be an increase in the ASWU fee. They are contributing. The yearbook fee, I did not look at that as an option, I didn't see that idea come up.
- o. Ian: Yearbook fee falls under ASWU fee, doesn't have anything to do with the deficit for next year.
- p. Guest: Do you have plans to reach the goal of reopening the Costa Rica Center?
- q. Beck: We are depending on an approximate \$400,000 change in our budget permanently from changes in Costa Rica. It could be extra revenue by generating the enrollment we need. Permanent savings and revenue enhancements: we expect to get those whether the center reopens or not. There will be relationships we need to tend to that may dissolve by us leaving. We are committed to international education. Our goal is 70% of students studying abroad by

2021. Ideas: We just brought in our 11th cohort of Act 6 students. 10 students a year. Made a decision to lower 10 to 8 and reallocate the funds saved to the Act Six academy (will affect 20 more students with the same opportunities). We are not giving up on our diversity goals. If we don't reopen the CRC that doesn't mean we will take all the money and pretend it was never there. We will grab that money and reinvest it in international education.

- r. Guest: What will happen to the counseling center?
- s. Beck: We are anticipating no changes to our commitment to provide Whitworth-provided counseling centers. The changes are specific to the health care.
- t. Dylan Olson: Can you expand on what a third party system coming in would look like? Have you thought about adding a student fee and keeping the present situation we are in?
- u. Beck: I mentioned 2 extremes 1) charge a fee and reinvest it and stay in that business, or 2) that fee would go to a third party provider. Its complex, but we are paying attention to the ways in which either situation could best serve student needs. We haven't made a decision yet. We have committed to restructuring the health center, we will charge for healthcare services. We will use those funds to do one of those options.
- v. Rebecca L: Have you thought about recruitment internationally? They tend to pay full tuition. Will you up recruitment on that?
- w. Beck: We wanted to send our students abroad and attract international students. We put more weight on sending our current students abroad. We still have very large goals with respect to international student population. We are exploring new relationships in Korea. That goal has not changed.
- x. Chase: Will health advocates be affected?
- y. Beck: The HA program is an important program. As we make decisions relative to how we want to restructure the health center, the ability to continue the HA program will be front and center.
- z. Guest: Any thought into support services for Costa Rica staff and the home stay families?
- aa. Beck: We want to come around those families, communicate with them, make connections for them through other institutions so they could be involved in other ways.
- bb. Maggie: Did you say the Costa Rica program costs \$900,000? But we would save \$400,000?
- cc. Beck: The approximate \$900,000 a year would be approximately \$700,000 in operating money (salaries, etc) and approximately \$200,000 would be interest expense. We borrowed the 3 million dollars from ourselves, but we have to pay it back. We know that we can't completely

shut down the center. We need to have security, still planning to do the honors freshman program in January of 2015. There may be opportunities for light programming. The approximate \$400,000 is conservative in how much we are expecting we could save.

dd. Maggie: Is that in salaries?

ee. Beck: Partly in employment, and also the fact that we don't have to replace professors here when some go down for trips.

ff. Guest: Under the restructuring of health center, will the current nurses and employees retain their positions?

gg. Beck: They may no longer be an employee of Whitworth, but they would be employed. Barnes and Noble agreed to that. The same is true with the health center. Medical credentials need to be met, but Kristiana doesn't think there will be any problems.

hh. Guest: What costs do you foresee coming from restarting the CRC after suspension?

ii. Beck: Biggest cost will be predicting programming so students can make plans. Lindy and Dinorah had already announced that next year was their last year, so we would have to hire a new director not knowing if we could economically keep the center going. We still don't know who would be teaching classes there in the fall or spring. At the end of the day, I wonder if we are big enough to fully support a program like that. Part of plan B is to find an institutional partner to come alongside and send students and faculty and enrich the programming and sustainability of the program. CCCU has a Costa Rica program, Bill Robinson is currently the interim president.

jj. Raleigh: For current students, will the CRC be opened for students who have already committed for students switching Jan term to may term?

kk. Beck: I don't know. Once the decision is made, Carol Simon will develop a task force immediately for this semester to answer questions and pull people together. I want Costa Rica to succeed and we will see if we can make it happen. What we are doing now is not sustainable. Carol will have student representation, and we want to hear ideas.

ll. Alexandria: The CRC unlike other study abroad programs is equal cost to going to school in Spokane. A possible idea is to increase tuition for a CRC semester. What's the difference between paying a semester here opposed to Spokane, if students are paying tuition here or there?

mm. Beck: To justify the expense there. If we only have 12 students down there, the resources are being paid much higher per student, which is not efficient. Benefits of studying

in CR: we hoped it would provide the students the experience for the cost of a plane ticket. That caused other frictions. One of the options on the table should be how much would students be willing to pay to sustain the program.

nn. Sarah: How finalized are these numbers? Is there any way to change them?

oo. Beck: This list is the result of several months of work. There is not a lot of room to change it; this is the best thinking to date. I also don't want to make this process a farce. This is the result of a process. There are no better ideas on the table that have passed through all levels of screening, but we are willing to think about new things. The university subsidizes employee health services, which is very rare. We will be thinking about how we could have a fee that would honor the fact that that amount of money is too much for some.

pp. Sarah: Justification for passing such a low increase in tuition?

qq. Beck: I'm happy with where Whitworth's net tuition is. It's a great value. I don't think by raising our net price we will help ourselves reach our goal of 625 students. Honors the fact that many families are battling financially, and imposes some fiscal restraint.

IX. Reports & Vibes (20 min)

a. Justin: Residents ask that ASWU emails be sent after 8:30 in the morning. Working on renovation survey.

b. Rebecca: Spring programming meeting tomorrow. Cooking around the world 5-7 pm.

c. Jo: Busy working on the yearbook. Asking why there are chains in front of the stairs by the field house?

d. Chase: BJ is looking at having a student art gallery.

e. Ashley: Emily and I are working on the Green With Envy dance, trying to get the downstairs in the HUB expansion. Look forward to emails. Heard that at the basketball games in the student section there's metal that rips people's jeans. I also have friends.

i. Cody: Stand up during the games!

f. Faith: Warren is doing great, started planning for Warren Peace. Cool Whip show on Saturday!

g. Erika: Awkward Middle School dance was great! Excited for Raleigh's event. Student concern: Whitworth does not have a very accommodating space for the dance program. The floors are harsh and it's all carpet in Cornerstone. We have been having some practices at Gonzaga.

i. Audrey: Planning new performance building committee- send this idea to them while they're planning!

- h. Lizzie: Fenton's is coming up. Mama Beans came to prime time the other night. East is being classy as ever!
- i. Andrew: First of 8 print editions out today. Website and social media is up and running, want more of an online presence this semester!
- j. Kevin: Sunday at 8 in the RTT showing Thor in the Dark World. Feb 28 no school, Bucky Covington! MPR at 8 pm. Monday March 3, 6 pm in dining hall, musician will be coming.
- k. Raleigh: Wicked Tickets- ended up buying 20 in total and there were many students interested! Sold 16 Spokane chiefs tickets for Saturday's game. Senators, if you want a poster designed talk to Faith they are awesome! Friday dance starts at 8 pm, set up is at 5 pm (wont last all 3 hours). I sent out updates.
- l. Maggie: Come ice-skating tonight at 7 at Riverfront Park!
- m. Ashton: EWU is holding a sustainability symposium on Feb 25, contact me if interested! Anyone can come, it's free.
- n. Cody: Swimming did really well! Men's and women's basketball games, men won the conference championship and getting ready for playoffs.
- o. Samantha: We have social media! Like us and follow us.
- p. Rebecca: I'm working on programs for baccalaureate and end of year events for seniors. Working on class gift, sending out a proposal soon.
- q. Danielle: Heard that students want more seating, honey mustard, heard requests for dorm pianos to be tuned.
- r. Josh: Planned BMac concert (talent show) near end of April!
- s. Phil: Come skate for \$1!
- t. Alicen: Warren is doing awesome, getting ready for Warren Peace.
- u. Bergen: CPR course this Friday evening, sign up at UREC. Wilderness first aid course being taught this Saturday and Sunday. Night snowshoe hike on Feb 28 and a ski van next Saturday. 2 Spring Break trips you can sign up for now.
- v. Jacob: Did our first Sunday friend jam this past Sunday please listen to that! Performed by your friends. If you play music and want to have it recorded, Sundays at 4pm! Whitworth.fm
- w. Emily: Planning Green with Envy, March 15!
- x. Lauren: Everything is great in Boppell.
- y. Ryan: Duvall breeds champions as usual.
- z. Tyler: Sign ups go until Feb 28 for intramurals!

- aa. Katie: ASWU Applications are open! Join the team!
- bb. Ian: If any guests have any questions about the positions, ask the person currently in that position!

X. **FVP (5 min)**

- a. Matt: This Saturday, opportunity for fundraising for Million Meals. School needs servers, food will be provided. 6:00 pm this Saturday the 22nd, we need at least 8 more people. Shoot me an email.
- b. **Club Charter – Cooking Club**
- c. Lana: One question last week was liability. Spoke with Jim O'Brien, said cooking club would have Sodexo's blessing. Head cook would be willing to monitor our first few meetings, do workshops to show us how to cook. Also said I could get my food handlers card online, willing to do that. Liability won't be a problem, but Sodexo could absorb liability risk potentially. Also where we would be holding the club meetings, I spoke with Matthew Baker from BMAC and said I could use those kitchens. In the process of talking to the East RD, looking for a kitchen and that's going well. Budget: I put together a budget, \$200 per semester.
 - i. Raleigh: You've done an amazing job!
 - ii. Lauren: Extend an invitation to Boppell.
 - iii. Justin: Also Stewart has new kitchen renovations.
 - iv. (Lana step out)
- d. Justin: Motion to charter, second
- e. All in favor, none opposed, club chartered!

XI. **EVP (1 min)**

- a. Announcements
- b. Audrey: For Andriana, many of you took the campus climate survey. 8:45-10:30 am tomorrow they will be explaining the results. If you know people excited about it, its in Weyerhaeuser 111. If any of you are interested in ASWU, ask us questions! There's a table with hiring and election info outside of the chambers.

XII. **President (10 min)**

- a. Senators
- b. Ian: Pirate Port emails, last week we got one about courageous conversation groups. Update from Larry Burnley at University council. 3 topics, 10 people per group. Opening up these conversations for faculty staff and students. 1) Differences in religion 2) Sexual orientation in

Christian academy 3) Racism in the classroom. Will meet 4 or 5 times this spring. Email Carolina Beck if interested.

- c. Ian: Also I want to start a conversation about senators in freshmen residence halls. There have been a lot of changes. This idea has been thrown around: instead of a freshman senator voted for in BJ, have a current freshman be voted in to serve for their sophomore year.
- d. Justin: My rendition of the senator position: my main points about being a non-freshman senator in a freshman committee. Gives constituency a chance to vote amongst themselves about who they want to serve. Freshman community should be able to do that as well. Students have more time to think about who they are electing when its done in the spring. It's also useful to have experience with the Whitworth culture academically, etc. I've gotten lots of feedback from residents. They appreciate having someone experienced who knows what to do and has gone through the freshman experience already.
- e. Ian: Not to say that our current BJ senator is not doing a good job. Because of how it is structured, those senators miss out on our fall training. Bonding time and learning how to do the job effectively. I know there will be cons as well, but we want to start the conversation.
- f. Ashton: My major concern with that is that I have found great value hearing a freshman's perspective. It's a unique perspective that if we weren't to have freshmen on ASWU we would lose that, and the perspective for that part of the student body.
- g. Ian: That is also why we have representative positions, but thank you for that point.
- h. Raleigh: Perhaps along with training in August, what do Chase and Kevin think about having a sophomore taking your position?
- i. Kevin Glover: I recognize the value in the points being made. In my mind having freshmen serving as senators adds a lot of perspective in ASWU and for leadership teams. It is hard having to split times between different communities for a rep. Senators are more invested. Leadership teams value that perspective. Also, when you come for Why Whitworth or colloquium you hear the dorms that are all-freshmen that provide the opportunity for freshmen to get involved. I would be hesitant to make changes to a system that is working well.
- j. Chase: I really have to think about this. Looking to Hanh, what do you think from your perspective?
- k. Hanh: It is great to add another dimension having freshmen. At the same time, when you move into campus and miss training, that is important. Also getting to know the campus and

the new college life and also serving in a leadership position, that spreads the student out a lot. It takes out a lot of time for freshmen to experience other things.

- l. Chase: The first thing I did on campus was look for a leadership position.
- m. Danielle: There is a lot of value in the beginning training. But also I don't think it would be lost because we still have reps and still bring that freshmen perspective.
- n. Jacob: Also question of representation. Having a sophomore in the position would allow everyone on campus to have voted for someone on ASWU.
- o. Maggie: Is StewVille planning to remain all freshmen? (yes). Also there are other ways to find leadership positions on campus other than ASWU for freshmen.

XIII. Million Meals Updates (10 min)

- a. Ian: For Community Engagement Committee, met with director of Mead Public Schools, asking how we can get them involved on May 3. Got a lot of info from that meeting. Meeting with faith leaders next week, speaking with leaders on the north side of Spokane, connecting with ASB leadership in Mt Spokane high school and Mead to see what they would like to do to get students involved.
- b. Ashley: Emily and I have talked about having a \$1 entrance fee for green with envy dance to donate to million meals.
- c. Rebecca: Planning a hookah night, ticket price to go towards million meals.
- d. Alicen: Dutch bros for million meals?
- e. Samantha: The funds they get from that is just for Generation Alive.
- f. Veronica: Everything there is only a dollar. (This Saturday!)

XIV. Shout Outs

- a. Chase: The foam swords were awesome!
- b. Jo: Ali for getting all the names!
- c. Ashley: Off campus rep and senator for organizing ice-skating!
- d. Ian: Thank you to the guests!

XV. Adjourn 6:30pm.