

ASWU Minutes - 9-16-2015

- I. Call to Order – Justin, 5:02PM
- II. Mission Statement - Niels
- III. Minutes Approved: all approved, none opposed
- IV. Introduce Speakers: Rhosetta Rhodes, Dr Larry Burnley
- V. Justin: Thank you. Our first speaker, Rhosetta, isn't here right now so we'll do announcements in the meantime. Skyler?
- VI. Announcements
  - A. Skyler: We currently have \$2298.93 under unallocated. Capital is at \$20,000. Also, I still need one person for Club Charting Committee. Any volunteers?
  - B. Justin: When does the Club Chartering Committee meet?
  - C. Skyler: We meet on Sundays at 2pm.
  - D. Kai: I will.
  - E. Skyler: Okay, thank you.
- VII. Rhosetta Rhodes
  - A. Justin: I would like to introduce our first speaker Rhosetta Rhodes who is our Interim Vice President of Student Life. Welcome!
  - B. Rhosetta: Hello you guys, I'm Rhosetta. I would like to talk about Title 9. Anyone in here not familiar with it?
  - C. Several hands raise.
  - D. Norma: I'm partially informed on it but I don't know what all of it.
  - E. Rhosetta: It's a law that prohibits sexual discrimination in various situations, but it's mostly known for being specific to gender equity in sports. What's most prevalent now is sexual assault. For sexual assault, what we need to think about is "What is sexual assault?" We need to remember "consent" and "incapacitation." With consent, we are trying to move to "Yes means yes" instead of "No means no." The law says that a person cannot consent if they are incapacitated. Are they not talking? Are they passed out? Slurred speech? Talking irrationally? If they say yes when in this kind of state, it is still sexual assault. I believe we could cut down 95% of the number

of sexual assault cases. We were notified of 25 cases last year, and 3-4 the year before. Every single one involved alcohol. I am working with some groups to create an “alcohol campaign” of sorts. We want students to know about this, and alcohol is the main reason for these assaults. Violence against women includes stalking and bullying. Another important point is having responsible employees. They need to report every incident or allegation of sexual assault. If you go to a staff member and say “I think I’ve been sexually assaulted” or “Here is this incident that happened to me” then they need to report those. We will try to keep all details private, meaning we only tell those whom we have to tell, but sometimes we have to put out a notice about certain incidents. That’s what we have to do when we are told about an assault. Those are some of the things we are trying to improve on. With the employees includes student workers, who are also required to report incidences. If you receive information while employed, you have to report no matter what. Even those at the Dornsife Center are required to report it. When they are not at the job, they still have to report those incidents.

- F. Dayna: If you’re going to Seattle and your buddy tells you about a situation, are you required to report that too?
- G. Rhosetta: We would ask if they were telling you as a friend or because you have a certain position. if they tell you as a friend then you don’t have to report it, but if they tell you because they know you have a certain position at the university then you do. We do have employees who are not mandated to report: the chapel, counseling, and the medical center. Any questions?
- H. Kelsey: What’s the reporting process look like?
- I. Rhosetta: You can call, stop by, email, ask staff, ask faculty, or you can ask anyone here at the table. Craig, Larry, Delores Homeston, and I have nine investigators who look into those cases. There are techniques we go through to determine incapacitation and consent. If you or a friend report an incident then they go straight to us.
- J. Peter: Do we have to tell the person that we are reporting it?

- K. Rhosetta: Yes, and you have to let them know that so they are aware of the process that will begin afterwards. They need to know that it's being reported so they
- L. Brittany: Why did the numbers increase so much in one year?
- M. Rhosetta: Green Dot training has increased the awareness of what assault actually is. We are doing training to reduce those incidences.
- N. Jordan: So you think there were about the same amount of assaults but it's just more reporting.
- O. Rhosetta: Absolutely. People are becoming aware of what sexual assault actually is so they know what they need to be reporting.
- P. Adam: What would happen in the case that both people are incapacitated?
- Q. Rhosetta: Whoever reports the incident is who we consider the victim in the incident. The other person would then be the person that the allegations are against. From there we proceed with standard procedure for these investigations.
- R. Rhosetta returns to presentation
- S. Rhosetta: The student life mission. We wanted to emphasize "empower," "engage," and "serve." This fits very well into the Whitworth mission by empowering, engaging, and serving. We do leadership development, intercultural competency, vocation and job experience . You prove that we are doing the right thing every day by the comments and such that we get every day. Any problems that students have that impact their academics is dealt with by us and our team. We are working with freshman to get started early.
- T. Rhosetta: Recent statistics report that 6% college men are sexually assaulted, 20% college women are sexually assaulted, 13% are stalked, 4 out of 10 college students are victims of violent crimes, and we received notice of 25 cases last year. The government can sanction us per violation of Title 9. We can also lose our Title 4 funding.
- U. Justin: Take a couple minutes to discuss. Rhosetta will stay for a few minutes to answer questions you may have.
- V. Discussion

- W. Justin: Okay, let's come back to order. We are now taking suggestions.
- X. Norma: How would the investigation proceed after something has been reported?
- Y. Rhosetta: We assign an investigator to the case. We have timelines to do, we find something, we sanction or don't sanction. The respondent will receive a letter about the allegation against them. Witnesses will be identified, because usually there are witnesses. We gather evidence like text messages and other mediums to guide s in the right direction.
- Z. Britnee: Will you guys need permission to get things from social media or do you just take it?
- AA. Rhosetta: We do both. We also do policy violations; they will submit that to the deputy coordinator who will review it to make sure it's complete. If it's faculty then it will go through Dolores, if it's a student then it's through Craig. All parties will find out the result of the investigation. Appeals can only be granted for a few reason: new evidence that was submitted, procedural errors, and if and one more reason that I can't remember.
- BB. Bailey: An event called Sex Signals will be next Thursday at 8pm in the MPR.
- CC. Rhosetta: Thank you all for your time!

VIII. Dr Larry Burnley

- A. Justin: I will introduce Dr Burnley who is our Associate Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- B. Larry: Good evening! Thank you for allowing me to come talk here with you guys. I will give you a lightning round with what I said to our trustees. I will tell you why we do what we do, priorities, how we arrived there, and then open it up to questions.
- C. Larry: Everything we do is centered around our Christ-centered mission. The topics we have, the goals. There are thoughtful Christians who disagree on these issues and non-Christians who disagree on these issues. That mission is articulated specifically for certain goals. Our 2021 goal is what we base everything around in my position. As leaders, we should be sure why we pay so much attention to diversity. You don't have to agree, but you should understand it. We believe if we do this well then we

will be helping you later in life. We hired an outside consultant to assess our general education requirements, diversity efforts over the past five years, and a campus climate survey. Not only students, but faculty and staff too. The agency took that data and gave us recommendations to open up the conversation across campus. One of the things I wanted to bring here was that students clearly understood diversity was important, but they didn't exactly know why. I had an interview with the Whitworthian yesterday who asked why it was important. I want to a brief argument for diversity. The first is a theological argument. We affirm that God's creation comes in multiple different forms as a Christ-centered institution. We have built walls in so many areas of gender, race, income, sexual orientation, and so many more. We try to model inclusion to break down those walls. Those walls have resulted in human suffering. God calls us to live in something that we don't currently live in now. There is an educational case for diversity too. Institutions aren't preparing students for the diverse global economy that they will need to be in. Largely homogenous environments diminish the outcomes of students in the diverse world we live in now. We don't want to be driven by a business outcome as a religious institution. In terms of "serve humanity" who is humanity? Whose stories? Whose narratives? I was struck by so many people that had never heard of black face. There is a long history of "black face" but nobody had ever heard of it. We need to see whose stories and narratives you had not heard or else we are doing a disservice to you. Based on educational and theological cases, we believe the university should look to be diverse and accepting. If we are not a welcoming environment, we will not survive. We survive from revenue from tuition, and that's how we continue from year to year. Whitworth will not exist in 30-40 years if we're not mindful of this issue. However, this should not be the main driver for a Christ-centered institution. We came up with five suggestions which I won't read here. We're glad to have Kaysee. You're hear more about this action plan later on. Some are doing educational classes for staff and faculty. We are compelled by God do deconstruct those walls that I talked about. Questions?

- D. Justin: Take 2-3 minutes to discuss and think of questions.
- E. Discussion
- F. Justin: Let's bring it back together.
- G. Kaysee: Understanding that we have a need for diversity, what is the institution doing to help students and faculty with cultural competence?
- H. Larry: We are working in the curriculum to be more inclusive. What we teach, how we teach, why we teach it needs to be more inclusive instead of this male-centered and Eurocentric curriculum. The hard part is changing the composition of our faculty and staff. We're working on all of those areas and more.
- I. Chase: Is there a difference between student/faculty/staff training and adjunct staff?
- J. Larry: Adjunct don't have to be a dedicated Christian, so we are between having a non-Christian staff member and a Christian
- K. Chase: I meant diversity training.
- L. Larry: We are looking at the cultural competence level of the adjunct.
- M. Rachel: What is the main facet that you're trying to push?
- N. Larry: All of the above and more. Inclusive excellence, complex, intricate, all very important.
- O. Brendan: I was wondering about Whitworth United. What is it exactly?
- P. Larry: I don't really know myself, but we are working to find the right strategy for that. It's something that the trustees, Beck, Justin, and so many other people are working to put together.
- Q. Bailey: There's the idea that student athletes represent the university on and off season. Will they have to do diversity training too?
- R. Larry: We have an inner group dialogue. In short, yes. It's not yet but we're looking to go into that direction.
- S. Kevin: Is diversity still a helpful word? We felt that they would shut it off or only think it applies to race. It technically means that it's
- T. Larry: Diversity is a buzzword, and it's often boiled down to race. But I'm open to other language to break out of that pinecone curtain. We did identify as race, gender,

ethnicity, and sexual orientation as the most identifying. But it marginalized the other identities. How do we deal with the challenges of one group and not diss another group? Race is easy to see, but there are so many that we don't see or respond to. It really is a work in progress. I am in McEchran and please invite me to Dine with a Mind.

#### IX. Reports and Vibes

- A. Justin: Thank you. We will now move onto Reports and Vibes.
- B. Chase: Do your time card. Do it today. Get paid. Next Tuesday at 9:30PM in the chambers is a mandatory election meeting. I sent an email about the representation at the last meeting. Let's get that extra push and look for those people. Election packets are due the 25<sup>th</sup>. They don't need to come to this next meeting if they went to the other one.
- C. Brendan: One of my residents came up with a good spirit thing, so someone would walk the plank after they score. I thought it was kind of cool.
- D. Niels: We had 40 students go on trips, many of which were international students.
- E. Jordan: Intramurals sign ups are due soon.
- F. Bre: A lot is happening for homecoming. I will have a list of committees so sign up for one by next Wednesday. I will send an email to you and your RD about what that week will look like. We will be in Pirates Cove doing work.
- G. Kaysee: The Qadim Ensemble tonight at 8pm.
- H. Kiersten: We have a ton going on. We held auditions for the Harvest Festival. This Friday at 4pm in the MPR we'll be decorating. This Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> we'll be at a sustainability conference. The 27<sup>th</sup> is the Harvest Festival. The 26<sup>th</sup> is the Spokane Tour, we'll meet at 9AM to start.
- I. Jordan: If you have events that you want to promote then email me and we can put it on air. We can get a recording done.
- J. Jeff: In the past week there has been feedback with the changes in tradition. There have been rumors about us doing unsafe things which are totally not true. Please tell them they're not true.

- K. Katie: I had a few complaints about washing machines in terms of size and the higher price.
- L. Norma: I heard a lot about the tradition and Mock Rock being on a Saturday. I think it messes up the flow of the first week when you have it on Saturday.
- M. Rachel: I have two questions. I have a resident who is vegan who didn't understand why the non-dairy creamer is in a separate place from the coffee in SAGA. Also, I had a resident that noticed that prices went up in the Mind and Hearth but the Dine with a Mind ticket didn't. The ticket can only buy a few drinks in the coffee shop now. Can we fix either of these?
- N. Bekah: We need more writers. They don't need experience, we will train them in that. Let me know if you have anyone.
- O. Savanna: Treats with the Taylors is coming up soon. Invite the seniors. I also heard Mock Rock feedback and how few people participated. Kevin and I want to do a off-campus barn dance.
- P. Bailey: I also want to move Mock Rock back to where it was. Wristbands came in. We also have a new Pirates Reward app. You can win prizes. First 70 students in spirit gear get free Buffalo Wild Wings.
- Q. Justin: We will be giving committee assignments tomorrow. Also, everyone needs to sign up for a homecoming committee.
- X. Half naked man playing the saxophone comes in
- XI. Adjourn - 6:33PM