

ASWU Minutes

2/27/2013

1. Call to order: Molly
 - Guests, you guys are more than welcome to speak up in this meeting and we would love to hear what you have to say!
2. Mission Statement: Tyler Jezierski
 - Kevin: This has been lived out this week with the UNITE sweatshirts
 - Faith: Last week when we did the survey.
3. Minutes: motion to approve, second, approved!
4. Guests:
 - Troy (represent SAC), Eli (check it out), Sammi (to watch), Trevor (checking it out), Erica (Ballard), Segan, Jonathan, Emily Taylor, Alex, Cory, Matthew, Kasey, Tyler, Joel, August (CDA in Warren), Clint, Michael (global servants, Kevin, Sergio, Remi, Joel (security), Evan (Whitworthian), John, Casey, Curtis, Katie, Meredith (RD)
5. Global Servants for Christ, Michael Butler
 - It has been a really exciting year. We've been regularly hosting missionaries on campus. This coming spring were hoping to put a Missions Week on in the second week of March. This has grown out of the Missions Fair which was only two days before. We have been praying and talking a lot about starting a college ministry for this local area of Spokane. Over the past semester we've been talking to local pastors and students about a cross-church effort.
 - Ian: Is there anything that ASWU can do for you to help you plan or execute your missions week?
 - Michael: We would love to have RAs help by hosting primetimes. I know there were a number of e-mails sent out to some RAs already.
 - Maggie: If you have specific dates, could you get those to senators?
 - Michael: Yeah, sure!
 - Molly: How many people are in your club currently?
 - Michael: At least a dozen to fifteen people.
6. Star Award:
 - Maggie: She threw the big dance that happened in Cornerstone and that was fabulous! There hasn't been a sign outside of Cornerstone and Maggie was like what the heck! So she rocked it out and now Cornerstone will have a sign in front of it! You laid down the law and you got things done!
 - Pam: You have been like a secret agent. She has been doing so much work and it isn't always seen. She does all of the yearbook stuff and she rocked out senior

photos. It's a much larger quantity and work this year and you've been doing great! You get the secret agent Pam badge!

7. Guest Speaker, Brian Benzel:

- Tuition: This is the time of year when we are framing our budget for the next fiscal year, and tuition is a major part of our revenue picture going forward. We have had a 4.85% increase in tuition and fees for next year. This is almost 2% less of an increase than a year ago. We're also putting a big increase to financial aid. We know that returning students don't have adjusted financial aid usually, but we encourage students to sit down with the financial aid staff to review your unique situation with them. You may then wonder what all of this new money will be used for. There is a relatively modest increase in the amount of new funds for next year. We're trying to improve the academic experience. The biggest increase area other than financial aid is the decision to higher six new faculty members for next year. One in the school of education for the gifted education chair. Five other positions are funded from the operating budget. Two of those are in health science, and the other three are in the school of global commerce and supporting continuing studies. Two will be in accounting and one in finance. We also have a fairly active student led investment club that will be investing into the endowment. Students will be expected to have medical insurance and it will be billed through the university plan unless a waiver is presented saying that you have medical insurance through somewhere else. This year we backed away from the requirement for medical insurance, but we now know what the limits are and we know more about what is in play going forward. Beginning Jan. 1st 2014 will be the first time that all Americans are expected to carry medical insurance. We are electing to address this issue at the beginning of August when our plan would take effect. That premium is substantially higher than it has been in the past, but it is substantially lower than most students would be able to acquire elsewhere.
- Ian: If we have presented that we have insurance elsewhere before, do we have to redo that?
- Brian: It will be in your packet.
- Ashton: What does the health insurance from Whitworth cover?
- Brian: Our old plan was frankly not a very good plan. This new plan is like an 80% coverage with a 20% copay.
- Seth: So with that billing e-packet, will there be a section that says to prove this?
- Brian: We're not trying to trick anyone with this. We don't get anything out of it, we're providing a service that is a more affordable plan than many people may otherwise be able to get.
- Sergio: Will students be able to get this information prior to the next academic year?

- Brian: It will probably up in June at the latest. We'll probably do some kind of a notice and then it will go on our webpage and it will go out in the packet in June.
- Sammi: Does financial aid go to cover the fee for those who might not be able to pay this?
- Brian: I think it's in the mix, but it's not necessarily an approved expense for the university. This would be able to put into the payment plan. It is an annual enrollment for the whole year. We have modestly increased the ASWU fee. We've done this every year. Modest increases every year beats having to do a big increase after a few years.
- Nick: What is the increase in the room rate and meal plan?
- Brian: Both of those increase the addition in costs for operation. This is driven primarily by the cost of food and getting things delivered. This also includes modest pay raises and benefit increases that barely cover the rate of inflation. The residence hall fees are something we look at very closely. We're providing a very rich set of programs in the residence halls that isn't offered in an apartment, so that costs money. We should be in the low 2,300s for next year. This is where we will target stabilizing our enrollment. That puts extraordinarily financial pressure on us, because the increase in students helps us with costs every year. The parking Task Force is charged by our facilities director. We've been evaluating how to apportion the parking that we have on campus. We have more than enough parking available on campus for the amount of cars that are here except for temporary shortages. The problem that we have is that most people want to park at the front door of the building that they want to go to. We are working to be a walking campus and move parking to the periphery. We are trying to have dedicated parking for the West and East sides of parking, along with off-campus students and faculty and staff. Chris and Matthew will be willing to come back to go through the plan in detail. Blaine and Jonny have been part of the bookstore task force. We're very close to a recommendation that will move forwards probably in the next two weeks. This is an effort to take the store and basically operate more efficiently and turn it into a revenue producer for the university. So basically when you're using the campus store in the future you will be helping to keep tuitions a little bit lower. This is the URL for the solar production that is taking place on the roof of the aquatic center. We're buying less power from AVISTA because we're generating solar power passively. It will be enough power to operate Stewart Hall for example. We've made a unique partnership with donors to do this. You won't see the panels, but they are there. We've generated enough electricity to offset 94 gallons of gasoline or 21 trees so far.
- Aaron: Does the university plan to add more?
- Brian: There is a possibility to put some on the HUB. Some of our roofs aren't good for this because of the trees.

- Brian: The HUB expansion is complete with the exception of the work that remains in the catering space. We're relocating Sodexo offices and creating offices for a number of Sodexo staff. The Sumner Room is being designated for special dining and meetings. This is named in honor of the first city of our location founding in 1890. It will be a bit more restricted space in terms of use for campus guests and visitors. The campus recreation facility began construction in September. We anticipate a soft opening in July. Todd Sandburg is going to be the director. We're hoping to have an expansion of student employment to the new rec center. It's on target.
- Ian: Do we have a name for it yet?
- Brian: No, I'm still open to suggestions. We'll have to come up with something before too long.
- Alex: How was the HUB expansion funded?
- Brian: A 19 million dollar bond issue. Included in that was a steam line replacement, the HUB expansion, the rec center, the track resurfacing, and we're going to have a little bit of money to start a new project. We've essentially taken out a mortgage of the campus to get the money upfront. That was on top of a bond issue that we did in 2009 that funded East Hall and Robinson.
- Ian: Some of that money could go towards redoing some things in the dorm communities, like adding in the water bottle stations.
- Brian: Probably not that money, but there has been a walk-through of all the residence halls to think about upgrades. Some of the things are about the look and feel, others are way more jazzy. Things like putting new sealant on the bricks. We have money set aside to do those things, and we've been off schedule on those things for the last couple of years. We're putting together a plan for those types of adjustments. Right now our track is pretty much unusable. It'll be a first class upgrade, the budget is about a million dollars to do that project. Some of you may have received leaflets in the past few weeks. We take our responsibility to pay bills very seriously. Occasionally groups are in a dispute with some folks over their payment procedures. One of the contractors has sub-contractors that are in this dispute. We have validated that the rates of pay is at very market rates. Many of the rates don't presume that people can work 2,080 hours. The hourly rate is higher because people might not get a whole 2,080 hours in. We are comfortable that these disputes are issues that we can't control, but we recognize that they go on. We haven't had any calls at least through today with regard to this, it's just part of the world we live in. We understand it and we respect it, but we don't like getting called names. (pictures of rec center shown on slideshow).
- Larissa: Is there any way that there will be guest passes?
- Brian: I think Todd is working on protocol for that.
- Tyler: What about solar panels?

- Brian: That is a possibility. We didn't program that into this. The solar installation is very expensive and isn't worth it given the low price of hydropower in the northwest. We're only paying about 15% of the cost of the solar power, and the donor is paying the rest as an income tax offset for him. We're getting a very good deal on this and a thirty year energy production facility that will pay us back in about nine years.
- Marisol: Who will have access to having meetings in the Sumner Room and when will that be in place?
- Brian: That will be done over the summer. We're still developing the protocols, but it is primarily for faculty and staff as a tool to care for guests and fundraising. For example, Beck recently had a person who we didn't want to take to Twigs or somewhere off campus, and there was really no place for him to have that kind of meeting where we can show off what is going on here in the HUB.
- Dick: We also discussed it being used for search committees.
- Marisol: When that does come into effect, are there going to be specific guidelines about what can and can't be posted in the HUB?
- Brian: No, I'm not aware of any discussion like that.
- Sergio: What are the potential hours for the rec center?
- Brian: I think pretty much all day. Early in the morning into the evening, probably 11:00. We're going to try to stretch it for as many hours as we can.
- Trevor: How will the rec center work with alumni?
- Brian: It won't be available to alumni. It will only be for faculty, students, and staff. Not to say that there won't ever be a change in that. Once we know more about what it takes... For example, it's possible to let someone come in and use it if they will pay. This was a student generated idea out of ASWU about five years ago. This is very much intended to be a student accessible facility.
- Seth: My only concern for the overflow room, is that overflow room completely unnecessary now because of the HUB expansion?
- Brian: So far I think we've been good, and when we stabilize enrollment I think we'll be okay for that.
- Dick: We've expanded the space by 40%.
- Brian: As we work with Sodexo, when we're going off campus to do dining that they could provide, that is another pressure point on them raising rates that affect students. I often have challenging questions from department chairs who want to get their food from somewhere off campus and we tell them that they have to cater through Sodexo. It may seem like a small thing, but when you look at everything it is a big part of what keeps our rates as affordable as they are.
- Maggie: How dependent is Whitworth's income on student tuition?
- Brian: Probably in the 75-80%. If you include room and board it gets up to 85-90%. We have an endowment and a few grants and some auxiliary revenues.

- Alex: Have seniors been paying for something that they won't be able to use?
- Brian: The HUB expansion has been in use all year. Your point is a good one, it's maybe not as significant, but it is a good point. I understand the implementation types of issues, but we're trying to prove this facility for its intended audience.

8. Coordinator vibes/reports:

- Faith: I'm starting to go forward with the idea of making ASWU t-shirts. I have some very rough draft designs.
- Larissa: How are we paying for it?
- Faith: I don't know yet, but it won't be more than \$10 per person.
- Tyler: Intramurals are rolling, I won't be here next week. I'll be at a conference in Las Vegas.
- Jonny: The women's team plays in Georgia on Friday at 3:30 our time and it will be streaming in the dining hall. The men's team is playing here on Saturday at 7:00.
- Nick: Last Sunday Mac had a steak night and it was great. We talked about our CBS policy and decided to stick with the "manarchy" theme.
- Maggie: Cornerstone is revisiting their CBS policy.
- Larissa: Duvall and East are really good.
- Chelsea: Tomorrow night we are revisiting our CBS policies.
- Marisol: On the 11th Caz will be in the dining hall at 5:00. A magician is coming in the 15th as well.
- Ryan: We're going to have an off campus night at McClain's. We're probably going to do 50% of food. We will have the date tomorrow.
- Seth: The environmentally studies minor has passed for approval. I won't be here for voting, so Aaron will be voting for me since he's off campus.
- Aaron: We're giving a way two tickets if people submit a t-shirt design and send it to the radio. The designs are due by March 7th and the show is March 15th.
- Tyler: Boppell isn't going to have any new CBS rules. If anyone has any coffeehouse suggestions that would be good. I want to make it pretty big this time.
- Blaine: Tyler looks like he has the Ironman armor under his shirt.
- Mackenzie: East had their CBS policy last week and nothing changed. Primetimes aren't really working in East, so they're trying to figure out how to do that differently.
- Jonny Strain: In the works of getting a spoken word poet to come in spring.
- Ian: Warren isn't changing any CBS policies for the spring. April 24th is going to be Warren Peace.
- Samantha: If you have any March events, the calendar is going up tomorrow afternoon. Next week is national eating disorder week.

- Ashton: The TV is working really well. On Friday night there were a lot of people in there from other dorms. This Friday we're having the pod parties in Duvall from 8:00-10:00.

9. Requisition:

- Jonny Whitmore, playoff basketball game
- I am prepared to spend \$2,000 if I need to on tickets. If we win this game there is a good possibility we will have a second home game, and if we win that game there is a good chance that we will have a third home game. We're going ahead and buying 500 tickets for the first game. If we get another home game we are going to try to get 750 for the next game and 1,000 for the next game. I'm trying to protect my budget a little in case we have another home game. I'll be paying \$500 out of my budget initially. If we don't win this game, I'm willing to give the \$500 back to ASWU.
- Ian: How many students can fit on the student side?
- Jonny: About \$1,800 students.
- Mackenzie: Who gets the money from the tickets?
- Jonny: The NCAA.
- (Jonny leaves the meeting for discussion)
- Matt: I don't have an official number for unallocated, but it's at about \$3,500. Jonny is asking for \$500, any thoughts?
- Maggie: I think this is a no brainer.
- Blaine: Maggie is an imposter.
- Larissa: We've given more than \$5 per student.
- Motion, second, approved.
- Blaine: Jonny, you should have told us what basketball was!

10. EVP

- Applications are to be completed on or before March 15th for coordinators, March 22nd for elected officials and media positions. I have an informational meeting coming up on the 4th at 9:30. It will be in here, but it is considered mandatory for everyone applying for an elected position. When you guys are filling out your timecards, please please please please please make sure that your hours are correct. Next GE 330 is going to be a large group meeting in Robinson Teaching Theatre. There is going to be a guy speaking on hate speech.

11. President

- Caleb asked that if you could stay tonight to help with chairs that would be awesome. Last week we did the temperature survey and this following week we will do follow up with that.
- Matt: Starting in August the post office won't be getting any packages on Saturday, so if we could get a vibe about that it would be good. They want to know what time during the week would be good, just general feedback.

- Molly: Please be proactive about committees and that would be fabulous.
Anything else for the good of the order?
- Aaron: Triathlon sign-ups are still going on.
- Motion to adjourn, second, approved.