



WASHINGTON STUDENT LOBBY
STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
120 Union Avenue, Suite 207
Olympia, WA 98501

Meeting Minutes

Saturday, April 12, 2008

MAT 352, University of Washington, Tacoma
1900 Commerce Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

I. McKibben called the meeting to order at 12:40.

II. Roll call, introductions, and welcome

Attendees included:

*Katie Underwood, ASCWU

Mike Bogatay, ASCWU (VP of Finance)

Andrea Wooster, ASWSUV

Andrew McNeely, ASUWT

*Ray Shepherd, UWT

*Paul Lenze, WSU GPSA

Steve Lindstrom, WSL (Advisor)

Sarah Ishmael, ASWWU (VP of
Recruitment and Retention)

*Brianna Wood, ASBCC (VP of
Legislative Affairs)

Bryce McKibben, ASUW (President)

Marcus Sweetser, ASBCC

* indicates a voting member

A quorum was present.

Brett Horvath, Your Revolution

Matt Kreiling, WSL (Administrator)

Sarah Reyneveld, UW GPSS

*Yutake Jono, UW GPSS

Whitney Jones, ASEWU

Jake Stillwell, ASCWU (VP of
Communications)

*Ashley Elliott, ASEWU

Courtney Taylor, ASWWU

Morgan Holmgren, ASWWU

*Erik Lowe, ASWWU

Logan Bahr, ASCWU

III. Additions and changes to the agenda

Lowe motioned to approve the agenda, Wood seconded. No objections, agenda passed.

IV. Approval of minutes

A. Board of Directors, March 8, 2008

- Wood motioned to reflect her title in the minutes.

- Kreiling said to edit information on his work at the TESC: "he had engaged in a goodfaith effort to collect enough signatures to put a measure on the ballot."

Lenze motioned to approve the minutes, Elliott seconded. No objections. Minutes approved.

V. Reports

A. End-of-Session Legislative report

- Wood discussed the childcare policy reform bill, House Bill 2582, which was signed into law by the Governor on March 26; Governor Gregoire vetoed all additional funds for childcare in the budget. Kreiling added that next session there will be a better chance of securing that funding. He noted that the legislature was very supportive of the policy bill and the funding increases which will add credibility to the effort for next year.

- Wood discussed Concurrent Resolution 4408, adopting the HECB strategic master plan, which was signed into law.
- Senate Bill 6328, the campus safety bill passed and was signed into law. The \$147 thousand funding for mental health counselors was vetoed by the Governor because she does not believe mental health is an appropriate avenue for addressing campus safety needs at this time. Ishmael said that students need to be involved in advocating for mental health counselors from the very beginning of legislative discussions on campus safety. Lowe said that these vetoes offer an opportunity for student leaders to work with administrators on these issues. Stillwell added that the campus safety survey in SB 6328 offers a great opportunity for students to include mental health in a comprehensive university security study.
- HB 2783, the transfer and articulation bill, was vetoed by the Governor because she believes that the work in the bill is already being conducted in P-20 committed and that this policy initiative is unnecessary.

B. Officer reports

1. Communications update

Stillwell said he was catching up on his work on the website regarding press releases and media hits. He advised members to talk with their school papers about the WSL during the new quarter. Lowe said that he believed that the WSL press release following the Governor's vetoes was too antagonistic; Reyneveld responded that she didn't think that it was antagonistic and is appreciative of the release's message. Lowe clarified that he was concerned with the front page of the website, not the press release. Stillwell noted that by being critical when students face a legislative disappointment, the WSL is actually strengthening credibility. Ishmael added that she believes a balance between politeness and criticism should be reached in situations like this. Lindstrom said that the messaging of the WSL's response was consistent and appropriate.

2. Finance update

Bogatay met with Tim Bingaman, the USSA Alumni Relations Director about developing a model for a new foundation. He believes that the most effective way to build a foundation is to reach out to WSL alumni. He also met with Tamara Henderson, the Oregon Student Association Executive Director, who discussed the structure of the OSA foundation and what it is primarily used for. He discussed the establishment of a development committee which would search for board members. Sasha Sleiman met with him about assisting in the development of the foundation board.

Kreiling said that there are no longer any accounts receivable because CWU has paid its due of \$2,250.00 and the WSU administration has said it will pay the \$29,172.94 collected over the past few years in the WSL's name.

McKibben said that Bogatay should have an accurate and up-to-date board expenditure report by the May meeting.

3. Recruitment and Retention update

Ishmael said that she is working on solidifying the VP position and its duties. She is working on a recruitment and retention plan focusing on specific strategic campuses. She emphasized the work being done by Kreiling with The Evergreen State College. Ishmael is working on a recruitment and retention packet that includes information about the WSL, on-going projects, best practices for developing campus chapters and a general agreement for new members. She will be the conduit for communication between the member school student governments and the WSL executive board.

4. Administrator report

- Kreiling said he has met with Paul Francis who wants to meet with WSL members about legislation coming up in the next session. Specifically, he wants to discuss textbook legislation. He updated that Cindy Morana of the Council of Presidents has invited WSL members to attend a Joint Access Oversight Group meeting on

June 25 at WWU. At the previous HEBC meeting, the JAOG report on transfer policy was discussed and lacked direction. Kreiling advised that the WSL lend some policy ideas to the group regarding transferring. He was invited to attend an Adult Work Group, which was convened by the Workforce Board. He met with ASEWU president, Evan Buelt, about encouraging middle and high school students to follow paths in STEM fields. This effort has made inroads with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

The Evergreen State College has been working with Kreiling to re-build a working relationship between the Geoduck Union and the WSL. They have instigated an initiative to establish a lobbying fee for a more proactive student government. He is optimistic that by the end of the month, TESC has a \$2 waivable fee for WSL membership along with a legislative liaison. Bogatay asked about the possibility of an Op Ed in the Cooper Point Journal discussing WSL benefits for member schools.

Rachel Ackoff from the USSA is coming to Washington to strengthen the USSA's relationship with college campuses in this state. The USSA SSA staff training will need to be paid for by the WSL this year. This training will be important, especially with the grassroots organizing work the WSL hopes to be doing. The second issue of the WSL newsletter is being worked on. There will be a section devoted to letting students know what is happening on other campuses in terms of lobbying, student government and electoral work. Additionally, he asked for as many email addresses as possible for the WSL Google group.

5. Advisor report

- Lindstrom said that he believes it was successful session and the WSL worked as hard as possible on the top issues. He said that holding down tuition increases will be the top issue next year and lobbying to not have the 7% tuition cap become the normal increase. Additionally, he said that the JAOG needs more student input, especially on the transfer and articulation policy. Networking with higher education legislators and leadership regarding the Governor's vetoes will help us on our issue for next session; the Governor miscommunicated with them as well as the WSL. He reminded the board that the members need to start thinking about students for next year.

VI. Public Forum

A. Brett Horvath, Director, Your Revolution, Inc.: Future of the student movement: Online voter registration, organizing, and collaboration with Facebook

- Horvath said that he believes that the WSL and Your Revolution has very similar end goals, the means of which complement each other. YR has been teaching student leaders best practices for organizing and advocacy work, specifically for elections and registering to vote. He was very impressed with the WSL strategic plan. The Facebook application will be released next week. It is a 3-step process: register your friends online, discover which of your friends are registered and which are not, and ask them to get involved through civic groups. This application allows for a massive civic organizing drive to be done through a few simple steps on Facebook. YR leadership built a project management system through Facebook to help organize a civic program. The FriendsVote competition will be from April 22 - May 5. This will be where schools from Washington and Arizona will be competing to get as many students as possible to register to vote. The winning schools and student groups will win grants of over \$30 thousand. A participating school or student group must start a group through the Facebook application. McKibben asked if WSL campus chapters would be eligible to participate; Horvath said yes they would.

VII. Lunch break

VIII. New Business

A. Action plan review and approval

- Ishmael noted that there will be opportunities for board members to serve on committees tasked with implementing specific goals of the plan. McKibben further clarified that whenever "board of directors" is listed as member of the implementation team, it provides for the option to establish a committee.

- GPSA, the name “WSL” should not be changed because the organization has been known as that for so long. Stillwell and Ishmael both noted that the Washington Student “Lobby” does not appropriately reflect the work being done by the organization.

Stillwell further noted that changing the name would provide an opportunity to educate the state about the organization and our new mission and vision. Lindstrom added that it is important to not change the name until the organization has reached some of its expansion goals.

- Elliott pointed out that “mission” and “vision” were in different order from the front page to the inside page.

- Reyneveld motioned to adopt the strategic action plan, Lowe seconded. No objection.

The Strategic Action Plan was adopted.

B. 1.006- A Resolution to Award to WSL Legislator of the Year 2008

- Wood, prime sponsor, read and introduced the bill. She said that it was now the responsibility of the board to award a Senator and Representative the WSL Legislator of the Year. McKibben pointed out that traditionally the liaisons give their input, however the final decision is for the voting board members.

Wood read off the nominees informally voted on by the liaisons, and discussed why they were nominated: Representatives Wallace, Hauge and Roberts; Senators Shinn, Prentice and Kilmer. A discussion over the various nominees ensued.

Elliott motioned to amend the resolution to reflect the board vote, showing Representative Wallace and Senator Kilmer as legislators of the year, Wood seconded.

No objections

Reyneveld motioned to approve the resolution as amended, Lenze seconded. No objections. **Legislators of the Year adopted: Representative Wallace and Senator Kilmer.**

C. Recommendation of 2008-2009 Budget to the General Assembly.

- Kreiling suggested included expenses for student lobbyist training and support. He said \$700 would be a good amount for those costs. He mentioned working towards a balancing the budget with a surplus reserve fund. Bogatay expressed concerns about estimating the future liaison costs due to the WSL’s rapidly increasing membership. Lowe inquired about the fee campaign at the UW. McKibben responded that the signature gathering campaign was not successful; however, there is a large lobbying slush fund available to provide for WSL dues. There is work to begin the signature gathering campaign earlier in the fall and get the provision on the ballot next year. Lowe expressed his commitment to help ASUW in that effort.

Paul motioned to change “lobbyist” to “advisor” in the budget, Lowe seconded. Bogatay objected. Bogatay asked if this was an attempt to limit the advisor’s job; Lowe responded that in his opinion it is the advisor’s job to act more as a guidance and less of a proactive advocate of the organization. He clarified that he does not want to change the advisors job description, only produce a more accurate reflection of what an advisor does in the budget. Ishmael pointed out that this is only an attempt to keep WSL documents consistent. Paul suggested putting both “advisor” and “lobbyist” in WSL documents because that would be the best reflection of what the advisor does. Bogatay motioned to amend the amendment to “advisor/lobbyist,” Elliot seconded. No objections.

Amendment adopted. GPSA motioned to close debate. Yea- unanimous; Nay- 0.

Amendment adopted.

Lowe said that instead of discussing funding increases, the surplus should go into a reserve fund. Paul moved to close debate, no second. Motion failed. Paul moved to include a package amendment including a “liaison training and support” line item of \$700, move budget balance into a reserve, and \$500 line item for USSA SSA staff training in the summer into the budget, GPSS seconded. Lowe objected. Lowe said that office supply funding should be exhausted first and that additional spending is currently inappropriate. Kreiling said that the additional money would come from the board of directors training and office expenses, leaving

\$812 in the budget balance. Bogatay pointed out that with more liaisons, more money will need to go towards the training and support and that the USSA paid for staff training last year so this year it is on the WSL to provide the funds. McNeely said the training funds go towards very important programs during the opening week of session. He added that when working long days, it is very helpful to have food in the office. Ishmael clarified that the lunches were more for taking out higher education stakeholders to eat and learn from them. McKibben stepped down as board chair and yielded to wood to express that the ASUW views the increase in funded as an investment. GPSA motioned to table, Lowe seconded. McKibben objected. McKibben said giving the General Assembly a working document would not be efficient or effective. Lowe said that he wants to ensure that the board is being financially responsible and believes that investments should be made in other materials. Bogatay called to question the motion to include the three-part amendment.

Bogatay requested a roll-call vote on the three-part amendment:

ASUWT: Yea

ASBCC: Yea

ASEWU: Yea

ASWWU: Nay

WSU GPSA: Yea

ASCWU: Yea

ASWSUV: Yea

Amendment passed.

Paul, motioned to vote on the budget, Elliot seconded. No objections. **Budget recommendation approved.**

D. Endorsement for HECB student member

- Lenze motioned to table the discussion until more information is known about the candidates, Lowe seconded. Bogatay objected. Motion to table: yea- 2; nay 4. Motion failed. Kreiling said that only Sasha Sleiman has provided information to the board.

McNeely pointed out that in the previous meeting the board voted to table the discussion until more info. Bogatay motioned to endorse Sasha Sleiman, Lenze seconded. No objection. **Sasha Sleiman was endorsed by the WSL for the student position on the HECB.**

IX. Issue Roundtable and Association Reports

ASEWU: Elections being held in early May; voter registration in May; college civics week with Sec. of State Sam Reed coming up; looking into rental program and digital readers for book downloads.

ASWWU: The Associated Students are hosting college civics weeks, Sam Reed is coming this week; Ishmael is leading the Yes We can Leadership program; March 26 and 27 there will be an EAT training; elections April 28-may 2; disability awareness week this week; they are working on next years legislative agenda and childcare for next year.

ASUWT: Sam reed is coming on Monday, in the middle of elections; currently taking applications for legislative liaison for next year.

WSU GPSA: Mom's Weekend in Pullman, Elton John coming; Sec. of State Sam Reed coming later as well for College Civics Week.

ASWSUV: Elections, Peter and Andrea elected as Pres, VP; hosted Senator Cantwell at an on-campus event, working on textbook.

ASCWU: Register error with no WSL donations; student government elections taking place right now, a ballot initiative to increase ASCWU funding for WSL; Sec. of State Sam Reed coming to Central next week.

ASUW: Attended USSA Legislative Conference in D.C. and met with staff from almost every district and both Senators; USSA letter of commitment to civic engagement to hopefully be signed by UW President Mark Emert; AS elections not until late May; USSA Electoral Action Training next weekend.
ASBCC: College Civics Week has an event every day, Sec. of State, several legislators to be in attendance; elections will be concluded by the General Assembly, S and A funds secured for next year.

X. Announcements

Wood motioned to open WSL officer nominations for the next academic year, Lowe seconded. No objections. Nominations opened.

- Ishmael nominated Wood for VP of Legislative Affairs, she accepted.
- McKibben nominated Stillwell for President, he accepted.
- McNeely nominated Ishmael for VP of Recruitment and Retention, she accepted.
- Bogatay nominated Bahr for VP of Communications, he accepted.

McKibben was awarded a Truman Scholarship and is required to be in Missouri on the May 17. Lowe motioned to move the May meeting to the 10th, Bogatay seconded. No objections. Date changed.

A. May 10, 2008 at CWU, Ellensburg, WA

1. 11:00am Board of Directors
2. 12:30pm General Assembly

B. June 14, 2008, 11:00am at EWU, Cheney, WA

Bogatay requested estimates from the member schools about how many students they will be bringing to the General Assembly.

XI. Adjournment

McKibben adjourned the meeting at 4:20pm.