

MEETING MINUTES
WSL State Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday January 31, 2009 12:00pm
Meeting Room A, B, & C – John A. Cherberg Building
416 Sid Snyder Ave SW, Olympia, WA 98504

I. Call to Order – 12:03

II. Roll Call, Introductions, and Welcome

Ashley Elliot EWU	Andrew Helm GPSA
Whitney Jones EWU	Dave Iseminger GPSS
Matthew Holmes EWU	Kayla Simons GPSA
Morgan Holmgren WWU	Amanda Alva BCC
Jake Stillwell CWU	Brianne Wood BCC
Logan Bahr CWU	Vanessa Pantley BCC
Derrick Peacock CWU	Shawn Hoey WSU
Richard Lum UW	Josie Jarvis - TESC
Anttimo Bennet UW	Sommer Knight WSU – Vancouver
Jean-Paul Willynck UW-T	Jim Blair UW – Tacoma
Sergey Smirnov	Steve Lindstrom WSL
Archita Taylor UW	Mike Bogatay WSL

III. Additions and Changes to the Agenda

IV. Approval of Minutes

- a. Board of Directors, November 8th, 2008
- b. General Assembly, November 8th, 2008
- c. Board of Directors, December 6th, 2008

V. Reports

a. Officer Reports

President- Conference call with USSA regarding the benefits that the economic stimulus package will contain for students. USSA and US PIRG penned a letter to Congressional leadership thanking them and advocating the passage of the economic stimulus package. A job well done for the WSL team in Olympia for this week's presentation/testimony on student debt and financial aid.

VP of Leg Affairs- Working on WSL Lobby Day, Feb. 16th, and scheduling meetings with legislators. Many organizations are having their lobby day which has made scheduling meetings difficult. There will be a lobby day lunch where many legislators have been invited to. Also the next day, Feb. 17th, is Higher Ed Day at the Capitol. A half hour meeting may be scheduled to develop an understanding of the WSL's legislative agenda.

VP of Finance- The budget is lacking a bit from the missing dues. Training went over budget a bit but those losses will be recouped from individual payments from attendants.

VP Recruitment and Retention- Central Seattle CC is interested in becoming a member. Clark College may also be interested in becoming a WSL Member. Clark is also a potential pilot college for the student trustee.

VP Comm- Been working in Olympia as legislative liaison and have been coordinating with the other members of the Executive Committee.

b. Staff Reports

ED- Bought some new computers and a printer. The HECB student member has announced an early resignation and a strong student is needed to fill the spot. The HECB supports the current tuition caps. A search committee should be set up that will publicize the opening. Training went well and the student trustee bill are ready to be shopped around. The WSL has gotten a free LobbyGov account because a WSL alum created it.

Advisor- Now's the time of session where leadership is pressuring the policy committees to quickly get their bills out; before the first cutoff. Liaison training went well but would've been much better if everyone could've made it but conflicting schedules are understandable. The liaisons and the corresponding student governments are doing a wonderful job; everything is running relatively smoothly. Graduated tuition is a problem and there have been murmurings about its institution. We must be cognizant of all the activities that are going to affect us.

VI. Legislative Report

a. WSL Legislative Agenda Items

Tuition- Highest priority, we have much support for keeping the 7%,

Tuition setting authority- HB 1235 – Would give Boards the authority to raise tuition.

Financial aid- The decrease in fin aid is a constant talking point.

Student Fees- Two parts: student fees aren't subject to restrictions on state money and I-960 doesn't apply to student fees. It's a simple clarification with no real opposition.

CC Student Trustee- There are six comm. colleges that are willing to host a pilot program. We have prime sponsors in both chambers.

Hate Crimes- Sen. Murray really took the torch, had language drafted and Sen. McDermott is the sponsor. The bill has not yet been dropped. The struggle is the Judiciary committee.

Academic GPS- The actual GPS program isn't getting much traction because of the fiscal not but a bill to convene a workgroup for the HECB that will create a over arching portal for state higher ed info is getting support.

b. Bills of Interest / Watch Items

HB 1130- HECB Portal Workgroup
HB 1235- Extending local tuition setting authority
HB 1466- Regarding WSL fees
SSB 5043- HECB Portal Workgroup
HB 1025- ISBN Disclosure Policy
SSB 5044- High Demand Work-Study
SB 5174- Incentivize 4 Year Graduation
HB 1428- Field of Dreams Program

SB 5175- Changing Washington "Promise" Scholarship
SB 5237- Three Year Baccalaureate Program
SHB 1841- Faculty Trustee
HB 1949- Community College Trustees
SHB 2021- Revitalizing Financial Aid
HB 2098- Single Need Based Aid
HB 2118- Advisory Committee on Tuition
SB 5776- Student Fees
SB 5864- UW North

VII. Issue Roundtable & School Reports

a. Issue Roundtable-

Work study- Are we going to take a stance on the bill changing work study policy to favor resident students? General consensus is that it wouldn't be a fruitful bill to take a position on, given the current legislative situation and our other duties.

Faculty Trustee- Should we support the creation of a faculty trustee? There are a lot of concerns about how this bill is written. The students hold a special position in higher education. General consensus is that this is not an issue that we will take a position on this year. The hearing for this bill is Tuesday.

b. School Reports

BCC-Open forum around the budget cuts. Used that as an opportunity to increase student interest and involvement. Keeping their eyes on the bill relating to Bellevue College.

WWU- Western's admin is seeking local tuition setting authority and the removal of the tuition cap. Also, they've cancelled their football team.

UW GPSS- Free speech ordeal continuing. There will be a two-tiered health insurance plan for undergrads and grads. The WSL dues have been a problem due to the lack of foresight of predecessors. The check box system is being worked on currently.

UW- Lobby day was incredibly successful. The leg office has a new research assistant. The Daily issue is working its way through the Student Senate. The administration is asking for an apology but not a resignation.

UW T- Dues are paid. Doing a letter/email drive for students to voice their concerns about the budget and tuition increases. Developing new Senate by-laws. Forums on budget situation.

CWU-Dues will be paid soon. Some students are meeting with Congressional Rep. Doc Hastings to present their vote work this year.

WSU- If the student fees bill goes through hopefully the dues will be paid up. Lobby day is the 16th.

WSU GPS- Will probably be able to pay dues soon. Will also step up efforts to get students

WSU V- Problems with student media and student government. Discussing the institution of a non disclosure agreement.

TESC- The police have requested funds to prepare themselves for a campus shooter situation. Forums have been setup for students voice their concern. The passage of the student fee bill is instrumental in Evergreen's ability to pay their dues.

EWU- An interim President is in office. Lobby day is Feb the 23rd. WSL and USSA's fees are going to added as a check box on online registration. A budget forum was also held with a good turnout.

VIII. Presentations and Public Testimony

IX. Announcements

a. Future Meetings

- i. February 21st, 2009, 12:00pm Washington State Capital
- ii. March 14th, 2009, 12:00pm Washington State Capital

b. March 21-24, 2009 United States Student Association Legislative Conference, Washington D.C. More Information can be found at www.ussaconferences.org.

X. Adjournment – 3:25