



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: April 1, 2025

Time: 11:00AM

Location: University YMCA Student Center, Rm 304

Virtual: youtube.com/@ASUWT

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Wetzel calls the meeting to order at 11:04PM.

II. ROLL CALL

- ASUWT President Holly Wetzel Present
- ASUWT Vice President Moira Kelley Absent/Excused
- Director of Internal Affairs Norah Duncan Absent/Excused
- Director of Outreach Merriah Kubista Present
- Director of Legislative Affairs Ben Brown Present
- Director of Finance Alicia Whitten Present
- Director of Student Technology Susan Palmer Present

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Brown motions to approve the agenda; Director Whitten seconds.

4-0-0, motion passes

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes to approve.

V. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

President Wetzel welcomes all members of the public present at the meeting.

2 members of the public, identifying themselves as ASUWT Advisors Conor Leary and Buddy Molina.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There is no unfinished business.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Director of Legislative Affairs Ben Brown gave the legislative updates to the board. He informed them that the Washington State House of Representatives has major cuts in the budget proposal. Alternately, Senate has proposed several new taxes to create revenue that are not equitable. He testified in to the Senate Ways and Means committee last week with President Wetzel and Legislative Liaison Ashley Ramirez regarding a bill that would allow state higher education institutions to increase tuition by 5% for Washington resident students as well as remove the cap from out-of-state and international tuition. It would also make a significant reduction of the Washington College Grant. out-of-state and international tuition rates are very high as it is because they are not subsidized by the state like in-state tuition.

Even with that, all 3 campuses would need to make large cuts to financial aid programs and possible loss of departments. If this happens, UWT is considering closing the Urban Studies department, the Politics, Philosophy, and Public Affairs program and the Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies program of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (IAS) and other lower enrollment majors. STEM subjects and Business will likely remain with minor cost cutting. He's still waiting to replies from the other campus Directors of Legislative Affairs on what the outlook looks like university-wide.

Washington Student Association has organized a rally in Olympia for Friday 4/4 at 11. am. Transportation is provided from each campus. Attendees will be given a food voucher for Doordash to order lunch. Students are encouraged to go into the Capitol building and speak with legislators afterward.

Director of Outreach Merriah Kubista gave the board her updates for Spring quarter. She reminded the board that there are many events this quarter and they are needed to facilitate then. The sign-up spreadsheet has been updated with more events and information. There are tabs for Involvement Fair, Husky Fest, Block Party, End of the Year Bash.

- Involvement Fair is next week, 4/7 and 4/8 from 11am to 2pm, at William W. Philip Hall.
- Husky Fest is Saturday, 4/19 from 11am to 3pm. The location on the Prairie Line Trail.
- Block Party is also on Prairie Line Trail on Thursday, 5/15, 11am to 4pm. This is an opportunity to meet new students and get them excited about becoming a Husky

Vice President Kelley and Pre-major Senator Husneha Ghafoori are planning and End of the Year Bash.

Director Kubista talked about the new content creation request form she sent to the board and Senate. They can use it to request graphics or social media posts for events, etc.

VIII. DIRECTOR UPDATES

Director Whitten shared that she has submitted the allocations requests to Services and Activities Fee Committee (SAFC) for funding and will report back.

Director Palmer shared that Student Technology Fee Committee (STFC) is wrapping up annual allocations and the draft is out for preliminary review before going to the Office of Planning and Budget (OPB). The committee has agreed to put \$35,000 into the tri-campus Universal Access Fund to pay the UWT share of contracts such as LinkedIn Learning. When the final budget is submitted to OPB, it will be pending this board's approval. It will then go before the Board of Regents on the agenda for their 5/8 meeting.

IX. ADVISOR UPDATES

Advisor Leary shared that along with STFC as Services and Activities Fee Committee (SAFC), the board will be reviewing requests for the New Student Enrollment and Orientation Fee (NSEOF), documents will be sent from OPB on Friday, most likely Cherie Berthon or Sylvia James. This is the preliminary stage. OPB will be coming to speak to the board in the next few weeks about the final numbers from NSEOF.

He also shared that Earth Day is coming up on 4/ 22. There will be a thrift pop up, ice cream, and a pot-a-succulent station on campus.

UWT OSCARs are coming up on 5/02. Deadline for submitting nominations is this Friday 4/04. More info at <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/involvement/oscars>. Voting for Student Choice Awards begins next week. The ceremony doors open at 5:30pm with a 6:00pm start. Ceremony last about an hour. We'll be serving heavy hors d'oeuvres/appetizers and desserts

Elections for student government began yesterday. He reminded the senators to be mindful that if you are not eligible to run next year and you are still a member of student government, that they must be impartial. They cannot endorse individuals on a personal level or an organizational level. For those running in the election and are eligible, then please make sure that none of your ASUWT credentials or profiles

or privileges are used in the process of campaigning. The Election Administrative chair Melissa López-Barbosa is doing a great job. The first event is campaign tabling 4/08 out on Gilmore Plaza. If it rains, we will be postponed until the 4/10 regardless of weather. It'll move up to the patio of the University YMCA Student Center (UWY).

X. CHAIR UPDATES

President Wetzel ceded time to Director Brown. He told the board that our Governor is doing a press brief today at 1:00pm on state revenue. He also shared that Senator Cory Booker from New Jersey is on his 20th hour of a filibuster on the Senate floor. It is not in protest of a bill on the floor. It is a show protest against the cuts that have been made by the Trump administration that are affecting working people within the country. He has spoken about the importance of Medicaid, Social Security, Veteran benefits as well as the Department of Education. Director Brown is hopeful that Booker gets past the 24-hour mark as that will beat the current record for longest filibuster which was against the Civil Rights Act.

President Wetzel gave her updates that there are 73 days left in this ASUWT term. She asked the board to complete their legacy documents as soon as possible to help the incoming administration. She will be very strict in urging the board to complete them and to allow the other members to provide feedback. She would like to have them finished near mid-term. If needed, she will provide an outline for the members to build from. Then, around the first of may, they can take a weekend and go over everything as a board retreat type work session.

She also urged the board members who are graduating to get their applications done soon. She also encouraged them all to walk in the ceremony. She also asked for the board to continue filling out their hourly tracking each week. She reminded them that if they feel the position should have a higher compensation next year to notify Director Whitten so she can update the SAFC allocation request.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Director Palmer motions to adjourn the meeting; sirwhi seconds.

6-0-0, motion passes

President Wetzel adjourns the meeting at 11:36PM.