

SENATE BILL #2018

Title: Changes to ASUW Rules and Procedures Meeting Conduct/Rules

Date: November 6, 2002

Authors: Constitution Committee

Sponsors: Senators Barney, Baugh, Edwards, Fisher, Graf, Jones, and McGriff

1. WHEREAS, the ASUW Constitution Committee should comprehensively
2. review the ASUW Rules and Procedures annually to make changes and
3. suggestions when necessary; and
4. WHEREAS, the ASUW Constitution Committee is committed to
5. comprehensively reviewing the ASUW Rules and Procedures this year; and
6. WHEREAS, the ASUW Constitution Committee deems it necessary to make
7. procedural and substantial changes to the ASUW Rules and Procedures to
8. improve the efficiency, appearance and flow of the ASUW Senate meetings.
9. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Student Senate of the Associated Students
10. of the University of Wyoming that the Rules and Procedures be changed to
11. reflect the ASUW Meeting Conduct/Rules as Article III as outlined in
12. Addendum A; and
13. THEREFORE, be it further enacted by the Student Senate of the Associated
14. Students of the University of Wyoming that the subsequent sections be
15. renumbered appropriately and implemented upon approval by the ASUW
16. Senate.

Referred to: Committee of the Whole

Date of Passage: November 19, 2002

Signed: Lou Reed
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on _____, I do hereby sign my name hereto
and approve this Senate action.” _____

ASUW President

Handwritten signature and date:
VETD
12/2/02

Addendum A

Article III Meeting Conduct /Rules

Section 1: The following shall be the conduct and rules followed for regular ASUW Senate meetings.

- A. All individuals, including senators, executives, advisor, secretary, and guests should be addressed by their formal titles during meetings.
- B. Before speaking, all senators should state, "Thank you Madame/Mister Chair," when given the floor and after final statement.
- C. When yielding the floor to another member of senate, all senators should state, "I yield the floor to (state that persons formal title)."
- D. Senators are to remain seated throughout the meeting.
- E. The purpose of the "processing" section of the Senate meeting will be to comment on the current meeting.
 - a. The ASUW Secretary will not take official minutes during "processing."
 - b. Due to open meeting laws and regulations, "processing" is still considered a part of the regular ASUW Senate meeting. Anything that is said in "processing" is considered public record and can be printed in the media.
 - c. All discussion pertaining to confidential ASUW Senate concerns that regard personnel or budgetary issues shall be reserved to discuss during an Executive Session.
- F. Attire at every ASUW Senate meeting shall be casual.
 - a. Men and Women should wear clean, full-length hemmed pants with no visible stains or holes.
 - b. Skirts and dresses are appropriate attire for women.
 - c. Men and Women should wear clean shirts.
 - d. No shorts, capris, sweats, or torn garments shall be worn.
 - e. Hats should not be worn during Senate meetings.
- G. Senators and executives are expected to wear their ASUW nametag on the right side all day in which a Senate meeting will take place.
- H. Senators should state, "Point of personal privilege," when needing to be excused from a Senate meeting.
- I. Senators should notify the ASUW Secretary and/or the ASUW Vice President before the starting of the meeting when they know they will be leaving the meeting prematurely.
- J. Senators should notify the ASUW Secretary and/or the ASUW Vice President when they know they will be tardy to a Senate meeting.
 - a. Suspension of the rules to allow tardy members to vote will not be allowed if the senator is tardy to more than three meetings.

Ruthann Shepherd (ASUW)

From: ASUW President
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2002 5:10 PM
To: Ruthann Shepherd (ASUW)
Cc: Matthew R. Caires
Subject: FW: dress code

Ruth, could you please forward these remarks directly to the authors of last week's legislation and copy the rest of the Senate on the message as well. Also include that the Senate should consider gender equity issues a little more strongly as opposed to debating the definition of business casual. Thanks and I hope you have a great weekend. Take it easy, keith

-----Original Message-----

From: Jane V. Nelson
Sent: Fri 11/22/2002 2:56 PM
To: ASUW President
Cc:
Subject: dress code

I notice that Caroline McCracken-Flesher, Associate Professor of English, is dressed in pants on the front cover of the University Directory. She has been president of faculty senate and has appeared numerous times in public as a representative of the university.

I am conducting an M.A. exam today with a graduate student, who is wearing pants as professional attire.

Skirts and dresses are appropriate attire for women? And, according to the BI, women apparently are not allowed the title of senator. because senators must wear long pants that are hemmed. But not women.

Outrageous gender discrimination. I'm flabbergasted. Beyond belief.

Jane Nelson, Director
Writing Center

December 2, 2002

Keith Sapp
ASUW President
Room 20, Wyoming Union
Laramie, WY 82070

Dear Senate,

It is with great reluctance that I challenge the voting authority and intent of the Senate. However, given the content and nature of the debate that surrounded Senate Bill #2018, the lack of effectiveness that this bill will bring to the Senate, and a community outcry against the wording attached to this legislation, I have chosen to exercise my veto authority.

The actual intent of the legislation is very accurate and in fact quite essential to the development and enhancement of ASUW. However, the addendum associated with Senate Bill #2018 is less than functional and fails to comprehensively and satisfactorily satisfy the needs of ASUW for the following reasons.

Consider the following remarks by Judith Rasband, an author and consultant on improving the productivity of a working environment, such as ASUW.

People push the lines of acceptable actions once a casual dress policy has been introduced. Clothes considered acceptable for "bar hopping" and/or "dance clubs" as well as clothing with "offensive sayings" imprinted on them are worn by employees—thus adding to the increase in comments, conversations, gestures, provocative actions, and harassment considered to be offensive. Tension among personnel and complaints (official and unofficial) have risen. All of which takes the attention and focus off of what employees are being hired and paid to do. (**Judith Rasband**, *The Low-Down On Dressing-Down*, 1999 Conselle L. C.)

Faculty member and director of the Writing Center, Jane Nelson, initially expressed concerns for gender segregation based on the article printed by the BI that inaccurately reflected the intent of the bill. After addressing her concerns with regard to gender, she responded with an apology and the following.

Still: I think the dress code has some hidden discrimination issues in it, as all dress codes do. Perhaps not gender discrimination. Ethnic discrimination, maybe. Socioeconomic discrimination, most definitely. And how about cross-dressing? Transsexuals? Can a male wear a skirt? If not, why not? The BI article, I think, is not at all misleading in suggesting that males are prohibited from wearing skirts and dresses.

I worry that a dress code like this could lead to some problematic decisions, too. Are women expected to wear make-up, for instance? Does jewelry eventually come in to play? Pierced body parts? Can there be too many piercings?

December 2, 2002

Hairstyles? Spiked hair? Bright green hair? Hmm. How about the gothic look of all black? Black lipstick?

Jane's views may be somewhat extreme, but nonetheless valid. If the Senate is passing legislation for a particular purpose, the legislation should adequately address the reasons associated with the bill/resolution and furthermore conduct research regarding the repercussions of such legislation with regards to rights, productivity, etc. If the senate does not feel the need to address these concerns, then perhaps other avenues should be pursued (authoring a resolution as opposed to a bill, adjusting the expectations of the senate prior to running for a senate position so that no one individual is surprised by the demands/rules/expectations in the elections packet, etc.) And finally, if such legislation is passed, how does ASUW plan to "enforce" it without violating an individual's rights that are afforded to participating members of a "public service" organization.

I would encourage the Senate to revisit the intent of this Senate Bill after thoroughly examining the repercussions and implications of such legislation.

Keith Sapp

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Keith Sapp". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

ASUW President