**ASUW SENATE MEETING MINUTES**

The September 9th, 2023, senate meeting was called to order by Vice President Petri at 7:09 p.m. The land acknowledgement statement and mission statement were read, and the Pledge of Allegiance was done at the individual members’ discretion.

**ROLL CALL**

All Senators we’re present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Chair directed the Senate to withhold grammatical and capitalization errors and have them sent over to the Chief of Legislative Affairs for correction.

Senator Keasling moved to add that he spoke on behalf of Senator Grimm for the position of Senator on steering.

There were no objections to the amendment.

The Minutes were passed as amended.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Senator Meiklejohn moved to add the IOC report to the agenda

Passed with no objection.

Senator Keasling moved to remove communications because of the existence of a special event.

There was an objection to the amendment.

The Agenda was Passed as Amended.

**OPEN FORUM**

No one in the gallery wished to address the Senate.

**SPECIAL EVENT**

Ed Seidel welcomed the senate back to campus. He expressed that he was here to have a dialogue but went on to offer a few points of discussion. He expressed that he has always been impressed with ASUW as a whole and he has expressed this to other Administrations as well as the 111th. He expressed that there were a lot of challenges facing the campus today and he spoke about the working group he established about freedom of speech and respectful discourse and said that the comment period closed Friday but is still open to comment. He expressed that we haven’t done a strong enough job at marketing who we are and hopes the working group he mentioned will help in how we market what a gem of a campus that we have. He said that he thinks having a culture that respects freedom of expression will draw more students to the University. He expressed that instead of the projected 5% decrease in enrollment we were down 1.4% which indicates Procrastination is the value new students posses (this comment was made in jest and not as an attack against new students.). He expressed that Upper Admin was working on a Strategic Enrollment Plan and wanted the Senates opinion on what that should look like. He then opened the floor for any questions or discourse.

Senator Hennigar moved to take a 10 minute recess.

Senator Worcester amended to 5 minutes.

Senator Worcester withdrew the amendment.

The senate adjourned at 8:40.

The senate reconvened at 8:50.

**OLD BUISNESS**

There was no Old Business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Head Table Vacancy Special Election:

Senator Meester moved to suspend Article 4. Section 4.1 Subsection C or the ASUW By-laws in order to have a special election for the vacant President Pro Tempore Position.

Senator Murfitt seconded.

The floor was opened to discussion.

The Senate moved to previous question.

The By-Laws were suspended on a 17-2-1 roll call vote.

The floor was opened for nominations for the position of President Pro Tempore

Senator Medina Nominated Senator Mcquire

Senator Murfitt Nominated Senator Murfitt

Senator Hennigar Nominated Senator Murfitt

Senator Grimm Nominated Senator Keasling

Senator Keasling nominated Senator Grimm

Senator Hulen nominated Senator Meester

Senator McGuire Nominated Senator McGuire

The floor was closed to nominations.

Each Nominator was invited to speak on behalf of their Nominee.

Each Nominator spoke on behalf of their Nominees

Senator Murfitt was elected as the President Pro Tempore.

Chief of Legislative Affairs Knopp made a privileged request to move the ISA communication after the Vacancy Special Election because the time was getting late.

The motion was passed without Objections.

The ISA Communicated that they needed assistance with understanding where to go for funding for student organizations and asked for the senates help with that.

It was Moved to add a special election for filling the steering vacancy

Student at Large of the Month elections:

The floor was opened for nominations

Senator Worcester nominated Alec Baldwin

Senator Grimm nominated Alec Baldwin

The Nominators spoke on behalf of their nominees.

Alec Baldwin was chosen as the Student-at-Large of the month unanimously

Senator of the Month elections:

The floor was opened for nominations

Senator Hennigar Nominated Tanner Ewalt

Senator Keasling Nominated Tanner Ewalt

Senator Meester moved to White List the ballot.

The ballot was white listed and Senator Ewalt was chosen to be the Senator of the Month.

Steering Senator Elections:

Senator Murfitt nominated Senator Grimm

Senator Saint nominated Senator Brown

Senator Keasling nominated Senator Grimm

Senator Knull nominated Senator Meiklejohn

Senator McGuire nominated Senator Worcester

Senator Worcester nominated Senator Worcester

Senator Gomelsky nominated Senator Brown

Senator Hennigar Nominated Senator Meester

The Nominators were invited to speak on behalf of their nominees.

The Nominators spoke on behalf of their nominees.

Senator Worcester was elected as the Senator to serve on steering.

IOC Report:

For the first year ASUW will be unable to spend money on donations many of the proposals the President and VP made for end of year spending were shot down despite their student fee now state dollars one of those laws say that donations cannot be spent by state dollars VPSA Business office denied the request, scholarships were also denied IOC and Execs met with upper admin and fought for financial autonomy President smith opened the floor for questions.

**Communications:**

President Smith:

Various topics were discussed, including a Summer Internship and other stakeholder meetings, DSS renovations, and the interest of SSS in establishing a first-gen lounge. We also had the opportunity to meet with several deans from the College of Business and Arts and Sciences SER, although the College council did not manage to reach them. The importance of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Dei) was highlighted, along with the need for an international seat and resources for undocumented students. The School of Computing expressed their desire for an ASUW resolution supporting more undergraduate research for their program.

In addition, the Student Success and Graduate committees discussed the need for increased awareness of resources, especially in the context of Student Health. The University Curriculum Committee (UCC) addressed issues related to advising, including the proposal for a resolution or further investigation into centralized advising, as well as seeking student input on advising matters.

The Admissions department reported on interactions with the Board of Trustees and their multiple interventions during meetings. The Vacancy Board is set to be enacted and may undergo reform in the future. The Directors, particularly the Director of Community and Government Affairs, Jacob, faced challenges due to personal and visa-related issues. Consequently, Jacob's confirmation was postponed, but he remains a qualified candidate, and a confirmation will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

Lastly, it was announced that changes in the executive branch would be implemented next week

Vice President Petri:

The Vice President expressed that she had done similar tasks to the President which were already communicated as well as organizing the Senate to be ready for the acedemic year.

Assistant Director Interim:

Project Coordinator Craft communicated several important updates and reminders. Committee chairs were strongly encouraged to ensure that all relevant information is promptly sent to Patrick for efficient coordination and communication within the organization. Additionally, it was noted that Student Legal is currently facing the loss of an attorney, which is an important matter to note as they transition to a new attorney.

In terms of administrative matters, there was a discussion about an advisor position job posting. Originally scheduled for Friday, the posting did not occur as planned. However, it was emphasized that this delay does not mean the initiative will be abandoned but rather that the timeline for its execution will be adjusted accordingly.

Lastly, a call to action was made to all members of the senate. They were encouraged to represent the students and advocate on their behalf effectively. Ensuring that the interests and concerns of the student body are well-represented was emphasized as a crucial responsibility for everyone involved in the organization.

Non-Traditional Student Council:

The Council reported that they were just getting started with the program selected three officers and are looking for the fourth member of their team. Their first event is planned for Thursday the 14 in Pokes Pub.

UMC:

The UMC representative communicated that their meetings are on Thursday from 5-7PM and encourages Senators to come to the meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Senator Brown announced that Involve fest begins tomorrow and that the Philies lost.

Senator Hennigar announced the creations of an ASUW Fantasy Football League and expressed to senators to reach out to them if they wanted to join.

COLA Knopp offered legislation help and encouraged the senate to email him to set up a meeting as he does not indeed live in the office contrary to popular belief.

Senator McGuire expressed heartfelt feelings about former Senator Tanner Ewalt.

Senator Worcester announced that Chess club will meet Monday from 4-6 in the skylight lounge.

Senator Medina announced ADP is meeting on Friday from 5-11and tat the committee will be talking about ASUW moving into a new office and encouraged Senators to come and listen in on the discussion.

After processing, the meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Senate will be on September 12th, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Union Senate Chambers Room 221.

Rylan Knopp

Chief of Legislative Affairs 11th Administration

*Supplemental Notes taken by Senators Keasling and Hennigar*