



*Executive Board Meeting Official
Meeting Agenda*

October 27, 2023

9:00AM – 10:00AM

To be held in-person in TPS 110

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Open Public Forum
- VI. Unfinished Business
- VII. New Business
 - a ****EXECUTIVE SESSION**** Alex Alvarado for SAFC
 - b ****EXECUTIVE SESSION**** Lily Connell for SAFC
 - c **[VOTE]** Elias Feleke for SAFC Member
 - d **[VOTE]** Office Managing Hiring – Ryan Woo
 - e **[DISCUSSION]** WSA Fee Waiver
 - f ****AMENDED** [DISCUSSION]** Yujin Jung for STFC Member
 - g ****AMENDED** [DISCUSSION]** Knobaib Zafar for STFC Member
- VIII. Board Updates
- VIII. Advisor Updates
- IX. Chair Updates
- X. Adjournment

Call To Order: 9:05AM

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Notes</u>
President	Holly Wetzel	Here	
Director of University Affairs	Roland Heyne	Here	
Director of Internal Affairs and Communications	Jamie Song	Here	
Director of Finance	Alicia Whitten	Here	
Director of Outreach	Yolanda Escribano	Here	
Director of Legislative Affairs	Chrystal Volkova	Here - Late	
Director of Student Technology	Jayana Estacio	Here	

Approval of Agenda – With amendments to include discussion of Yujin and Knobaib for STFC

Moved: Director Estacio

Seconded: Director Heyne

Vote: 5-0-0

Approval of the Minutes

Moved: Director Escribano

Seconded: Director Heyne

Vote: 5-0-0

Open Public Forum

- Two members of the public was present, they did not identify themselves.
 - Member of the public #1 stated that “You all look great”.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

- a. **EXECUTIVE SESSION [DISCUSSION] Alex Alvarado for SAFC**

The board discussed the appointment of Alex Alvarado for SAFC

- b. **EXECUTIVE SESSION [DISCUSSION] Lily Connell for SAFC**

The board discussed the appointment of Lily Connell for SAFC

Chrystal arrived to the meeting during Executive Session.

c. [VOTE] Elias Feleke for SAFC Member

Moved: Director Whitten

Seconded: Director Song

Vote: 6-0-0

Alex shall be appointed to the SAFC committee should they choose to accept the position!

d. [VOTE] Ryan Woo for Office Manager

Moved: Director Estacio

Seconded: Director Song

Vote: 6-0-0

Ryan shall be hired on as ASUWT's Office Manager should they choose to accept the position!

e. [DISCUSSION] WSA Fee Waiver

- President Wetzel presented a powerpoint slide to the board (included at the end of the minutes) regarding what happened at the Fall General Assembly surrounding when she advocated for the WSA Fee Waiver on behalf of the ASUWT Board
 - President Wetzel reminded the board that the Washington Students Association (WSA) is a student lobbying organization that has existed since 1982, an organization that was established to ensure consistency in legislative efforts among student governments due to the high turn-over in positions. President Wetzel explained that the WSA offers resources to member campuses for lobbying during legislative session in Olympia, and mentioned a few of their legislative victories, namely the Washington College Grant, and encouraged the directors to look at their website for their other victories.
- President Wetzel explained the WSA's internal operations:
 - All campuses meet up twice a year during the Fall and Spring General assemblies to vote on the year's upcoming legislative session. President Wetzel explained the voting system, how it's proportional to the campuses' size, and UW Tacoma has 5 votes.
 - President Wetzel explained the Executive Committee, how they are students from member campuses that are elected in Spring, and that they work alongside Nancy, who is their only paid staff person who is there to ensure consistency in the organization as students turnover.
 - President Wetzel explained the WSA's Board of Directors, who oversee the WSA's budget, staff, and executive committee. Explained that they vote on things such as the WSA 10 year plan.
- President Wetzel showed a powerpoint slide from one of WSA's past presentations on the 10 year plan, and explained that the board of directors and executive committee in Spring 2022 decided that the WSA should become bigger and more sophisticated to better help students, causing them to create a 10 year strategic plan for growth.
 - The goals of the plan include: Increasing organizational capacity, Increasing Member Engagement, Increasing Community and Technical College (CTC) representation, and increased revenue to the organization.
 - The plan is broken up into 2-five year phases that each need to be voted on by the WSA Board of Directors in order to be moved through.

- President Wetzel explained that she can have Nancy come and present to go into further detail about what member campuses would get in the 10 year plan, but that she would name a few:
- President Wetzel explained some of the things that would happen in Phase 1 of the 10 year plan:
 - The hiring of an operations assistant so Nancy doesn't have to do everything
 - A fundraiser/grant writer to help bring in more income to the organization, diversifying their income streams so they are not so reliant on membership dues to pay for expenses and better support member campus' and their legislative liaisons down in Olympia during the legislative session.
 - In their future phrases, they plan to include more programming such as a statewide leadership/development conference and training for students, establishing a larger federal lobbying program, and adding more support for the programs created in phase one
- President Wetzel explained the membership dues
 - "In order to make money, you need to have money"
 - President Wetzel explained the membership due system: Member campuses pay \$1 for every full-time enrolled student (FES) at their institution.
 - President Wetzel explained that when the WSA board of directors voted to implement this 10 year plan, they voted in agreement to raise the fee for member campuses as well as raise the cap for bigger schools.
 - President Wetzel explained that big campuses like UW Seattle, are capped out on a membership due of \$15,000.
 - The 10 year plan was designed to raise the fee to \$2/FES, then later to \$3/FES towards the end of the plan.
 - President Wetzel explained that last year's WSA board of directors created some push-back regarding raising the fee and how they would not be able to increase the fee as planned. This year's WSA board of directors also had the same sentiment, so in this legislative session, they voted to push this fee increase into the next phase of the plan, which is slated to begin 2024-2026.
 - President Wetzel reflected on ASUWT's operating budget and how they had almost \$12,000 allocated for WSA fees, and our enrollment doesn't even hit 5,000 students – questioning why we have so much allocated for WSA
- President Wetzel explained that ASUWT's executive board last year budgeted too much for the fee being increased this year, budgeting for \$2.25/FES rather than \$1.
 - President Wetzel explained further that, with approval of the SAFC committee, we can take the money that is over-allocated by SAFC and move it to other parts of our budget that were significantly cut during last year's budget allocation cycle (naming some examples as programming and outreach budget).
 - President Wetzel stated that is something that Alicia, the Director of Finance, will need to determine
- President Wetzel stated that despite realizing that UW Tacoma has too much allocated for WSA, she still advocated on behalf of the Executive Board to get the WSA membership due waived as the board told her to do.
 - President Wetzel explained to the WSA Board of Directors that UW Tacoma in a 600 student deficit from the university's highs in enrollment pre-pandemic, and how our budget was cut by 30%. She explained that there was a large dialogue and questions back and forth between herself and the other presidents on the board. President Wetzel also told the WSA Board of Directors that UW Tacoma was in position to leave the WSA if she didn't come back with a fee waiver.

- The WSA Board of Directors provided UW Tacoma with these options:
 - 100% full waiver w/ repayment plan or sacrifice all votes in GA and BOD instead of repayment plan
 - 50% full waiver w/ repayment plan or sacrifice half of all votes (2) in GA and BOD instead of repayment plan
 - Just pay the fee – it’s less than you initially thought
- President Wetzel explained that the BOD provided those options and that it’s recommended that the board come to a discussion before the BOD at the next meeting on November 17th.
- President Wetzel explained that while networking at WSA, she talked with ASUW Seattle’s President about an opportunity they were provided now that the University of Washington is now becoming part of the Big 10.
 - President Wetzel explained how the Association of Big 10 Students, approached ASUW’s President about joining their organization. They are a federal lobbying group wither membership is voluntary and free, meet 3 times a year, and lobby federally on Big 10 on the Hill. ASUW Seattle President also explained that they heard that they had resources for state-wide lobbying, but were unsure about the specifics.
 - President Wetzel did some research on the ABTS and concluded that it may be too good to be true, citing that they have a weak online presence and appeared to only start in July 2019.
 - President Wetzel reached out to the ABTS directly and hopes to meet with them to learn more, and enthusiastically talked about the potential of UW Tacoma having a city lobbying arm internally, state lobbying arm with WSA, and federal lobbying arm with the ABTS to advocate for students.
- President Wetzel opened the floor for questions and discussion
 - Director Estacio stated their opinion that the board should not pick any of the repayment plans because that’s unfair to next year’s board
 - Director Heyne stated that not having votes would be a more fair option, but that it’s absurd that student government can be in debt.
 - Director Heyne remarked that the UW System controls most of the votes, and that if we were to leave for a year, it most likely wouldn’t change the outcome of the votes.
 - Director Heyne continued, stating that what had been done through WSA could be done without our involvement, and our students would still reap the same benefits.
 - President Wetzel interjected and provided context from her experience doing WSA last year as well as her experience at GA a week prior: UW Tacoma typically voted in line with UW Seattle and UW Seattle voted in line with us, confirming that, depending on the tri-campus relationship, the UW system votes in line with each other typically.
 - Director Estacio stated that the 50% waiver wouldn’t be “too bad”
 - Director Escribano explained that UW Tacoma gets left out of the conversation a lot as it is, and worries that leaving the WSA would contribute to that more
 - Director Heyne stated that they agreed, however they still wonder “what is really going on with WSA” and that in the 10 year plan they are becoming more bureaucratic. Director Heyne called upon Director Volkova to provide their insight because “in that room, it sounds like they have a collective opinion on things already”, citing that our 5 votes do not matter anyway.

- Director Volkova reflected on how inclusive UW Seattle was, inviting our team to additional discussions on proposals after GA had ended for the day. Director Volkova stated that “we can do both” with regards to WSA and the BIG 10.
 - Director Heyne agreed, stating that if ASUW Tacoma were to trial the BIG 10: 1) We are not losing anything because membership is free, 2) WSA will welcome us back with open arms if we want to rejoin.
 - In response to Director Heyne, Director Volkova comments that “whatever we decide to do with WSA, it should be all or nothing”.
 - Director Heyne states that he believes that there will be some “ruffled feathers” in administration and that maybe they would find a way to cover the fee for us.
- Director Heyne mentions how when enrollment goes up, our fee will go up, so it will take more of our budget and we won’t benefit as much.
 - President Wetzel interjected to provide contextual information that the WSA recommends that member campuses fee students directly for to cover membership expenses. President Wetzel mentions UW Seattle and how they currently fee their students \$3/year to pay for WSA.
 - Director Heyne asked if it’s working for Seattle and how they feel about it.
 - President Wetzel and Director Volkova stated that UW Seattle is mixed about it and WSA.
 - Director Volkova stated that if UW Seattle leaves, we should leave as well to be united.
 - President Wetzel provided additional context that when talking to UW Seattle’s President after GA, that he’s now more leaning on the side of staying in the WSA even if they are not perfect.
 - Director Heyne questions what we would use the money we do pay to WSA for if we left/got it waived. Director Heyne also stated that if we were to leave WSA, it would effectively remove the Legislative Liaison position. Director Heyne ask what other directors think.
 - Director Volkova states her opinion that we should put off leaving this year, stating that ASUW Tacoma and previous administrations “have not taken this [WSA] seriously at all, and shot ourselves in the foot for having value for this organization.”. Director Volkova continued stating that we should do Huskies of the Hill, do the legislative session, and do spring general assembly. “We should play out the year as it was intended.”
 - Director Escribano comments that “WSA is like our mom” – WSA is our continuity with our legislative efforts.
 - President Wetzel asks the board “for those who have tabled, how many times have you guys said that we go down to Olympia and lobby?”
 - The room had a general consensus of yes, and President Wetzel continued with saying “If we were to leave WSA, that would be effectively lying to students at this point.”

- Director Heyne states that he would like Nancy to come and discuss with everyone again about what the WSA is and what they offer.

Motion to extend the meeting by 5 minutes

Moved: Director Estacio

Seconded: Director Heyne

Vote: 6-0-0

f. **AMENDED [DISCUSSION] Yujin Jung for STFC Member**

Director Estacio mentioned that it is their first month here in the state, well dressed and prepared. They are very passionate about technology and being involved at the school.

Director Heyne mentioned that they previously worked for a company that provided technology to third world countries.

g. **AMENDED [DISCUSSION] Knobaib Zafar for STFC Member**

Director Estacio mentioned that they were very prepared and knowledgeable of STFC and had a multicultural background and used that a lot in their interview.

Director Heyne remarked that they were one of the more professional interviews that he had done, and that he was very well spoken.

Board Updates

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Updates</u>
President	Holly Wetzel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Was sick this week, didn't do much more than the bare minimum. Responded to emails and make the WSA presentation.
Director of University Affairs	Roland Heyne	Left the room
Director of Internal Affairs and Communications	Jamie Song	Left the room
Director of Finance	Alicia Whitten	
Director of Outreach	Yolanda Escibano	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Event next week on Thursday in TPS Ground
Director of Legislative Affairs	Chrystal Volkova	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Legislative Liason interviews
Director of Student Technology	Jayana Estacio	<ul style="list-style-type: none">STFC tabling

Advisor Updates:

- Daniel is our new advisor for our legislative arm

Chair Updates:

- Will be reaching out to see if we can do in-service training 2 weeks from now.

Adjournment At: 10:03AM

**Associated Students of
UW Tacoma**

**Fall General Assembly
Breakdown**

2023-2024





ORDER OF BUSINESS

01 **Background Information**

What is WSA? What do they do? How do they operate?
What do we pay?

02 **Our Budget**

The state of the budget versus reality, how to get this changed.

03 **Our Options**

What options did the BOD give us?

04 **Big 10? - Lots Unknown**

Another lobbying organization?

Background Information

What is WSA?

Student lobbying organization - existing since 1982.

Exist to serve as a line of consistency with how high turnover student government administrations are.

Have resources for and coordinates lobbying efforts in Olympia during legislative session.



Notable Legislative Victories:

Financial Aid:

- HB 1028: Washington College Grant
- SB 6562: Defeated effort to allow institutions to set tuition locally
- HB 1043: Limiting differential tuition
- SB 5022: transparency and consumer protections for student loan borrowers
- SB 6029: Student Loan Bill of Rights
- HB 1433: Service and Activity Fees Decoupling
- SB 5197: National Guard scholarships
- 2015 Tuition Reduction (5%→15%)

and more in voting rights, equity, and student support!

Background Information

Internal Operations

Fall & Spring General Assemblies

- All member campuses meet to discuss proposals for the upcoming session.
- All member campuses present vote based on their campus size (see right).

Executive Committee

- Elected in Spring, run the organization internally alongside Nancy (their one paid staff member).

Campus	Number of Votes
ASUW Seattle	9
GPSS	3
ASUW Bothell	5
ASUW Tacoma	5
ASCWU	7
ASWWU	9
GSU	4
AS Bellevue College	8
ASWSU Pullman	9
GPSA	4
ASWSU Vancouver	4
ASWSU Spokane	3
TCC	4
Total	74



Background Information

Internal Operations

Board of Directors

- Composed of all campus presidents. They oversee the organization's budget, staff, etc.
- Vote on things such as the WSA 10 year plan (more on this later!)

Campus	Number of Votes
ASUW Seattle	9
GPSS	3
ASUW Bothell	5
ASUW Tacoma	5
ASCWU	7
ASWWU	9
GSU	4
AS Bellevue College	8
ASWSU Pullman	9
GPSA	4
ASWSU Vancouver	4
ASWSU Spokane	3
TCC	4
Total	74



LONG TERM VISION

10 YEAR VISION

This draft includes a ten year vision for the WSA. It's purpose is to guide the organization over the next ten years, not dictate.

Included is five - two year phases. Each phase must be approved by the Board of Directors at the time of implementation and should be continuously updated.

GOALS

The ten year vision has four goals in mind;

- Increasing organizational capacity
- Member engagement
- CTC student expansion/representation
- Revenue



Background Information

10 Year Plan - Phase 1

Hire more employees:

- Operations Assistant
- Fundraiser/Grant Writer

Establish statewide lobby day

Establish Legislative Liaison Flex Account to cover student Liaison:

- Pay for Liaison's travel and housing accommodations
 - Cover costs of professional attire
 - Pay for students from campuses to travel to Olympia
 - Pay for any federal advocacy efforts
-
-
-

Background Information

Membership Dues

So, how does WSA plan to pay for this?

MEMBERSHIP DUES!

For as long as the organization has existed, membership dues cost \$1/FES (full-time enrolled student) with larger universities capped at \$15,000.

Due to rising costs with inflation and WSA's growth plans, they voted to begin raising the fee.





OTHER SERVICES					Total
	Programming				\$500.00
	UW telephone services				\$0.00
	Elections Fund				\$500.00
	HRPM Fee (Workday)				\$200.00
	WSA Dues				\$11,736.00
TOTAL OTHER SERVICES					\$12,936.00

We should actually be paying no more than \$5,000 to WSA this year!

Surprise!!! We're actually not as broke as we thought!





OTHER SERVICES					Total
	Programming				\$500.00
	UW telephone services				\$0.00
	Elections Fund				\$500.00
	HRPM Fee (Workday)				\$200.00
	WSA Dues				\$11,736.00
TOTAL OTHER SERVICES					\$12,936.00

$\$11,376 - \$5,000 = \underline{\sim \$6,700 \text{ FREED UP}}$

**The SAFC committee has to approve
where we move it to.**



Our Options



Full Waiver

w/ Repayment Plan

OR

Sacrifice **ALL** votes in general assembly and BOD.



50% Waiver

w/ Repayment Plan

OR

Sacrifice **HALF** of all votes in general assembly and BOD.



Just Pay It

The total is less than you thought
it was 4500 vs 12k.

Just pay it ~_ (˘) _ /



Association of Big 10 Students

Approached UW Seattle to see if they would like to join now that UW is part of the BIG 10.

Jacob forwarded me the email and it mentioned:

- Federal Lobbying Group
- Membership is voluntary & no financial commitment to join
- Meet 3 times a year, twice at member campuses (similar to WSA), once in Washington D.C. - Big 10 On The Hill.

They met with Jacob in a meeting and apparently they have some state-lobbying resources as well?



Too good to be true?

Their website is dead = www.abts10.org

Instagram & Other Socials = Bare Minimum

I can only find records as far back as July 2019 = New Organization?
Growing pains?

BUT!

Waiting to hear back, this *could* be a good opportunity to expand ASUWT's reach to be federal when we can't get something done on the state-level. Imagine a city, state & federal lobbying arm of ASUWT in order to get things done for our students.

This could be a lucrative internship opportunity for our students as well.



Discuss!

Reactions? Thoughts? Questions?