



Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: 11/25/202

Time: 9:00AM

Location: University of Washington YMCA, R304

Virtual: youtube.com/@ASUWT

I. CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Scholten calls the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

II. ROLL CALL

Education Senator Chrystal Gonzales B.	Absent
Engineering & Technology Senator Eamon Challinor C.	Present
Milgard Business Senator Jayven Coppage E.	Present
Pre-Major Senate Zaid Naamat F.	Present
Social Work & Criminal Justice Senator Kailey Lawless G.	Present
IAS: Politics Philosophy, & Public Affairs Bryce Scholten H.	Present
IAS: Science and Mathematics Joshua Barnes	Present

Members of the Public:

ASUWT Advisor Conor

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Senator Naamat motions to approve the agenda; Senator Barnes seconds the motion.

4-0-1 motion passes

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senator Naamat motions to approve the minutes; Senator Barnes seconds the motion.

5-0-1 motion passes

V. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

- The following minutes were requested to be recorded verbatim:
 - “Alright, my name is Jacob Feleke, some of you might already recognize me, but I’m speaking today as not just as my brother’s--as Elias’ brother—but as someone who has served as a student body president and understands how easily misinformation can damage both people and institutions, like ASUWT and UW Tacoma. I’m asking for one thing, and that’s fairness. If claims are being circulated, are inaccurate, prejudicial, or drawn from confidential executive discussions in violation of RCW42.30.110-1F, G, and number two, then the process, not just the person has been compromised. We owe students the transparency, accuracy, and due process, like the Fifth Amendment guarantees you. I’m not here to dispute any outcomes, I’m here to insist that the truth matters, and that no one should be judged on narratives that have not been verified. Thank you.”
 - “Hello. Good morning, Senators. You recognize me, Elias Feleke. I’m here asking for nothing more than a fair rehearing process. I’ve been trying to keep this process as internal as possible to maintain the dignity of ASUWT as an organization. I’m asking that we have a fair trial using all of the evidence that was given. I’m asking that every single piece of evidence that was given be included in the future. And as you might know, furthermore, in the past Ledger [school paper] posted, it’s been a public lynching. It’s been misinformation, and facts that are not true. So, I’m asking that you, in the future, approve a rehearing and consider it for a matter, and uphold the democratic process that we use here at ASUWT for the elections, and protect the First Amendment granting free speech and the Fifth Amendment in full due process. So, I’d like you--and I implore you--to consider all the information that was given in the past, and I’m also asking that information that was given [as] not available to the public not be disclosed, because these are matters that are personal and violations. So, again, I’m asking for public rehearing, and I’m asking that the administration step in to intervene, and [I’m] exhausting the processes internally before we escalate it. And to that, I call on every member of Senate to fully review everything that was said. Because I was

not given a fair trial, and this was not done in a manner that's respective of every community voice at ASUWT. Any clarifying questions?"

- Speaker Scholten: "So, when you requested your initial hearing, you did request it to be held in Executive Session. Will you be requesting it be held in Executive Session again, or will you request that it be held publicly?"
- Elias Feleke: "I'm requesting it's held publicly."
- Speaker Scholten: "Thank you."
- Elias Feleke: "With that said, I do have a little bit more time. If any members of the public here would like to speak on a character testament, I call you now to step up, and feel free to say whatever needs to be said. They can speak on behalf of what I've done, and I believe I've been attacked on my free speech and what I've been doing to advocate for students. So with that, thank you for your time."
- A student identifies themselves as Abigail Harriet, Pack Advisor, and shares the following:
 - They express their main concern to be a lack of informational transparency regarding the process of the removal of the past ASUWT president and the changes that followed. As a Pack Advisor, they heard about the process, but are concerned the general student body may not be updated on all the changes.
 - They ask why the Senate does not seem to be listening, to which the Speaker Scholten responds that the Senate is actively listening.
 - Speaker Scholten shares that the Senate will work on creating a timeline from Commencement through the hearing.
 - Abigail Harriet responds that since the process hasn't been transparent, they do believe a public rehearing would be necessary so that students know what is happening on campus.
 - They identify Senator Eamon Challinor as their school senator.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- [DISCUSSION]: Differentiation between first-year, transfer, and pre-major students regarding new student senators
 - Senate discussed how the first-year, transfer, and pre-major student senator positions differ. It is decided to maintain all three as separate positions and ensure there is clarity over who is able to serve in each position.
- [VOTE]: Start appointment process of the ASUWT First Year Senator
 - Senator Naamat motions to begin the appointment process, Senator Challinor seconds.

- Motion passes 5-0-1

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- [VOTE]: Vote to start the hiring for Court 17, Commuter, Veteran, First-Year, and Transfer Senator positions
 - Senator Naamat motions to begin the hiring process for the Court 17, Commuter, Veteran, First-Year, and Transfer Senator positions, Senator Barnes seconds
 - Motion passes 4-0-2
- [DISCUSSION]: Current open positions and Senator hiring timeline
 - Discussion of the process for hiring the new 5 senator positions (non-elected this year) follows, Speaker Scholten explains the process as follows:
 - Applicants should email Speaker Scholten
 - Their application would be presented in Executive Session
 - A vote would follow to decide to interview or not
 - Applicant would then come interview in front of Senate, and deliberation and a vote would follow
 - This would be a two-week process, for the currently open positions of: Court 17, Commuter, Veteran, Transfer, and First-Year Senators
 - Additionally, there are also vacant elected positions: Communication, Arts, and Culture Senator for IAS, as well as a nursing and Healthcare Leadership Senator, Urban Studies, and Graduate Senator.
 - For at-large positions, please email asuwtia1@uw.edu.
 - For the academic senator positions, please apply on Handshake.
- [DISCUSSION]: Legislative Liaison for Winter 26 with ASUWT State Legislative Liaison
 - The Legislative Liaison, Heba Qatrani, asked the Senators what their experiences in higher education have been like so far. Senators shared their personal experiences in higher education, including challenges and the role of student government in addressing these concerns.
 - She asked them about the Running Start experience for those who participated, which were positive overall in review.
 - The challenges of transferring in with credits that may or may not be accepted were discussed, as was a general discussion of the occasional

difficulties of changing majors. Difficulties with professors and advisors were also covered during this discussion.

- Lack of childcare for parents pursuing a 4-year degree from the state was noted as different from with pursuing 2-year degrees.
- It is noted that certain colleges have slight differences between the Environmental Science programs, which has made transferability difficult.
- Regarding students needs, privacy seems to be a large concern for many students
- [EXECUTIVE SESSION]: Present & Discuss a letter of interest for a candidate for the vacant ASUWT Commuter Senator Position
 - Senator Naamat motions to enter, Senator Coppage seconds
 - Motion passes 4-0-1
 - Executive session start at 9:55AM, ends at 10:10AM.

Please note: due to technical difficulties, the recorded video ends here without resuming after the Executive Session. The following information, including the vote information and adjournment time, was submitted by the Speaker of Senate.

- [VOTE]: Interview Candidate for the vacant ASUWT Commuter Senator Position in the next ASUWT Senate meeting
 - Senator Naamat motions to move forward with interviewing the candidate for the vacant ASUWT Commuter Senator Position in the next ASUWT Senate meeting, Senator Coppage seconds.
 - Motion passes 5-0-1

VIII. ADVISOR UPDATES

- Not available due to technical difficulties

IX. CHAIR UPDATES

- Not available due to technical difficulties

X. ADJOURNMENT

- Due to technical difficulties, the audio for the vote is unavailable.
- The meeting is adjourned at 10:15AM.