



Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: 1/21/2026

Time: 12:15 PM

Location: University of Washington YMCA, R.303

I. CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Scholten calls the meeting to order at 12:18 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Education Senator Chrystal Gonzales B.	EXCUSED
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.	TARDY/Virtual: 12:25PM
IAS: Politics Philosophy, & Public Affairs Bryce Scholten H.	Present
IAS: Science and Mathematics Joshua Barnes	Present
Commuter Senator L Haueter	Present/Virtual

Members of the Public: ASUWT Advisor Buddy

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Senator Coppage moves to amend the agenda to add in a discussion under new business regarding a partnership between ASUWT and the Husky Sustainability Fund; Senator Naamat seconds the motion.
- **5-0-1 motion passes**
- Senator Naamat moves to approve the amended agenda; Senator Coppage seconds.

- **5-0-1 motion passes**

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Senator Naamat moves to approve the minutes; Senator Challinor seconds the motion.
- **5-0-1 motion passes**

V. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

- Former Director of Legislative Affairs, Ben Brown, shares an update regarding his departure from ASUWT
 - Speaking today to clarify the reason for his departure
 - Clarifies that it is a personal, private matter, which he does not desire to discuss with the public
 - Shares that there was no malicious intent or scandal behind his departure, just personal matters
 - Whole-heartedly endorses Heba to follow him as the next Director of Legislative Affairs; states that situations like this are why they included succession into the bylaws last year to allow smooth transitions in the case of absences.

Senator Lawless enters virtually at 12:25PM.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- [Discussion]: Legislative agenda - please review email sent by ASUWT President regarding language
 - President Watkins shares an overview of the Legislative Agenda, defending the original wording, highlighting the use of “any support” as a way of ensuring that if items that ASUWT would like to support that aren’t initially listed come up, they would still be able to support them without directly quoting them in the agenda.
- [Discussion]: Interview and presentation of candidacy for Director of Legislative Affairs -please review email from ASUWT President regarding qualifications
 - President Watkins presents the resume and cover letter of Heba, Legislative Liaison

- o President Watkins advocates for the consideration of Heba, noting the ongoing Legislative Session in which Heba is already deeply involved
- o President Watkins highlights Heba's strengths and skills that would support her in this role
- [Discussion]: Interview ASUWT Legislative Liaison, Heba Qatrani, to fill the vacant ASUWT DoLA position through the order of succession.
 - o Heba responds to interview questions, presenting herself as a strong candidate due to her current involvement in all the ongoing Legislative Session events
 - o She notes her intention to continue to do her best in this roll if selected and shares some of the ongoing projects she is involved in as well as hopes to begin
 - o Notes the strong connection she has with the rest of the legislative team and the trust they have built together
- [Executive Session]: Deliberate and evaluate candidate, Heba Qatrani, to fill the vacant ASUWT DoLA position through the order of succession.
 - o Senator Naamat moves to not enter Executive Session; L seconds.
 - o **6-0-1 motion passes**
- [Vote]: Determine whether the ASUWT Legislative Liaison, Heba Qatrani, is the best fit for the vacant ASUWT Director of Legislative Affairs position.
 - o YES: Legislative Liaison shall secede into the position of DoLa
 - o NO: Legislative Liaison shall not secede; hiring search will be initiated
 - Senator Naamat moves to vote to determine whether the ASUWT Legislative Liaison, Heba Qatrani, is the best fit for the vacant ASUWT Director of Legislative Affairs position. Senator Challinor seconds.
 - **7-0-0 motion passes**
 - Senator Naamat moves to have Heba Qatrani secede into the position of DoLa; Senator Coppage seconds
 - o Roll-call vote:
 - Senator Gonzales: absent
 - Senator Challinor: Yes
 - Senator Coppage: Yes
 - Senator Naamat: Yes
 - Senator Lawless: Yes
 - Senator Scholten: Yes
 - Senator Barnes: Yes
 - Senator Haueter: Yes

- o **7-0-0 motion passes**

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- [Discussion]: Interview Candidates for the following vacant ASUWT Senator Positions:
 - o Court 17 Senator
 - Beren Lord is interviewed for the Court 17 Senator position; full interview available from 33:01 to 41:16 in the meeting recording.
 - o Transfer Senator
 - Anthony Riewald is interviewed for the Transfer Senator position; full interview available from 41:23 to 48:29 in the meeting recording.
 - o Urban Studies Senator
 - Aesha Aden is interviewed for the Urban Studies Senator position; full interview available from 48:38 to 55:37 in the meeting recording.
- [Executive Session] Deliberate and evaluate candidates for the following vacant ASUWT Senator positions:
 - o Court 17 Senator
 - o Transfer Senator
 - o Urban Studies Senator
 - Senator Barnes moves to enter Executive Session; Senator Coppage seconds.
 - **6-0-1 motion passes**
 - Executive Session starts at 1:13 PM and ends after 10 minutes at 1:23 PM.
- [Vote]: Hire the interviewed candidate for the ASUWT Court 17 Senator Position.
 - o Senator Naamat moves to hire the interviewed candidate for the ASUWT Court 17 Senator Position; Senator Barnes seconds.
 - o Roll-call vote:
 - Senator Gonzales: absent
 - Senator Challinor: Yes
 - Senator Coppage: Yes
 - Senator Naamat: Yes
 - Senator Lawless: Yes
 - Senator Scholten: Yes
 - Senator Barnes: Yes
 - Senator Haueter: Yes
 - o **7-0-0 motion passes**

- [Vote]: Hire the interviewed candidate for the ASUWT Transfer Senator Position.
 - Senator Naamat moves to hire the interviewed candidate for the ASUWT Transfer Senator Position; Senator Challinor seconds.
 - Roll-call vote:
 - Senator Gonzales: absent
 - Senator Challinor: Yes
 - Senator Coppage: No
 - Senator Naamat: Yes
 - Senator Lawless: Yes
 - Senator Scholten: Yes
 - Senator Barnes: Yes
 - Senator Haueter: Yes
 - **6-1-0 motion passes**
- [Vote]: Hire the interviewed candidate for the ASUWT Urban Studies Senator Position.
 - Senator Naamat moves to hire the interviewed candidate for the ASUWT Urban Studies Senator Position; Senator Coppage seconds.
 - Roll-call vote:
 - Senator Gonzales: absent
 - Senator Challinor: Yes
 - Senator Coppage: Yes
 - Senator Naamat: Yes
 - Senator Lawless: Yes
 - Senator Scholten: Yes
 - Senator Barnes: Yes
 - Senator Haueter: Yes
 - **7-0-0 motion passes**
- [Discussion]: ASUWT Legislative Liaison, Heba Qatrani, presents revised ASUWT 2026 Legislative Agenda.
 - Newly selected Director of Legislative Affairs, Heba Qatrani, presents the updated ASUWT 2026 Legislative Agenda
 - Topics covered include:
 - City Advocacy for students
 - Student Housing, tenant protections, Landlord Fairness Code
 - Food support
 - Transportation and parking costs
 - Equity, especially for health care for transgender students at UWT
 - Student and city relations

- Student-employee advocacy
 - Workers' Bill of Rights and increased student wages
- Items also noted:
 - Budget deficit
 - The Washington College grant changes
 - HB1316, supporting students experiencing homelessness
 - SB5906 (Hansen's SAFE Act)
 - HB2132 (Data Protection for students on Financial Aid)
 - Free/reduced price meals pilot program
 - HB1343 Student Advocacy Protections (RCW28B.10.281)
 - HB1492 Early Registration for students with dependents
 - SB5978 WAGAP
 - Adding a trustee for each satellite campus to represent at the Board of Regents
 - Healthcare access and expansion for students
 - Well Washington Fund
 - SB5355 Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness
 - Pell Grant
 - Non-citizen Safety
 - SNAP eligibility in connection with on-campus jobs
 - Lowering the credits to qualify as full-time
- [Vote]: Approve or Revise ASUWT 2026 Legislative Session Agenda
 - Senator Naamat motions to approve the ASUWT 2026 Legislative Session Agenda; Senator Coppage seconds.
 - 5-0-1 motion passes [Senator Lawless is unaccounted for]
- [Discussion]: ASUWT Legislative Liaison, Heba Qatrani, presents WA-SJM-8014, *Requesting an investigation into the killing of Aysenur Ezgi Eygi*, and requests to testify on behalf of ASUWT alongside ASUWB & ASUW before the Senate Law & Justice Committee.
 - Heba provides an overview of who Aysenur Ezgi Eygi was, including her education experiences. She participated in the University of Gaza Liberated Zone and in the Gaza movement.
 - Heba shares the details of Aysenur's death and the lack of details regarding her death.
 - Heba requests support to allow her to sign on with ASUW Bothell and Seattle as well as the Evergreen State College to SJM8014 to submit a formal request seeking justice for Aysenur's death. She notes that she would like to testify as a UWT student in her position as DoLa, alongside

the other named ASUW representatives from Seattle and Bothell as well as the Evergreen State College student.

- [Vote]: Grants, Heba Qatrani (ASUWT Student Lobbyist), permission to testify pro for WA-SJM-8014, *requesting an investigation into the killing of Aysenur Ezgi Eygi*, on behalf of ASUWT.
 - Yay: Grants permission
 - Nay: Does not grant permission
- Senator Naamat moves to grant Heba permission; Senator Coppage seconds.
 - Rising-count vote:
 - Senator Gonzales: absent
 - Senator Challinor: Yes
 - Senator Coppage: Yes
 - Senator Naamat: Yes
 - Senator Lawless: Yes
 - Senator Scholten: Yes
 - Senator Barnes: Yes
 - Senator Haueter: Yes
 - **7-0-0 motion passes**
- **AMENDED:** [Discussion]: Partnership between ASUWT and the Husky Sustainability Fund
 - Senator Coppage moves to postpone the discussion to the next Senate meeting. Senator Naamat seconds.
 - **5-0-2 motion passes**

VIII. SENATOR UPDATES

- Senator Haueter expresses their excitement to be officially on the team.
- Senator Coppage shares the student intern panel went well and students requested more similar events in the future.

IX. ADVISOR UPDATES

- No updates

X. CHAIR UPDATES

- No updates

XI. ADJOURNMENT

- Senator Coppage moves to adjourn; Senator Naamat seconds the motion.
- 6-0-1 motion passes
- The meeting is adjourned at 1:55 PM.