

Associated Student Government
STUDENT SENATE
General Meeting
Tuesday, October 24, 2023; 1:30 pm – 2:30pm
1810 N. Greene St., Spokane, Washington 99217 Lair Student Center, Room 126
Skitch Conference Room

Minutes

I. Call to Order

- a. ASG Vice President Taneisha Takyuka called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

II. Roll Call

a. **Officers**

- ___ Taneisha Takyuka Tarina, Vice President
- ___ Sasha Green, Senator of Adult Education and Extended Learning
- ___ **Pending**, Senator of Art & Sciences
- ___ Abdallah Abualkheir, Senator of Business, Hospitality, and Information Technology
- ___ **Pending**, Senator of Physical Education & Athletics
- ___ **Vacant**, Senator of Technical Education
- ___ Tadiwa Zingoni, 10/10/2023 Senate Clerk (ASG Director of Academic Affairs/Student Affairs)

b. **Guests:**

- i. ___ Shannon Ketcham (ASG Advisor)
- ii. ___ Austin Dehlin (Director of Finance and Public (Legislative) Affairs)
- iii. ___ Tammy Pham (ASG President)
- iv. ___ Amy Fain (General Officer)

c. **Absent:**

- i. ___ Emerald Bessermin, Senator of Health & Environmental Sciences (Provided written and signed consent to pass all matters being discussed).

III. Special Reports/ Special Guest

- a. ASG President, Tammy Pham, proceeded to report on the proposal of creation of the new ASG Director position; Director of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and Awareness (IDEAA).
- Position works closely and in collaboration with Center for Inclusion and Diversity (CID).
 - Position would act as SCC Student Government's liaison to represent and advocate for historically underrepresented/marginalized students as a student representative of the Diversity, Equity, and Global Awareness (DEGA) committee.
 - It creates awareness for SCC students.
- b. The benefits of the position include:
- An improved school culture by prioritizing equity, inclusion, diversity and accessibility.
 - Have increased support from the ASG and students to create attraction and diversity and a more welcoming and inclusive environment for students.
 - Enhances employee and student satisfaction and productivity.
 - Creates attraction and diversity.

IV. New Business

- a. General Officer, Fain, raised student concern in regard to laptop and Wi-Fi availability, if there are any ways students could be able to check out laptops from the library for more than 24 hours at a time.
 - Advisor, Ketchum, informed that the laptop situation can be tabled until open forum.

V. Motion for Minutes

- a. Vice President, Tarina, asked motion from senators to approve minutes from last senate meeting.
 - Senator of Adult Education and Extended Learning, Sasha Green, made motion to approve.
 - Senator of Business, Hospitality, and Information Technology, Abdallah Abualkheir, seconded.
 - Senator of Health and Environmental Sciences, Emerald Bessermin, approved vote in absentia.
- b. Vice President, Tarina, asked senators for approval of minutes from last open senate meeting.
 - Senate Abualkheir approved.
 - Senate Green approved.
 - Senate Bessermin approved.
- c. Any discussions to table out on the minutes?
 - None.
- d. Point of order provided by Advisor Ketchum.
 - Before votes: open for discussion, then open for those in favor, those opposed, and those abstaining from vote.

VI. Open/Public Forum

- a. General Officer, Fain, proceeds to elaborate on issue surrounding students in need of laptops for longer than 24hr periods of time.
 - If something could be done different to work on changing that.
 - Vice President, Tarina, explains that the matter was discussed and is quite tricky because it is uncertain that all students that take them for the longer time would treat them well and return them in same condition as taken.
 - A solution however was reached.
 - Students could sit down with librarian.
 - Get about 10 minutes at a time.
 - Pay a hold fee for the device.
 - Student will be provided with a billing.
 - Senator Abualkheir, mentioned that he reached out to a librarian and librarian is on the same page. He was given the contact of Erin Smith on Friday, October 20, but has not heard back as yet.
 - Mentioned that other universities have a system for this issue. If there is damage to the device, there is a fee. If there is not damage, there is no fee.
 - Sees no problem with suggested system upgrade.
 - Officer Fain, thinks if students could maybe be able to check out laptops for at least half a week instead of a day.
 - Main concern is the timeframe.
 - Senator Abualkheir, suggests checking out for possibly a quarter, however Officer Fain not entire sure about an entire quarter as there is higher risk.

- Director Dehlin, suggested a change in the system. Instead of just using the library, students can checkout from the bookstore to be able to check out for a longer period. Quarterly.
 - They can set up a fee to check out.
 - Open up a couple options instead of just being able to checkout from library.
 - Would have to see funding for laptop.
- Advisor Ketchum informed that the bookstore has operating expenses. The bookstore is a Barnes and Nobles subsidiary which means it might be a little more challenging.
- Senator Green asked what exactly the difficulties students are facing with regards to this issue.
- Officer Fain assures we cannot be sure of the accountability and responsibility of students, however the difficulties is that not all student are able to get to school everyday to have to check out and check back in every 24 hours. Proceeded to suggest maybe once a week over once a quarter.
- Advisor Ketchum advises to table and post to senate meeting and do research with library services.

VII. Officer Reports

- a. Director of Finance and Public (Legislative) Affairs, Austin Dehlin, enquires about mid-quarter report templates.
 - i. Advisor Ketchum mentions date has been pushed back and will have those sent out as soon as possible.

VIII. Commission and Committee Report

- a. Budget and Finance – Director of Finance and Public (Legislative) Affairs, Austin Dehlin will try and schedule the finance meeting to go over when and why they will be meeting. Next Monday (10/30) the day before the next closed senate meeting.
- b. Programs and Services – No report at this time
- c. Rules and Governance – No report at this time.

IX. Unfinished Business

- a. President Pham reintroduced the new proposal for the new Director position for IDEAA.
 - Position would act as student government to advocate for students.
 - Is a student representative to advocate for student.
 - Is a student rep for DEGA.
 - Reiterated the benefits that the position includes.
 - Proposal has no excess money needed.
 - Advisor Ketchum raises point of enquiry. What does DEGA stand for?
 - President Pham expounds, Diversity, Equity and Global Awareness – compiled of faculty, staff and students.
- b. ASG Constitution and Bylaws
 - Vice President Tarina provided update that Constitution and Bylaws are still in work.
- c. Discussions
 - No discussions
- d. Votes
 - i. Senator Abualkheir of Business, Hospitality, and Information Technology called for a motion to vote for IDEAA.
 - ii. Senator Green of Adult Education and Extended Learning seconded the motion.
 - iii. The vote unanimously passed by a 3-0 vote. No objections. 1 vote in absentia from

Emerald Bessermin.

X. New Business 2.0

a. BSU Seattle Trip

- Proposal for Black Student Union (BSU) to go to Seattle.
 - \$3300 requested. Can only have a maximum of \$3000.
 - The club have already used \$10 000.
 - Their budget total came to \$2 947.54, so \$3000 should be good.
 - Will have six students and one advisor.
 - The event is happening on November 5th.
 - For educational purposes. Learn about how cultures are built.
 - Will be meeting with black universities and colleges.
 - Those that will be interested can apply for scholarship.
 - Team will be staying at Sonesta Hotel.
- Discussions
 - Officer Fain likes the idea and thinks it is a good experience.
 - Director Dehlin suggests change of per diem from \$79 per person to \$60 per person. Max still \$3000.
- Votes
 - i. Senator Green called for a motion to approve the funding request for BSU Seattle trip for \$3000, on November 5th, 2023.
 - ii. Senator Abualkheir seconded the motion.
 - iii. The vote unanimously passed by a 3-0 vote. No objections. 1 vote in absentia from Emerald Bessermin.

b. Previous senate meeting was able to discuss about senate pro tempore for Rules and Governance standing committee – Emerald Bessermin, Senator of Health & Environmental Sciences.

- Discussions
 - Senator_Abualkheir thinks Emerald would be good fit for the position.
- Votes
 - Senator Green called for motion to approve Senator Bessermin for pro tempore position in committee.
 - Senator Abualkheir seconded the motion.
 - The vote unanimously passed by a 2-0 vote. No objections. No abstentions from voting.

XI. General Announcements

- a. Next ASG General (Open/Public) Senate Meeting is scheduled for: **Tuesday, November 7, 2023, from 1:30pm – 2:30pm (Location: Lair Student Center, Building 6 – Skitch Conference Room, Room 126)**
- b. Next ASG Closed Senate Meeting is scheduled for: **Tuesday, October 31, 2023.**

XII. Adjournment

- a. Director Dehlin motioned to end the meeting at 2:16pm. Motion to adjourn was seconded by consensus by Senator Green. Meeting was adjourned by Vice President Tarina at 2:17 pm.