



# Associated Students of Whitworth University



Minutes  
January 14, 2009

- I. Call to Order at 5:03 PM
- II. Roll Call

Executives:

ASWU President, Obe Quarless	excused
ASWU Vice-President, Kalen Eshoff	excused
ASWU Financial Vice-President, Kendra Hamilton	present

Senators:

Arend, Patrick Yoho	present
Baldwin-Jenkins, JaJa Quarless	present
Ballard, Emily Dickson	present
Boppell, Aaron Quigley	present
McMillan, Eric VanderHeyden	present
Stewart/Keola/Shalom, Dan Lewis	present
Warren, Jeremiah Sataraka	excused
Duvall, John Dorrenbacher	late
Off Campus, Seth Flory	present

Representatives:

Arend, Beau Lamb	present
Arend, Shannon Eshoff	present
Baldwin-Jenkins, Mark Bond	present
Baldwin-Jenkins, Ashley Antunes	present
Duvall, Grant Mattox	excused
Schumacher/McMillan, Stephen Jansons	present
Stewart/Shalom/Keola, Brittany Roach	present
Off Campus, Angela Anegon	present
Off Campus, Brian Stenberg	present
Off Campus, Dan Dan Quarless	present
Warren, David Kuraya	present
Warren, Breezy Moser	present

Media:

KWRS General Manager, Bud Bareither	present
Natsihi Editor, Charley Brinkman	excused
Whitworthian Editor, Joy Bacon	present

Coordinators:

Activities, Tyson Motsenbocker	absent
Cultural Events, Michelle Bess	excused
Interactive Arts, Nicole Holland	excused
Intramurals, John Ellings	absent
Outdoor Recreation, Chris Adams	absent

Senior Class, Katie Zerkel	excused
SERVE, Danika Heatherly	excused
Special Events, Kelsey Thurman	excused
Sports Events, Collin Gibbs	present

III. ASWU Mission Statement – Ashley Antunes

IV. Welcoming – Kendra Hamilton

- a. Timecards are due tonight by midnight as Linda will be leaving tomorrow morning.
- b. Senators need newsletters need to be stamped by the info desk and a copy under my door by tomorrow evening.
- c. Coordinators need to be continuing with activities.
- d. There is no GE 330 or assignments.
- e. Our first meeting is February 3<sup>rd</sup>

V. Campus Vibes/Coordinator Reports

- a. John Dorrenbacher- There are no burritos in the café during Jan Term and people are upset. Duvall is also leaking in places. We had some sweet icicles.
- b. Collin Gibbs- Basketball and swimming this weekend.
- c. Joy Bacon- Most the staff is gone so Whitworthian is in prep mode. Online info will be updated.
- d. Shannon Eshoff- People are still upset about ID cards.
  - i. Aaron- We have hit a brick wall with those.
- e. Bud Bareither - KWRS is moving to being solely online in February.
- f. Dan Dan Quarless- The walk for off campus students was a little rough last week.
- g. Patrick Yoho- Arend is doing well in the annual dorm review.
- h. Kelsey Thurman- Friday at 8:30pm there will be a dance in the HUB.
- i. Eric Vanderheyden- The snow flurry dance party was put on by Mac Residents.

VI. Government Restructuring

- i. We are here to look at what the committee has been looking at.
- ii. If you have questions please feel free to ask.
- iii. We are looking for questions to address them now.
- iv. In February we will hopefully be putting out job descriptions for new positions.
- v. We will also look at the results from the constituency.
- b. Constituency Report – Aaron Quigley
  - i. See appendix
  - ii. Kendra- We may not make positions volunteer but we may cut costs.
- c. Proposal One – Seth Flory
  - i. See appendix
  - ii. We want to move the section of the constitution looking at the structure of ASWU to the by-laws.
  - iii. Kendra- we have the ability as the body to structure the bylaws as necessary within the assembly.
  - iv. This would require us to get student opinion before making changes.
  - v. Patrick- Are there stipulations as to how the constituency report affects ASWU's decision?
  - vi. No, we just have to seek student.
  - vii. Morgan – Is there a stipulation as to how big the constituency report must change.
  - viii. We could add it to the bylaws.
  - ix. Patrick- We need to make sure that the reason for change stays constant. This could potentially be abused.
  - x. We see the bylaw as a method to make minor adjustments. If something significant is to happen then it would be up to ASWU to look at the students change.
  - xi. Kendra- We are voting on two separate issues.
  - xii. As it stands technically ASWU could change the way they work outside of getting rid of senators and representatives.
  - xiii. Brittany – It might be best to proposition the structural change first.
  - xiv. We can work on that and use the current proposal one as a secondary vote.
  - xv. Patrick- Is there a definition in the constitution of the jobs of senators and representatives.

- xvi. The current definitions are in the part that we are currently looking at moving to the bylaws.
- xvii. Joy – The job descriptions are supposed to reference what is online. Currently they are not up to date.
- xviii. Kendra- We will be rewriting them in February.
- xix. We will amend this to include alteration of section one to article five. So there will be a definition of senator and representative.
- xx. The second proposal will change the wording.
- d. Proposal 2 (to be changed to proposal 1) – Seth Flory
  - i. See appendix
  - ii. Questions
    - 1. Eric- it should say McMillan instead of MacMillan.
    - 2. Joy – it currently sounds like theme houses and the shalom center have there own senator.
    - 3. Aaron- wording should say each residence building instead of residence building
    - 4. Seth- The administration defines residence hall as the whole building.
    - 5. Collin- in the first section it should say Off Campus with Shalom and theme houses
    - 6. Each of the groups should currently be somewhat similar in size.
    - 7. This is technically more equal than the current system.
    - 8. Each residence hall other than those previously stated will have there own senator.
    - 9. Senators will work on a dorm by dorm basis and reps on a zone basis.
    - 10. All senators will be elected in the spring and representatives in the fall.
    - 11. With the removal of some reps the senators should be available to help other senators in their zone.
    - 12. Kendra- Numbering the zones on the table would be helpful.
  - iii. Discussion
    - 1. Patrick- Should the reps be paid more since they will be doing more?
    - 2. Any change would be internal.
    - 3. David- some weeks we work 3 hours others we don't.
    - 4. Brittany- Some zones would have more work.
    - 5. Eric- In the job description we will probably have to keep traditional events going.
    - 6. This does make work for senators and reps more difficult.
    - 7. Kendra- StuBopShKe is already dealing with this type of thing.
    - 8. Aaron- In the current system I get to help a lot from the leadership team. I get more support from my dorm than ASWU. It makes sense that those who I am living with, I am working with.
    - 9. Kendra- It is very true that there is fluctuation in the work load. Hopefully reps won't feel that they are completely overworked.
    - 10. Kendra- When this goes to vote how do we want to change this to make it clear? The constituency report told us that students want a change. Before rumors are started we should make sure that people know what is going on.
    - 11. Brian- It may be good to open a forum discussion for people to discuss the changes.
    - 12. Kendra- Lets pull together our talents to make it and interesting event. On Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of February we will need to set up more for a change.
    - 13. Seth – We should offer a forum to look at restructuring before Jan term is done.
    - 14. Kendra- We could pass this now but I don't think we need to. We need to have them understand this before they vote. It would be great to chare this info with the rest of the dorm leadership teams.
    - 15. Aaron- We could attend RA meetings.
    - 16. Patrick- We could use Youtube like Bill Robinson.
    - 17. Joy- We can have senators and reps show it to people during primetimes.
    - 18. David- When we start getting info out on this people need to know that we are trying to solve something and not just make changes.
    - 19. Kendra- Make sure that you are speaking up if people are having conversations on this. Change is uncomfortable. We will send you all copies of the proposals. When should we

do our forum? I would like to work with the coordinators. We have to all be able to explain this.

20. Emily- does this have to be read word for word?

21. Kendra- no

VII. Meeting Adjourned: The Meeting was adjourned at 6:21pm

Submitted by:

Approved by:

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Tyler Hamilton ASWU Secretary

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Obe Quarless, ASWU President

ASWU Constituency Report  
ASWU Representation  
Dec 3, 2009

The student growth that the university is experiencing will also take effect on ASWU's organizational structure and representation. As the university grows at the rate of 2% each year, ASWU will likewise expand. With the increasing numbers of Senators and Representatives already added to our 2008-09 representation, it is evident that we are quickly becoming too large to remain efficient and effective enough to serve the student population with our current representation model. Furthermore, we are forced to allocate more and more of the budget to ASWU member salaries. A committee on representation has been formed to help understand the best way to fairly and effectively represent the student, while keeping a larger percentage of student fees going back into campus programming as opposed to paying for new representatives.

The following are results from three questions which asked 772 students each three questions to find their opinions on what course of actions would be best for ASWU.

1) In terms of ASWUs size,

- A. 38% (292) Take no course of action; allow ASWU to grow
- B. **62% (482)** **Restructure ASWU to reduce student leaders, who would represent a larger percentage of students.**

2) In Terms of reducing costs,

- A. **45% (347)** **Make certain positions volunteer positions with no pay Senator, Representatives, or both)**
- B. 36% (279) Restructure to reduce ASWU members
- C. 17% (128) Reduce the amount of hours Senators and Representatives work
- D. <1% (2) Other

3) If ASWU was to propose a plan to restructure the representation to reduce the size of the organization overall, while making sure every dorm maintains representation on ASWU, would you be in favor of this change?

- A. **83% (643)** **Yes**
- B. 17% (131) No

## Appendix 2

### Spring 2009 Proposal 1 to the Whitworth Student Body

Proposal 1 involves a modest change in the ASWU constitution. If passed this action will remove 'Section 2 of Article V' on the makeup ASWU's legislative assembly from the ASWU constitution and resituate the language as 'Section 1 of Article II' in the ASWU bylaws. In response to this change an additional section (Section 8) will be added to Article V of the ASWU bylaws which will check the assemblies ability to make changes to the representation restructure without first seeking student opinion. (Note: Section 3 of Article 5 in the ASWU constitution will be reclassified as Section 2. Furthermore, all sections of Article II in the ASWU bylaws will be reclassified at one numeral higher than present classification in order to make room added section. [For clarity see the attached drafts of the proposed constitution and bylaws].)

This move would allow ASWU to restructure the representative system with a 2/3 vote in the affirmative from the convening assembly. As a current article of the constitution any change to the representation structure requires a 2/3 vote in the affirmative from the student body.

This change in process is seen as an effective solution to many of the inefficiencies which arise during the cumbersome process of reorganizing ASWU to fit Whitworth's dynamic needs. With the high rate of growth in student population and the regular addition of new residence halls to the campus, maintaining an efficient and effective student government has grown exceedingly difficult. Given the current system of reorganization, making the necessary adjustments to the representation structure requires a great deal of time, effort and coordination which hinders ASWU's ability to make those adjustments in a timely manner.

As a manner of protocol ASWU will seek student opinion through constituency reports and/or campus surveys before making significant changes to representation structure. In order to reflect ASWU dedication to follow this protocol, Section 8 will be added to Article II of the bylaws and read:

#### **Section 8.** Restructuring Legislative Assembly

It is a matter of great importance that students are given the chance to influence any possible restructuring of the representation system. In order to maintain the integrity of ASWU's decision making process, the assembly will seek student opinion through constituency reports and/or campus surveys before making broad changes to Section 1 of this article.

In practice, these changes will result in a streamlined process where members of ASWU will recognize the need for some adjustment to the representative structure, formulate a plan for restructuring, seek student opinion, reformulate the plan as needed, and finally vote on and implement the plan.

#### **Attached Documents**

Revised Article V of the ASWU Constitution

Revised Article II of the ASWU Bylaws

### **Proposed Changes to Article V Constitution**

*Highlighted portions indicate a change*

#### Article V. Organizational Structure: Legislative Assembly

##### **Section 1.** Composition

The legislative body, herein called the Assembly, shall consist of senators and representatives.

##### **[Section 2 Removed]**

##### **Section 3 [Reclassified as Section 2].** Meetings

The Assembly shall convene within one week of the commencement of each semester and shall also meet at least once during the January term.

## Proposed Changes to Article II of ASWU Bylaws

*Highlighted portions indicate a change*

### Article II. Legislative Assembly

#### Section 1. Representation

- a. **Senators:** Each residence hall and the off-campus constituency shall have a senator whose term shall consist of one academic year.
- b. **Representatives:** Each residence hall shall add one representative to the Assembly for every 85 persons who live in that residence hall for a term of one academic year. No residence hall shall have more than two representatives and the off-campus constituency (including all theme houses) shall have no more than three representatives.
- c. **Special Circumstances:** If there is a circumstance where a residence hall's constituency base is so small that it would disproportionately affect equal representation on the Assembly, the Student Elections Committee must propose a plan to solve the problem. This proposal must then be taken to the Assembly where it must be approved by a two-thirds vote in order to take effect.

[All following sections renumber as presented]

#### Section 2. Voting Philosophy

- a. Senators and representatives are not obligated to vote according to the majority opinion of their constituents, but they should make every effort to assure their vote reflects the best interests of their constituency.
- b. Senators and representatives must report back to their constituency their decisions on voting matters.

#### Section 3. Assembly Meetings

- a. All Assembly agenda items must be set and approved by the president.
- b. All paperwork must be completed and submitted to the appropriate executive officer at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
- c. If a presentation must be made to the Assembly regarding resolutions or student concerns, the president must be contacted to provide an explanation of procedure, make certain that all paperwork has been done correctly, and provide a date and time for the presentation.
- d. All Assembly meetings shall be run in accordance with standard parliamentary procedure.
- e. At the beginning of each meeting a roll call shall be taken. A member may be either present, absent, excused, or late. An excused member is one who has informed the executive vice-president and has found a proxy to take his/her place.
- f. An Assembly member who must be absent is required to adequately inform his/her proxy prior to the Assembly meetings and obtain the necessary information from that proxy after the Assembly meeting.
- g. Under normal circumstances, a proxy must be approved 24 hours prior to the Assembly meeting.
- h. A proxy cannot represent a living area in which he/she does not reside.
- i. Special meetings may be called by the president or by a majority vote of the Assembly and shall be called 24 hours in advance.
- j. All executive officers, Assembly members, and media heads are required to attend all meetings. One unexcused absence shall result in a meeting with the executive vice-president. Two unexcused absences shall result in a meeting with the Review Board.

#### Section 4. Senator

The senator's job description shall be posted on the ASWU website.

*Financial Compensation:*

Senators shall be compensated for eight hours a week at minimum wage. Senators who are elected in the spring shall be compensated for eight months (September through April) and senators who are elected in the fall shall be compensated for seven months (October through April).

**Section 5.** Off-Campus Senator

The off campus senator's job description shall be posted on the ASWU website

*Financial Compensation:*

The off-campus senator shall be compensated for eight hours a week at minimum wage for eight months (September through April).

**Section 6.** Representative

The representative job description shall be posted on the ASWU website.

*Financial Compensation;*

Representatives shall be compensated for three hours a week at minimum wage. Representatives shall be compensated for seven months (October through April), with the exception of Shumacher which shall be elected in the spring and compensated for eight months (September through April).

**Section 7.** Off-Campus Representative

The off-campus representative job description shall be posted on the ASWU website.

*Financial Compensation:*

Representatives shall be compensated for three hours a week at minimum wage. Off-campus representatives shall be compensated for eight months (September through April).

**Section 8.** Restructuring Legislative Assembly

It is a matter of great importance that students are given the chance to influence any possible restructuring of the representation system. In order to maintain the integrity of ASWU's decision making process, the assembly will seek student opinion through constituency reports and/or campus surveys before making broad changes to Section 1 of this article.

### Appendix 3

#### Spring 2009 Proposal 2 to the Whitworth Student Body

Proposal 2 involves a significant and greatly needed reorganization of ASWU's representative structure. If passed, this action will rewrite 'Section 2 of Article V' in the ASWU Constitution. This rewrite will reflect a decision to move to a zone based system of representation. The language of 'Section 2 of Article V' will read as follows:

#### **Article V. Organizational Structure: Legislative Assembly**

##### **Section 2.** Representation

- a. **Housing Districts:** The Shalom Center, Schumacher, and the Village as well as the grouping of all Theme Houses are considered to have a constituency so small that giving them a senator of would create disproportionate representation. Thus they shall be grouped with another residence halls and share a senator. These groupings are as follows:
  - i. Schumacher with MacMillan (Mac/Schu)
  - ii. The Village with Stewart (Stewart/Village)
  - iii. Theme Houses with Shalom Center (Theme/Shalom)
- b. **Zones:** All residence halls, the Housing district represented above, and the general off-campus community shall be placed in one of six zones as follows:
  - i. **Zone 1** – Off-campus, Theme/Shalom
  - ii. **Zone 2** – Ballard, Mac/Schu
  - iii. **Zone 3** – Warren
  - iv. **Zone 4** – BJ, Arend
  - v. **Zone 5** – Duvall, East
  - vi. **Zone 6** – Stewart/Village, Boppell

- c. **Senators:** Each residence hall, and the off-campus zone shall have a senator whose term shall consist of one academic year.
- d. **Representatives:** Those zones made up of on-campus constituencies shall have a representative if their total population exceeds 220. The off-campus zone shall have one representative elected by the general off-campus population and one representative elected by the residents of the Theme house/Shalom Center population. With the exception of the off-campus representative, all representatives shall have a term of one academic year and be elected at the beginning of the academic year for which they serve. The off-campus representative shall serve a term of academic year and be elected during the year preceding their year of service.

**Rationale**

This restructuring is intended to alleviate inefficiencies resulting from over representation generated by the current system. With the opening of the new dorm next year, ASWU will consist of ten senators, eleven representative, three executives, eight coordinators, and a variety of support characters. With so many participating in assembly meetings it becomes exceedingly difficult to make quality decisions in a timely manner. Furthermore, as the legislative body grows, more and more of the budget must be allocated to salaries. With the change proposed above, six representative positions would be eliminated, reducing salaries while making ASWU a more efficient organization.

**Organization**

Once this new wording is implemented, representation will be organized in the following manner:

Zone Proposal	Members	Respective Populations		Total Pop.	# Senator & Comp.	# Reps. & Comp.
Offcampus, Theme/Shalom	3	775	103	878	1 x 8	2 x 3
Ballard, Mac/Schu	2	65	108	173	2 x 8	
Warren	2	230		230	1 x 8	1 x 3
BJ, Arend	3	168	168	336	2 x 8	1 x 3
Duvall, East	3	160	160	320	2 x 8	1 x 3
Stewart/village, Boppell	2	118	84	202	2 x 8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Range</b>		<b>147</b>	<b>80hrs</b>	<b>15hrs</b>
					<b>95hrs x Minimum</b>	

**Job Descriptions**

It is important to note that Senators will continue to serve in the much the same capacity they always have. Senators will publish newsletters, organize traditional events, and facilitate community service activities within their respective dorms. As matter of internal organization, a senator is expected to support the other senator within their respective zone.

The role of representatives on the other hand will change considerably. As representatives will be elected on a zone to zone basis, they are charged will representing a broader constituency instead of the residents within a particular residence hall. Representatives also have the job of supporting the senators within their zone in organizing dorm events and service projects.

**Measure of Cost Savings**

Representatives serve for 7 to 8 months and receive compensation at a rate 12hrs/month at minimum wage (currently \$8.55). Every January Minimum wage readjusted and in 2010 minimum wage is estimated to reach around \$8.80. With the elimination of six representative positions ASWU will save approximately \$4500 during the 2009-2010 academic year. The mathematical breakdown of these estimates follows:

$$(5 - 7 \text{ month position}) (3 \times 12 \times \$8.55) + (4 \times 12 \times \$8.80) \times 5 = \$3651.00$$

$$(1 - 8 \text{ month position}) (4 \times 12 \times \$8.55) + (4 \times 12 \times \$8.80) \times 1 = \$ 832.80$$

$$\$4483.8$$

In addition to the reduction in salaries, the reduction in membership will reduce other costs related to training activities, upkeep, bureaucracy, and other circumstantial costs. The amount saved in these various expense areas is difficult to estimate, but should prove substantial.

**Future Growth**

Within a few years an additional residence hall will be added to the East side of the campus. Under the current system the new residence hall would require an extra senator and representative. Under the proposed zoning system this residence hall would fit into Zone 6, replacing the Village. As this zone’s population would then exceed 220 it should receive a representative, but this will not happen as a senator will be elected to the new dorm adding to the zone its third voting member. With this contingency in place ASWU will only grow by one member instead of two, which results in the realization of further cost savings. The following table shows how this future change will alter the organizational structure:

Zone Proposal (Future)		Respective Populations			Total Pop.	# Senators & Comp.	# Reps. & Comp.
	Members						
Offcampus, Theme/Shalom	3	775	103		878	1 x 8	2 x 3
Ballard, Mac/Schu	2	65	108		173	2 x 8	
Warren	2	230			230	1 x 8	1 x 3
BJ, Arend	3	168	168		336	2 x 8	1 x 3
Duvall, East	3	160	160		320	2 x 8	1 x 3
Stewart, Boppell, New	3	78	84	160	322	3 x 8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>		<b>Range</b>		<b>147</b>	<b>88hrs</b>	<b>15hrs</b>
						<b>103hrs x Minimum</b>	

**Attached Documents:**

- Organizational Table of Current System for 2009-2010 w/considerations for future growth and possible overflow
- Revised Article V of the ASWU Constitution
- Revised Job Descriptions