

## WCSA Senate Meeting Minutes 9-26-17

5:25: Pres. Peterson on Conversations that Matter Update/Roadmap

- Passes the floor to Comm Manager Ferguson for details:
  - We have Salud Carbajal in November, but we'll be doing another one soon after with Nuclear Proliferation and/or Ethics of global missions
  - We're moving forward with the immigration discussion right now! For Oct. 11th with Dr. Toms, Dr. Noell, Dr. Docter, Dr. Song

5:33: VP Mark On Prayer Chapel Updates:

- Talked with renovations committee. Here are the facts he knows:

- Initial goal of the prayer chapel was for small renovations
- eventually, decided to do multiple renovations at the same time because of convenience
- original pews were sold
  - Q: Sen. Mathin: what was done with the money made from pews?
    - Group: Unsure.
  - VP Carlson is excited about this as an opportunity to communicate effectively between admin and student body
  - Going to draft an email to all students about the facts that he knows, trying to bridge the gap between students and admin.
    - Letter from him, as VP, but wants other WCSA members to make revisions and suggestions as they see fit.
      - VP Carlson notes that an official statement by WCSA as a whole would require a vote by the council.
- 5:37: VP Carlson reminds the council to sign up for prayer dates in chapel
- 5:38: Bus Manager Rutherford update on Emerson Water Fountain
  - Talked with Tim Wilson about what to do about this long, complicated issue
    - suggested that WCSA pay the amount proposed in the bill, but not the full amount of the water fountain
      - simply to maintain good faith with physical plant, and to keep our word
  - VP Carlson asks best way to vote on this?
    - Sen. Anderson suggests not doing an electronic vote so as to discuss the issue.
    - Sen. Lee asks to clarify our costs?
      - BM Rutherford says: \$1400
    - CM Ferguson asks how much did this cost in total to Res Life?
      - BM Rutherford says: \$3000
  - BM Rutherford adds that we need a full and complete process to distribute our signed bills to the people who need our notice to start spending WCSA money

5:42 New Business:

Guests Bethany Le (representing ICP) and Mimi Mukasa

- Bethany Lee and Mimi Mukasa here to discuss a response to the Op-Ed article which opposed the addition of the diversity and inclusion Senator

- Their suggestions for a response article include:
  - There shouldn't be a dichotomy between
  - Mr. Gardner's article employs a sort of "all lives matter" argument to distract from the fact that he doesn't really care about the position
  - Think that the idea (which Gardner presents) that the addition of other positions are more important like stuff for clubs or other administrative positions
  - Bethany does say that WCSA should have presented information to the student body more effectively so as to be beyond reproach with issues of "deception" or "sneakily posing its own agenda" etc.
  - Mimi Mukasa continues:
    - She thinks Mr. Gardner employed a slight of hand in putting all new positions on the same vote
    - Mr. Gardner didn't consider what this position (or his words) would mean to students of color at Westmont (or other marginalized groups)
      - She poses the question: Who are we listening to?
    - Views like those presented in this article are dangerous to those who need their voices heard
  - Bethany Le responds again:
    - Rebuffs the argument that "if WCSA were doing its job" we wouldn't need the diversity and inclusion senator.
      - This would be true if we lived in an ideal world, but we don't, and there are injustices
  - Sen. Anderson asks a question to the guest: How should WCSA improve communications with new issues to the student body?
    - Bethany Le responds: Horizon isn't a good mechanism, she saw Joy's email, but wishes that there had been an all student email describing reasoning and purpose, so as to head off any people claiming WCSA is just doing things for no reason
  - Mimi M. adds:
    - In drafting a response, try to emphasize that there *is* a problem with inequality, not just make it about WCSA and fighting back against the personal attack against Student Government's process.
  - VP Carlson clarifies who is writing the article in response: Benjamin, Joy, Nicci, and Grant
  - Sen. Lee asks: are all responses voted on by WCSA?
    - VP Carlson: only statements that come collectively from WCSA.
      - Advisor D'Amour says, well, all student emails are all sent from "organizations" and that all responses should be treated as collective responses.
        - VP Carlson addresses that we need to find a new process to vote on collective responses in the future.
        - Pres. Peterson suggests to parking lot this issue for Exec. Council

6:02: More New Business: VP Carlson moves to new Bills:

- **2017 WCSA Retreat Bill**, proposed by BM Rutherford:
  - BM Rutherford gives only comments, says that this is simply reimbursing funds for the weekend retreat
  - Motion passes 7-0
- **Suggestion Ox Bill**, proposed by VP Carlson:
  - He gives comments: Really cool service, allows students to contact WCSA anonymously
  - Motion passes 7-0
- **New Prayer Journal Bill**: proposed by Sen. Anderson
  - Bill would authorize the purchase of a new prayer journal for the prayer chapel for the 2017 year, to continue this Westmont tradition.
  - BM Rutherford Question: Are prayer mats/kneelers out of the question?
    - Still in conversation, but that's for another time.
  - Motion passes 7-0

6:07: Sen. Anderson on Bylaw Changes

- Pres. Peterson discusses his changes first
  - Proposes changing the word "minorities" to "underrepresented" students
- Sen. Anderson discusses: adding a clause to clarify that WCSA money will only be spent when there is a signed bill in effect, and following communication by the WCSA President, Business Manager, and Communications Manager.
  - Q: Advisor D'Amour: Will you be giving everyone a copy bills in the future or of this bylaw change?
    - Sen. Anderson: no, probably just Physical Plant and Res. Life
  - Q: Sen Megorden: Why is the term "minorities" inadequate?
    - Sen. Carrasco: it is a bifurcating term, which pits us vs. them and is outdated
    - Sen. Catalon: "underrepresented" is a much better term considering we are a representative body"
- Sen. Anderson discusses: eliminating the clause which says WCSA will host a table outside the DC encouraging students to vote in elections
- Sen. Anderson discusses: clarifying the language around soliciting help from peers and self to get votes in the election

6:14 CM Ferguson moves to extend the meeting by 5 min with second

- Sen. Anderson discusses: eliminating the clause requiring WCSA to give the student body the total number of votes at the close of elections
  - Academic Liaison Hendrik adds: we probably should retain the ability to have this information and to communicate it to the student body in situations where it is appropriate.
    - Sen. Bradford suggests we discuss this more at a further date.
      - Sen. Anderson agrees to remove the change until a later date.

6:17 CM Ferguson moves to extend the meeting by 5 min with second

- AL Hendrik proposes a simpler form of the language regarding passing on information about passed bills
  - One or two sentences in order to prevent further confusion.

- Council agrees that this would be helpful.

6:20 Council moves to vote on everything except the change regarding sharing election results with the student body

- Motion passes 6-0 with Sen. Megorden abstaining

6:21:

- CM Ferguson comes garnering support for Montecito Beautification day on Sat. Nov. 4th
- CM Ferguson also gives update about Homecoming
  - Lorinda Dry communicates that Orchestra may be able to provide all of the help for Homecoming but TBD.

6:23: Pres Peterson provides updates from meeting with Reed Sheard

- He would like 20 Westmont students to come to the 80th Anniversary Gala Oct. 14th
- He would like us to help get students to come to the GLC Opening Oct. 13th
  - Pres. Peterson asks Sen. Bradford to communicate with his res. council about that issue.

**Meeting Adjourns at 6:26pm.**

**WCSA Executive Council Meeting Minutes**  
**9-26-17**

6:32: Meeting opens with prayer from Dr. D'Amour

6:34: Discussion of WCSA retreat costs

- Is this an appropriate cost?
  - Council generally agrees that it is. Compares costs to WAC and confirms that this is an appropriate and comparable cost, especially considering 16+ people were served by it.

Vote on the Retreat bill in the Executive Council:

- Passes 5-0

6:35: Discussion of Conversations that Matter: President Peterson

- Roadmap:
  - Immigration talk set for October 11th: Dr. Docter, Dr. Toms, Dr. Noell set and we're going forward
  - Nuclear disarmament/proliferation discussion for the near future
  - Congressman Carbajal set for November
  - Student forum in November as well
- Pres. Peterson raises the question: how is this type of programmatic issue part of WCSA's job description?
  - CM Ferguson says: this is part of our goal of connectivity
  - BM Rutherford: how is this different from the events r/e the elections?
  - Pres Peterson: is this taking away/distracting from everything else we're asked to do?
    - Council: no.
  - Chief of Staff Baldrige: this is part of what the student body has asked us to do, we need to respond to the desire to have issues discussed on campus
- Advisor D'Amour: where is the record of this on the WCSA drive?
  - CoS Baldrige will be writing the roadmap/description of the event series
- Pres. Peterson adds that we should continue to promote connectivity outside of "westmont bubble"

6:43 Move to voting on new bills

6:44: Vote on Suggestion Ox Bill

- Passes 5-0

6:44: Vote on Prayer Journal Bill

- Passes 5-0

6:45 Pres. Peterson discusses communication about Student Forums

- Call them student forums so that we maintain organization and cordial attitude

6:46: Update from VP Carlson regarding Student Orgs Dinner

- Sending out doodle survey for setting a date for the first week of October

6:46: Discussion about Horizon Article and response from Grant Gardner

- How do we make this a balanced response both about the alleged failings of WCSA and about the underlying multicultural issue at hand?
  - We need to explain the reasoning behind the position, our policy goals and process and we also need to respectfully respond to some critiques.
    - Don't shut down the response, but encourage the conversation about the issue and thank him for voicing his opinion.
    - Academic Liaison Hendrik: We have a responsibility to respond by casting a vision for what we stand for. Grand Gardner took a stand on what he thought was wrong and right, which is admirable. We need to encourage people to take ownership of their ideas, and in responding we need to promote further discussion.
    - BM Rutherford: We need to write a response that encourages further views shared, that doesn't drown out other voices

6:53: BM Rutherford brings discussion of women-only gym hours

- This isn't unprecedented, there are these types of arrangements at other gyms
- But, there is a pushback from both men and women on campus who don't want this to happen, that they don't want women-only hours
  - But, does this mitigate the concern of the women who *do* want separate hours?
- CM Ferguson adds that from personal experience she can advocate that this is a real concern and that there might be a silent majority of women who are also in favor of this
- Advisor D'Amour warns that this will be a strongly two-sided issue, and doesn't discourage stopping conversation but encourages pursuing all options, including ones that are less divisive.
- Question from Pres. Peterson: should we have a survey about this to find out more about the student body's opinion?
  - This is a possibility: Advisor D'Amour suggests that we make a broader survey to collect more data than just that about the women's gym hours issue.
    - Market it as a broader issue regarding the use of the gym.
- BM Rutherford adds:
  - Gym is considering taking away some machines over the summer to add more space

7:00: Pres. Peterson adds to conversation with Reed Sheard:

- Here's the deal: Reed will sponsor students for the 80th anniversary, and wants help with GLC dedication, but wants WCSA to pitch in for the Guy Kawasaki leadership lunch.
  - Pres. Peterson adds that this is going to catapult into a further conversation about Lead Where You Stand, for which WCSA could sponsor some students

7:03: Joy has applied for the position of Spring Sing Producer

7:04: Executive Council Meeting Adjourned.