

# **Associated Students of UW Tacoma**

# **Senate Meeting Minutes**

Date: March 6, 2025 Time: 5:30PM

Location: University YMCA Student Center, Rm 304 Virtual: youtube.com/@ASUWT

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Ennis calls the meeting to order at 6:42PM.

#### II. ROLL CALL

Speaker/Urban Studies Senator Hugo EnnisPresentPre-Major Senator Husneha GhafooriPresentMilgard Business Senator Kevin NguyenPresentEngineering & Technology (SET) Senator Eamon ChallinorPresentEducation Senator Noemi DuncanPresent

Graduate Senator Heiko Grant Absent/Excused

Nursing & Healthcare Leadership Senator VACANT

Social Work & Criminal Justice Senator Absent/Excused
Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (IAS) Senator Absent/Excused

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Senator Duncan motioned to approve; Senator Nguyen seconded.

#### 4-0-0, motion passes

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senator Ghafoori motioned to approve the minutes from March 13th; Senator Challinor seconded.

## 4-0-0, motion passes

#### V. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Speaker Ennis welcomes all members of the public present at the meeting.

ASUWT President Holly Wetzel was in attendance. She gave an update on the UW Board of Regents meeting regarding Resolution 2025-01: Divestment from Companies Profiting from Violations of International Law and Human Rights in the Violence against Palestine. The board felt the resolution was too divisive and refused to convene the committee to discuss it. They noted that the resolution would have little impact on the genocide in Gaza. One regent stated that she is a Zionist and was voting "nay". Another regent said that with the increase in student calls for divestment across the country, UW should consider disallowing such resolutions. This was a vote on whether they would create a committee to consider the tri-campus resolutions.

President Wetzel was allowed two minutes to speak directly to the regents. She put forth three questions:

- What is the purpose of having mechanisms for reviewing investments for ethicality that they cannot be activated when difficult questions arise, difficult ethical questions arise?
- What additional steps do you need for the UW Tacoma Student Senate to take from UW Tacoma student concerns to be heard through the formation of the advisory committee?
- What is the next step forward here?

The board gave no replies to the questions and did not follow up after the meeting either. President Wetzel added that neither the ASUW President nor the Speak of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) spoke at this meeting. Neither notified any Seattle students that this divestment vote did not pass. President Wetzel reminded the senators that this resolution began in the ASUW Senate and many members are in the GPSS now.

President Wetzel shared that there hasn't been any conversation since this happened and she wants to hear from the senators about this a future meeting. She encourages them to talk together about what they and the student of UWT would like to do going forward. She is available to facilitate a meeting with the Board of Regents chair.

Minutes from this meeting have not been published yet, they should be on their Meeting Minutes for 2025 page soon. They can be contacted at <a href="mailto:regents@uw.edu">regents@uw.edu</a>

#### VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There is no unfinished business.

#### VII. NEW BUSINESS

Speaker Ennis introduced the Bylaw 206.01 changes to add virtual attendance to the quorum for Senate and Executive Board meetings.

Senator Ghafoori motioned to approve the changes to Bylaw 206.01; seconded.

#### 4-0-0, motion passes

President Wetzel introduced <u>Resolution 2025-02: Student Legislative Fee</u>. This included and explanation of the need for the fee and the required survey data. If the Senate approves, the Executive Board will work with UWT administration to draft a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to present to the UW Board of Regents in May.

Senator Nguyen motioned to approve; Senator Ghafoori seconded.

# 4-0-0, motion passes

President Wetzel introduced the ASUWT Constitution and Bylaw revisions as voted on by the Executive Board on March 6<sup>th</sup>. This includes changes to the structure of both the Executive Board and Senate. This includes an option to expand the Senate in the future. Senate would become responsible for filling vacant seats. The pay for senators decreased as their job description has changed significantly. This allowed for the new Executive Boards seats to be funded with a balanced budget that has been approved by the Services and Activities Fee Committee (SAFC). If these revisions are approved here, they will be forwarded to the Elections Administration Chair, Melissa López-Barbosa to be included on the May ballot.

Senator Duncan motioned to approve to the ASUWT Constitution revisions; Senator Challinor seconded.

# 4-0-0, motion passes

Senator Ghafoori motioned to approve to the ASUWT Bylaw revisions; Senator Nguyen seconded.

# 4-0-0, motion passes

2024-2025 ASUWT Bylaws and Constitution: <a href="https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/asuwt/governing-documents">https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/asuwt/governing-documents</a>

Proposed Bylaws: <a href="https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/sites/default/files/2025-03/proposed-2025-asuwt-bylaws-mar06.pdf">https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/sites/default/files/2025-03/proposed-2025-asuwt-bylaws-mar06.pdf</a>

*Proposed Constitution:* <a href="https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/sites/default/files/2025-03/proposed-2025-asuwt-constitution-mar06.pdf">https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/sites/default/files/2025-03/proposed-2025-asuwt-constitution-mar06.pdf</a>

#### VIII. SENATOR UPDATES

Senator Duncan shared that she met with Dean Endo to plan mental health workshops students because School of Education (SOE) students are full time teaching while in classes. They make sure that with everything going on world right now that they're providing support for them. They are also working on mock interviews and preparing for career fairs. She is also creating a leadership panel to come and speak for students and prospective students to give them some inspiration. School of Education (SOE) students and interested premajor students looking for support can contact her at <a href="mailto:asuwted@uw.edu">asuwted@uw.edu</a> or in her mailbox in West Coast Grocery (WCG) 324.

Senator Ghafoori shared she has been working with Vice President Kelley, Student Advising Mentor Trevor Owens, and a premajor advisor to host an end of the year bash. all of the pre major and transfer students to come together and also serve as basically kind of like a transfer connect event.

Senator Challinor shared he will be meeting with Dean Katti. He is also working with a STEM LLC (Living Learning Community) as well as being student program assistant to help with more casual events for STEM students to connect with their peers.

Speaker Ennis shared he has been working on his Urban Studies capstone project. He recommends everyone look at the newest UWT master plan revisions. He is not impressed and he shares this from his view as an urban planning student.

#### IX. ADVISOR UPDATES

No advisor updates today.

#### X. CHAIR UPDATES

No chair updates today.

# XI. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Ennis adjourned the meeting at 7:16PM.