



Associated Students of the University of Washington

Board of Directors | **Agenda** | Session 123

April 18, 2024 | Husky Union Building 303 | 5:30 PM

The ASUW acknowledges the stewards of Coast Salish lands, the lands on which we currently sit, and the UW occupies. We acknowledge the original and current caretakers; Duwamish, Suquamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations and peoples.

Zoom: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/4769215522> | [ASUW Board of Directors Agendas and Minutes](#) | [Captions](#)

Call to Order

Land Acknowledgement

Roll Call | 17 total. *9 voting. 5 quorum | # present (P). # excused (E). # absent (A).

P | *President – **Jacob Feleke**

P | *Vice President – **Ellis Andrews**

P | Director of Personnel – **Thomas Sefair-Lopez**

P | Director of Finance and Budget – **Melody Fung**

P | Director of Communications – **Yazmine Mendoza**

P | *Director of Internal Policy – **Francisco Dojenia**

P | *Director of Diversity Efforts – **Leah Sishu**

P | *Director of University Affairs – **Nandana Jaideep**

P | *Director of Programming – **Naomi Snow**

P | *Director of Community Relations – **Anastacia Mikaele**

P | *Director of Campus Partnerships – **Azaan Leslie Brown**

P | *GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs – **Amanda Chin**

P | Student Senate Vice Speaker – **Andal Sridhar**

P | Board of Directors Coordinator – **Maya Lukalapu**

P | Associate Director of Student Activities – **Christina Coop**

P | Husky Union Building Director – **Carrie Moore**

Public Forum

- STF rate for fiscal year – Mark

Mark introduces himself as the chair of the Student Technology Fee Committee. He explains that he is there to discuss a proposal about the student technology fee rates for fiscal year 2025.

Nandana asks to add ASUW town hall as a discussion item. **Jacob** recommends adding it to “Student Safety,” which is already a discussion item. **Nandana** takes that recommendation.

The board debates on where to add the board bill 3.14 and comes to a consensus that it will be placed under new business.

Approval of the Agenda

Francisco motions to approve agenda.

Naomi seconds.

Vote is unanimous. Agenda is approved.

Approval of the Minutes

- [04.11.2024 - ASUW BOD Minutes.docx](#)

Leah motions to approve the minutes.

Azaan seconds.

Vote is unanimous. Minutes have been approved.

Consent Agenda

- [BOARD BILL 5.10 A Resolution to Set the U-PASS Fee at \\$70/Quarter for FY 24-25](#)

Andal reads the bill.

Yazmine calls for a point of privilege and asks members to speak up.

Azaan motions to approve bill.

Francisco explains that he can't motion because the consent agenda is supposed to be approved all together.

Azaan rescinds motion.

- [BOARD BILL 2.35 - An Act to Hire Sonal Virk as a Personnel Director for the 2024-2025 Academic Year.docx](#)

Thomas reads the bill.

Ellis motions to approve consent agenda.

Azaan seconds.

Naomi objects. She explains that she would like more information about why this person was being hired due to the Personnel Director having a major role within ASUW.

Ellis rescinds motion.

Thomas explains that **Sonal** is a Human Resources major at the Foster School of Business with a strong background in HR principles, focusing on diversity, equity, and

inclusion. She is passionate about maintaining confidentiality and mitigating bias in hiring and other HR processes. He believes Sonal will be a valuable asset in this area.

Naomi questions if they have extensive knowledge about ASUW and the Personnel Director's role. **Thomas** explains that **Sonal** has extensive knowledge of ASUW and its personnel policies. He notes her in-depth understanding and her ability to quickly learn new aspects of the job. He emphasizes that **Sonal's** background in HR and her focus of study make her an asset to the team.

Naomi questions further if they have the bandwidth for the job. **Thomas** answers that they were clear about that during the interview process.

Ellis explains that the personnel hiring process is very thorough, and she appreciates the questions raised. She notes that every candidate is made aware during the hiring process that they will be asked about their ability to manage and prioritize the workload for the position. She expresses her and **Thomas's** excitement about the candidate.

Azaan motions to approve consent agenda.

Anastacia seconds.

Unanimous consent. Consent agenda has been approved.

New Business

- [FINANCE BILL 3.41 - An Act to Approve the STF Fee of \\$27 per quarter](#)

Ellis reads the bill.

Mark explains that it has been a long-standing goal to reduce the reserves for the Student Technology Fee (STF) and other fees on campus. He shares that they have managed to decrease the reserves from \$15 million three years ago to a projected \$3 million by the end of next year. He notes that although there are complexities related to prior year allocations not being spent within the year, the current reserve stands at \$9

million and is expected to drop to around \$4 million by the end of this year. Further reductions are planned for next year, aiming for a reserve of about \$3 million.

Jacob F. asks if they can speak to what projects helped them in spending down the money. Mark explains the specifics of the STF allocations. He clarifies that there are two types of allocations: recurring and one-time. Recurring allocations, which happen annually, have increased significantly, whereas one-time allocations have remained relatively constant and sometimes even decreased. He highlights recent increases in recurring allocations, including substantial new funding for HYAK, Hub Event Services, and two projects by the Career Center, totaling an additional \$700,000 annually. These increases have led to recurring allocations growing from a minor part of the STF budget to \$2.2 million annually. This growth in recurring allocations is a key factor in the ability of the STF to spend down its reserves effectively.

Ellis motions to approve.

Leah seconds.

Vote is unanimous.

Leah motions to suspend the rules with the intention of moving board bill 3.38 through 3.40 to new business.

Nandana seconds.

Vote is unanimous.

- [BOARD BILL 3.38 - An Act to Grant Polynesian Student Alliance.docx](#)

Melody reads the bill.

Nandana motions.

Azaan seconds.

Jacob objects because he would like the title to be fixed. **Melody** takes it as friendly. **Jacob** rescinds objection.

Vote is unanimous. Board bill passed.

- [BOARD BILL 3.39 - An Act to Grant Traditional Chinese Dance.docx](#)

Melody reads the bill.

Leah motions to approve.

Ellis seconds.

7.0.2. Board bill is approved.

- [BOARD BILL 3.40 - An Act to Grant Grey Matters Journal.docx](#)

Melody reads the bill.

Leah motions to approve.

Azaan seconds.

7.0.2. Board bill is approved.

Funding Updates

- [FINANCE BILL 6.31 - An Act to Student of Colour for Public Health.docx](#)

Melody explains that this finance bill is under \$1000 and it's mainly for facility costs.

- [FINANCE BILL 6.33 - An Act to Grant Greeks Take Action.docx](#)

Melody explains that this finance bill is under \$1000 and it's mainly for facility costs.

- [FINANCE BILL 6.34 - An Act to Grant Bhakti Yoga Club.docx](#)

Melody explains that this finance bill is under \$1000 and it's mainly for facility costs. She explains that they have around \$40,000 left to spend for this quarter.

Discussion Items

- [Board Bill 4.11: An Act to Adopt an ASUW Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging \(DEI&B\) Statement](#)

Leah reads the bill.

Jacob says that this is great idea. He expresses his approval of the ongoing faculty discussions regarding anti-racism training. He notes that faculty members are encouraging department heads to undergo this training and believes that student leaders should also demonstrate the same commitment. He emphasizes the importance of affirming to all students that they are respected and that student leaders are actively working to improve ASUW's reputation, particularly in communities that have previously felt underrepresented. He sees this initiative as a catalyst that would encourage students to engage more confidently with student organizations, knowing that their opinions and narratives are valued.

Leah expresses her appreciation for the ASUW's ability to take stances independent of university policies, particularly reflecting the majority opinion of students. She hopes for productive discussions on how to support her initiatives and mentions her participation in a three-hour anti-racism training. She explains that the training, required for the director of diversity efforts, is designed to be intentionally repetitive to ensure the information is retained. She finds the structure effective and suggests extending this training to ASUW employees, volunteers, and possibly senators in the next school year to enhance their understanding and actions regarding diversity and inclusion.

Ellis explains that she thinks it is a fantastic idea. She is curious about whether there is a plan to pass a resolution through the Senate to gauge student opinion.

Leah mentions that she and **Francisco** have discussed the matter further, but she is not certain about the exact wording. She observed that the issues in question are primarily related to law and policy reform, which is why she initially thought it might not need to go through the Senate. However, she is open to bringing it to the Senate to gather feedback from the senators.

Francisco agrees that since the topic involves training, it appears more like a policy initiative rather than something that would typically require a Senate resolution of student opinion.

Thomas shares his thoughts from a business perspective, influenced by his education at the Foster School. He points out that many corporations are adopting diversity and inclusion statements and focusing on promoting these values both internally and through contributions to the community. He suggests that ASUW could benefit from aligning closer to this business model and revisiting ASUW's current mission statement to potentially integrate DEI values more explicitly.

Leah explains how she included the revising of the ASUW mission statement in the bill. She emphasizes that the ASUW bylaws are reflective of changes and hopes to ensure that the ASUW mission statement, hiring practices, and other elements are also reflective of these updates. She plans to incorporate feedback from the JCC, Senate, and others, marking changes in yellow to make them clear. She also shares her commitment to fostering inclusivity within ASUW, expressing a belief in equity over equality, where resources are allocated based on the needs of specific groups.

Francisco says that if the proposal were made into a Senate bill, it would function similarly to a board bill. He thinks this approach would facilitate collaboration between the Senate and the board in implementing the policy.

Jacob discusses his ongoing conversations with different entity and board members about a proposed task they hope to present next week. The plan involves hosting a programming event for RSOs that mirrors the format used by the Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity Student Advisory Board, which holds meetings every two weeks. The aim is to encourage RSOs to participate, learn, and represent their groups at these meetings. Additionally, RSOs that attend three meetings would receive compensation as an incentive. He suggests integrating programming from ASUW in collaboration with UW resources or community resources, focusing on diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. He believes that this initiative could significantly enhance the proposed bill or handbook, assuming it is passed.

Leah considers the involvement of the Senate in the proposed initiatives, particularly regarding the integration of certain principles into their bylaws. She acknowledges that

while the ASUW bylaws might supersede those of the Senate, it could be beneficial for the Senate to include similar stipulations in their own bylaws for consistency and reinforcement. She notes that this is under the Senate's jurisdiction and is open to including a recommendation in the bill that advises the ASUW student Senate to adopt these principles within their bylaws.

- Board Members Social Media – Yazmine

Yazmine discusses the creation of a new Instagram account for all board members of ASUW, which they repurposed from an existing but inactive ASUW jobs account. They touch on the need to update the communications policy, a project they are currently focusing on with **Francisco's** assistance, to ensure it aligns with bylaws and remains relevant. The goal is to integrate the new Instagram account's operational guidelines into this policy. They plan to create a Teams chat for board members and the OCOMM media team to collaborate on the content and management of the Instagram account. Regarding the policy revision timeline, they hope to finalize and approve the updated communications policy by the end of the current quarter. They mention that they have already made significant progress but acknowledge the extensive changes required, including adapting to new platforms and updating outdated content. They aim to provide tentative updates in the next week and expect to present and discuss the changes for approval within the next two to three weeks.

Ellis inquires about whether there could be an interim process for utilizing the new Instagram account while the official documentation and policies are being finalized. She suggests the possibility of board members submitting content that could be uploaded following a quick approval process, perhaps through a smaller, dedicated board approval chat. **Yazmine** confirms that the creation of a Teams chat, involving a few members from the OCOMM team along with the entire board, was indeed designed to facilitate an interim process.

Ellis proposes the idea of granting login access to the new Instagram account for herself and **Jacob**, not to post content, but to monitor and respond to social media messages. She explains that their active involvement on platforms like Reddit and various Instagram accounts is habitual and beneficial for engaging with the community. She suggests that while the president and vice president shouldn't have the ability to post content, which could imply undue authority, they should be able to read through direct messages to stay informed and responsive. She considers this access crucial for effective

communication and even suggests extending this privilege to other personnel involved in the management of the account.

Yazmine expresses agreement with **Ellis's** suggestion to grant login access for monitoring messages and states their intention to formalize this in the communications policy. They acknowledge that while the Instagram account might not be bustling with activity immediately, establishing clear guidelines for its use is important for the future. They plan to discuss the specifics of implementing this policy during an upcoming executive meeting.

Jacob inquires whether the updates concerning the Instagram account management will be integrated into the existing communication policy or if they will be covered under a separate policy. **Yazmine** confirms that the updates will be part of the existing communication policy.

The board discussed the idea of creating separate Instagram accounts for the president and vice president alongside a main board account. There was a consensus on starting with a single board account to keep things simple and streamlined. The discussion also touched on the importance of the board members, particularly **Ellis** and **Jacob**, having access to monitor social media interactions without necessarily posting content, to ensure they are aware of the concerns and activities within the student community. This setup is seen as a pilot program to build the board's outreach and engagement on social media.

- Student Safety/ASUW Townhall – Jacob/Nandana

Nandana reflects on the previous town hall, noting that it was successful and suggests improvements for future events. Specifically, she emphasizes the need for better accessibility measures. To facilitate this, she proposes starting the planning process earlier and ensuring a room is booked well in advance to accommodate everyone interested in attending.

Jacob suggests that the upcoming town hall should not only provide a platform for students to express their concerns, particularly regarding safety on and off campus, but also serve as an opportunity to enhance ASUW operations for the coming year. He emphasizes the importance of hearing from students about their concerns to better inform the actions of a legislative steering committee or task force currently being

formed. He envisions the town hall as a space for productive dialogue where students can pose unrestricted questions, allowing for a thorough understanding of student perspectives. He also expresses interest in considering which stakeholders or guest speakers should be invited to further enrich the discussions.

Naomi acknowledges that while the previous town hall setup was satisfactory, she suggests maintaining the focus primarily on-board members without extending invitations to other entities within ASUW just yet. She expresses concern that the town hall hasn't been robust enough to warrant expansion and believes that strengthening the format with just the board members should be the priority for this year.

Jacob articulates the importance of using the ASUW platform not only to listen to student concerns but to amplify them to broader audiences, including university administration and other students. He explains that the purpose of amplification is collaborative and inclusive, aiming to engage with various university entities and campuses to enhance student safety and well-being. He references a successful model from the previous year where a town hall was coordinated between GPSS, university administration, and faculty senate leaders. He suggests that involving university administration and current faculty senate chairs in this year's town hall could be beneficial.

Nandana expresses concerns about including university administration in the town hall, fearing it might overshadow the ASUW's role and diminish its efforts to bridge gaps between the student body and student government. She points out that the presence of administration could transform the event into a session where students primarily direct questions at administrators, something that is already covered by the administration's own town hall meetings.

Anastacia suggests making the task of organizing town halls more manageable by integrating with already scheduled general meetings within various student communities. She proposes initially attending these community meetings to understand the general concerns and then organizing a larger town hall where these collected issues can be presented to university administration.

Jacob shares his experience discussing the town hall concept with the OMAD Student Advisory Board, highlighting their keen interest in directly addressing the

administration. He notes that many of the issues they would typically bring to the ASUW could be expedited if students engaged directly with the administration during such events. Additionally, he sees a dual benefit in this approach: not only does it facilitate student-administration communication, but it also provides a platform for students to express concerns about ASUW itself, potentially informing structural or operational improvements for the following year.

Leah reflects on the recent SAB meeting, explaining their effective preparation method using large post-it notes for gathering questions, which helped streamline the discussion. She supports the idea of hosting a town hall involving administration to directly address student questions, similar to SAB's approach. However, she advocates for keeping such an event distinct from the ASUW town hall. She proposes hosting separate events to ensure that each can adequately address its specific objectives—whether it's facilitating direct student-administration dialogue or focusing on internal ASUW matters.

- Admitted students' day – Ellis

Ellis provides details about the upcoming Admitted Students Day at the University of Washington on April 20th. She mentions that the event will take place in Red Square and emphasizes the opportunity to engage with thousands of new students. She highlights this event as an excellent chance to promote the new board Instagram, the regular ASUW Instagram, and various initiatives the ASUW has worked on throughout the year. She outlines the schedule for tabling, which includes setting up from 9 to 10 AM and actively tabling from 10 AM to 3 PM. She anticipates the event might slow down between 2 and 3 PM and hopes to wrap up by 3 PM without needing the extra time until 3:30 PM. She asks people to sign up.

Announcements

- Board reports

Ellis announces that the New York Times survey initiated by the ASUW has garnered 2,611 responses so far, with 2,556 of those respondents indicating they voted. She highlights this as a significant contribution to this year's voter turnout of 3,184, marking the highest in the past five years. She commends the Election Administration Committee and the candidates for their roles in boosting participation. She also mentions an oversight where she accidentally purchased New York Times subscriptions for the entire campus, including Bothell, Tacoma, and graduate students. She plans to

coordinate with **AJ, Puneet,** and **Holly** to ensure that students across all campuses have access to the subscription, thus extending the benefits of ASUW Seattle's initiative. Additionally, she shares that graduation stoles have been designed and will be ordered the following day, celebrating the upcoming graduation for seniors. She encourages further promotion of the New York Times survey.

Francisco updates that he is currently amending the ASUW bylaws and encourages anyone with concerns related to their job descriptions to approach him for clarifications or adjustments. Additionally, he is collaborating with **Ellis** to create an organizational chart to help visualize the structure more clearly. He is also working on establishing separate documents for the board bylaws, board rules, and the judicial committee's jurisprudence, aiming to streamline these aspects distinct from the main ASUW bylaws. With the constitutional reform now approved, he plans to set up a bylaws reform task force for the following year to ensure smooth transitions and updates. Lastly, he informs everyone that he will be taking a short sabbatical and will be unavailable for the next few days, asking colleagues to hold any non-urgent matters until his return on Monday.

Leah updates on the activities of the JCC, mentioning that various entities have been hosting numerous successful events. She highlights the recent informational meeting hosted by OISA, which saw good attendance and active participation. She also notes that **Aliyah Cleveland**, the director of OSHR, has been hosting lunches that include free food, such as pizza and snacks, recommending that everyone should take advantage of these gatherings. She mentions a significant operational change within the JCC, which has shifted from weekly to bi-weekly meetings to better manage their agenda. She emphasizes the push to get JCC fund applications reviewed in their upcoming meeting and mentions her ongoing work on the DEI bill. She encourages everyone to provide input on the bill.

Jacob provides a detailed update on his extensive efforts to enhance student engagement and representation within the university's governance structures. He notes the faculty's keen interest in student opinions and discusses his ongoing work to appoint more students to faculty councils to ensure their voices are directly heard. He is also focused on increasing internship opportunities and filling faculty council positions, urging the community to encourage student participation. In addition to local efforts, he talks about the potential for national influence through the Association of the Big Ten Students, which offers an opportunity for federal lobbying without membership fees. He thinks this involvement could significantly amplify ASUW's voice on a larger stage.

He highlights his collaboration with various student groups, including SARVA and the Black Student Association, providing them with necessary resources and support. He emphasizes the importance of these partnerships in fostering a supportive community and addressing specific needs, such as finding a more suitable location for the reproductive justice vending machines to ensure privacy and accessibility.

Thomas updates everyone on his efforts in managing the hiring process and organizing committees at the university. He expresses satisfaction with the progress, noting that most application processes have closed successfully, with only one remaining to be reopened. His focus has been on ensuring the personnel committee functions effectively and updating personal policies. Additionally, he shares some personal news, announcing his upcoming participation in the Husky 100 ceremony in two weeks. He expresses gratitude for the support from his colleagues and looks forward to celebrating this achievement with them.

Melody discusses her responsibilities in finalizing the budget for the next year. She is also examining the organization's reserve funds to ensure they're being utilized effectively and reflect the current needs and operations of ASUW. This involves a thorough evaluation of all commissions to ascertain if the budget realistically mirrors the ongoing activities and requirements of ASUW. Additionally, she mentions that she has been inviting commissions to the FNB meetings. This initiative aims to better understand their needs, which will help inform and guide the fiscal planning for the FY 2025 budget. On a personal note, she shares her satisfaction with her studies, particularly praising her intro professor, Ott, for his effectiveness, and recommends him.

Yazmine provides updates on the activities within OCCOM, highlighting the progress in updating the ASUW website and rewriting the OCCOM policy. They express enthusiasm for the work being done by interns this spring quarter, particularly in photography and organizing old photos. Additionally, they mention an upcoming professional development event where one of their interns will assist in taking professional headshots. They share their delight in their intern's excitement about this opportunity. On a personal note, they mention their sister's upcoming 18th birthday on Sunday, humorously noting their sister's aspiration to emulate them by getting bangs.

Anastacia shares updates about her involvement with administrative activities, highlighting her enjoyable experiences and the invitation to participate again this year. She also discusses her advisory role in addressing safety concerns at Panhellenic, mentioning a confusion between night walk and night ride services that prompted the creation of an explanatory chart. In collaboration with Renee, she explores ways to enhance student safety information accessibility, such as integrating QR codes on student IDs and providing stickers for those without IDs. She mentions ongoing discussions with **Jacob** and **David** from the OFSL about the Unity plot project, appreciating the historical depth of the project and the collaboration involved. Additionally, she is considering reworking the Transfer Student Advocacy Committee to make it more effective by focusing on one-on-one interactions rather than frequent group meetings. This adjustment aims to better address the needs and improvements desired by the growing transfer student population.

Naomi discusses her efforts in developing a board bill aimed at modeling the Student Advisory Board to enhance awareness among RSOs about campus entities like Title IX and available funding resources. The goal is to ensure RSOs can effectively pass on critical information within their groups. She mentions collaboration with **Nandana** and **Azaan** to expand the UW Alert system, aiming for implementation next week. Additionally, she is focusing on RSO outreach, attending multiple RSO meetings weekly, and preparing to send out an RSO email soon. She is also organizing the RSO Leadership Summit scheduled for the end of May. The summit aims to celebrate the year's achievements, share experiences among RSO leaders, and discuss improvements for the following year, creating a foundation for future initiatives based on the collective experiences of the RSO community.

Nandana discusses her involvement with several initiatives, including the Senate Legislative Steering Committee Task Force, which is having its first meeting soon. She's also collaborating with **Azaan** and **Naomi** on the UW Alert Legislation and plans to meet with the UW Alert Department to draft legislation for presentation next week. Additionally, she is working on amending university agendas to include sections on increasing campus accessibility and disability accommodations. She has a TABS meeting scheduled and is wrapping up the year with a meeting with ICA regarding divestment. On a personal note, she shared that she, along with **Jacob**, **Francisco**, and **Naomi**, WSA event, where she was elected VP of Diversity. She also mentioned an upcoming performance by her dance team at "Desi Dhamaka," a South Asian art showcase, encouraging attendance to support cultural arts.

Azaan shared updates on the various projects funded by the campus assembly fund, including research on stormwater impact from turf fields, supporting cultural events like a powwow, and initiatives in engineering education. He discussed funding a project to create a bird-friendly campus due to the high number of bird collisions with buildings. Additionally, he is involved in a project to use salvaged wood from campus trees in sustainable ways, and another to verify the genetic lineage of UW's cherry trees, which have lost their documented origin. For UPASS, he is working on updating the website and improving night ride services. He is also collaborating with the Panhellenic Leadership POC Council to differentiate between night ride and night walk services, which are often confused but serve different purposes. Lastly, he mentioned personal achievements, including a Poli Sci paper accepted for journal review, discussing international dynamics in the Ukrainian conflict.

Amanda is working on translation documents for her position in preparation for elections on May 8th. She's also addressing personnel policies to clarify roles between officers and staff for upcoming events. Next Saturday, there will be a diversity resource fair she's involved in. Additionally, she mentioned organizing an event at the ECC theater, which will feature a free drag show from 5:30 to 7:00 PM, including drag games, mooncakes, and microphones. Furthermore, she is preparing for a Mariners meeting offering ticket options and collaborating with UW alumni for a future event on May 9th.

Susan explains that she has recently taken on responsibilities related to finance and budget in the Senate, a transition that she finds somewhat challenging due to unfamiliarity with the reports and the need to collaborate with a colleague she doesn't know well yet. She is also feeling enthusiastic about her upcoming graduation.

Maya announces that the board printing account has money now. She has moved to a new apartment and is enjoying her new space. She's glad she has a big room. She's just focusing on catching up on her academic responsibilities.

- [Incorporation Day](#)

Francisco shared a historical tidbit about ASUW, noting that April 18th, 1906, marked its formal incorporation as a part of the university's structure. This year marks 118 years

since that event, which he refers to as "Incorporation Day," celebrating it as a significant moment in the organization's history.

Jacob mentions that the printer code in their office is '1906', aligning with the year of ASUW's incorporation, though he jokes about the printer not working despite knowing the code.

Adjournment

Francisco motions to adjourn.

Nandana seconds.

7.1.1. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.