



Associated Students of the University of Washington
Senate Floor Minutes | Senate Session XXXII
Date: Wednesday November 18, 2025
HUB 250

CALL TO ORDER

5:00 PM

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Erick Jacobsen reads the following statement: The ASUW Student Senate acknowledges the Indigenous peoples of this land, and the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations, and the Duwamish peoples, whose land our university currently occupies. It is our role and responsibility as guests to understand how our impact entangles the caretakers.

APPROVAL OF SENATE AGENDA

Dylan Bianchi moves to approve the agenda

Avery Kirscht seconds

Approved by raised hand vote

LEADERSHIP REPORTS | [Erick Jacobsen](#), [Joseph Riggio](#), [Julia Tanner](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Erick Jacobsen: All right, moving on to the announcements and public comment period. If you have any announcements, you do not have to be a senator to make announcements. The announcements don't have to be related to Senate. It can be an RSO, an event or anything. Please line up at the mic and address the Senate.

Joseph Riggio: I do have a QR code up there on the leadership report, but hello, I'm back. The Student Health Fee Survey launched on November 12th. We want your feedback. ASUW and GPSS is looking for student feedback on exploring the potentiality of a student governed health fee. This would be a committee comprised of students voting membership that would govern this fee. Health units have proposed \$125.00 per quarter per student. We want to hear your feedback on that. If you think it should be lower, you should say it should be lower in the survey. If you think that this is whoa, not a great idea, we want to hear from you. If you think it's a great idea, we want to hear from you. These funds are gonna help UW Counseling Center, Livewell and Husky Health, and that's all I'm gonna say about it. If you want to talk to me after the meeting, stick around for bonding too. Stick around for bonding. But you can also talk to me too about the health fee if you have specific questions. Thank you.

Reea Dureja: Hi my name is Reea I'm the EAC co-chair. Erick did mention about the fact that EPP got passed which is the Election Policies and Procedures document. We're also looking for interns so this is kind of like our tentative event calendar. We have slime making, we have petting zoos, we have a lot of cool stuff. We have a Poppi giveaway coming up in spring. So it's a lot of events and we're looking for 10 volunteers, and it can also give you a chance to get paid in spring. So it's gonna be \$150.00 for seven hours of full working. So you're gonna help students vote and all that stuff. So if you're like interested. I really hope you sign up and apply to be a volunteer with us. My office hours are 2:30 to 3:30 on Wednesdays in HUB 121F and if you come tomorrow we'll have some snacks and we're going to be discussing about ASUW fair. We have 44 RSOs signed up to table with us so it's going to be really cool. So if you're interested show up tomorrow we'll have a cool time. Thank you.

Dylan Bianchi: Hi AAA members I have a message about bonding if you guys could reply to that message I'd really appreciate it. Thank you.

Husna Chepkemboi: Hi, my name is Husna, Terry Hall representative. Feeling cold and isolated? We can help fix both of those things hopefully. Come join other Terry Hall residents in 2nd floor lounge. Hang out with us and with some hot chocolate on December 3rd from 6:30 to 8:30, bring your own mug.

Brandon Perry: Hello I'm Brandon Perry I'm letting you all know YDSA UW YDSA is hosting a summer transit rally to show student support in expanding UPASS to cover summer, even for students who are not taking summer classes. And that rally will be in Red Square this Thursday at 1:30. If you have any questions, please talk to me afterwards. I'll be right over here and I'll stay a little extra while after. All right. Thank you.

Jenna Miller: Hey everyone, I'm Jenna. I'm the Co-Director of the Queer Student Commission and we are partnering with the Gender Equity Commission, Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence Activists and a few other groups to do a Trans Day of Remembrance Candlelight Vigil. It's on this Thursday on Trans Day of Remembrance and we're working with the Trans Effective UW and it'll be at 5:30 to 7:00 PM in Johnson 102. It'll be super cool.

Erick Jacobsen: Are there any other announcements? I'll give you time to think if you have any announcements as I walk over to the microphone. Any more announcements? OK, well, our next item of the agenda is our public forum. But Dr. Jones has not gotten here yet, so I'll go to Joseph.

Joseph Riggio: What we can probably do in the meantime is, if y'all wanna start thinking about some of the questions you wanna ask, we do have an open questions forum that I'll be moderating. It's linked in the floor agenda and we'll also, for the presentation. Like Erick said before, we'll have a question on the screen, and those questions have a QR code. If you scan that QR code, it'll also take you to the form. It's also on LinkTree, so there's multiple ways. I encourage you to start thinking about the questions you wanna ask now. Unfortunately, we're not gonna get to all of them. So like Erick said, we'll send what we can to the Office of the President after the meeting too.

Recess 5:12 pm

Reconvened 5:15 pm

FORUMS

Erick Jacobsen: Now, if you'll allow me to introduce President Robert J Jones, he is the new UW president. He served as a professor in the University of Minnesota for 34 years and rose up to serve

as Senior VP of Academic Administration. He then served as the President of the State University of New York, Albany for three years and the Chancellor of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, for eight years before coming here to the UW. Whenever you're ready.

Robert Jones: Well, let me start by saying good afternoon to each and every one of you. It's my great honor and pleasure to be here to participate in your student government meeting to see this afternoon. As we said, you know, I have a very long background in history in higher education, been around higher education universities. I don't, you guys can hear me, right? I know you can. I was a professor for a very long time. So I'll use my professor voice. I've been around higher education for a better part of 40-46 years. That's what said, 34 1/2 years as a at the University of Minnesota. I started there when I was a newly minted PhD at 26 years of old. Of age. When I graduated from the University of Missouri, it was my first university job and I had every intention of staying maybe about five years and then I was going to take that high paying job at Monsanto. But I got deeply involved in. Public higher education working in a land-grant university and had the great pleasure of doing research and discovery as a assistant and then full professor and then tenure professor at that university for 34 1/2 years. Didn't really set out to. To do anything in life, the only thing I ever really planned was to be the best professor that I could. And so the rest of this stuff in terms of leadership opportunities and this is my third and quote UN quote major research university, quote UN quote, predominantly white institution that I've led across. my career and this is a capstone experience for me because this is truly one of the most amazing universities, not in the US, just in the US of A, but in the planet. And I am a first-generation college student. My parents were sharecroppers. And so that's reason you are going to continue to hear from me about access and affordability because I want to make sure that students have a better chance at a more seamless opportunity and financial feasible. Path to getting an education than the one that I had. And so that's why that's one of the things that we're going to be advancing as we embark upon our strategic plan. And then of course, the other part of the university's mission is research and innovation. As you have I said, I spent 34 1/2 years as a bench scientist at Minnesota and the last nine, about 15 of those years were spent concurrent with different leadership position. So I do understand this other part of the university's mission. In terms of research, discovery and innovation, because that is part of the secret sauce, if you will, that has made higher education in this country the envy of the rest of the world. And that is why so many nations around the world send their best and brightest. People here to this country to be educated and the University of Washington is top among those institutions. And then of course the other thing that I'm passionate about and I know that many of you as well and that is. How does the university really began to think and act differently regarding its partnership and responsibility to partner with community, not to just use the community for its research subjects? But how do we create seamless partnerships to do those things that the community thinks is important and that provides an opportunity for us to leverage community knowledge with the real big reservoir knowledge that we have at this university. So those are the things that you want to be hearing about. During my tenure here as the 34 president and I want to also remind you, I think many of you, hopefully some of you are participating in this. The board, when they hired me, asked me to embark upon a strategic planning process. That is the road map, if you will, that's going to define what we're going to focus on and how we make sure that our vision is realized by having a very thoughtful strategic plan that frames our priorities for the next five years. And the next five years after that. And we're very excited about this strategic plan because we fundamentally believe that the things that has allowed this university to be one of the greatest universities in the country, if not the world. Is because of the decisions that were made across this 164 year history. But we also believe that this is a new era, it's a new time and so the things that have allowed us to get to where we are today. May or may not be the things that's going to allow us in the next generation, the people that's going to be

sitting in the seats that you're sitting in and the person that will be standing here leading this university in the future. We have to create that path forward for them. Because what's got us here over the last 164 years may not be sufficient to get us where we need to be in the next 5 and the next 10. And then we have to have a budget model that supports your educational experiences, your access and affordability. Your ability to get a world-class education at an affordable price and to continue to hire those professors who have the academic expertise to provide the world-class education that will help transform your lives in the future. So let me just stop with that and we'll be happy to answer any questions that you might have. But again, thank you all for allowing me to interrupt your meeting. It is my great pleasure to be with you.

Erick Jacobsen: Thank you Dr. Jones, our first question for you is regarding student fees. What are your plans to ensure that students are involved in departmental- and college-level conversations about student fees impacting their cost of attendance?

Robert Jones: Well let me say first and foremost I want you to understand what a large and complex place this university is. And while I have general oversight responsibility for the whole university, including the campuses in Bothell and Tacoma as well. We are what we call a multi-campus university. Regardless of which campus you are enrolled in, your degree will say the University of Washington because we are one university. And so I just want to start by saying this is a question that I'm sure is critically important to any of you that's impacted by this, this course fee. And I remind you, it is a course fee. It's outside of the normal fee setting structure that is steeped in part in student government and student affairs. So I would say if you have great concerns about this and if you're an engineering student who's impacted by this, because this is a fee that's applicable for students that are enrolled in not and it's specifically limited to students that are in this design build course and the fee is designed to cover the cost of making sure that you get maximum benefit from taking that course. So, the first thing you need to do is, I talked to the folks in engineering about that. I just heard about this recently and I know in this very tight, excuse me, economic environment, every dollar matters to you as students. But this is an investment in the course that pays for the state-of-the-art equipment that's necessary for this taught course to be taught well and but at the same time, it's my understanding that the college is very open to having a conversation about the whole fee setting process and looking at opportunities to at least consult with the students before. They set quarter course fees without your knowledge or at least briefing you and giving you the heads up and making sure that you have an opportunity to have a voice and what those fees might be and what and be very clear about what they're intended to do and what they're going to be used for

Erick Jacobsen: Thank you, our next question relates to due process for student protestors. On May 5th, 2025, a protest at the Interdisciplinary Engineering Building ended with property damage and subsequent student arrests. After facing injuries and arrests at the hands of the police, students were suspended, barred from entering campus, and evicted from HFS dorms, all without due process. In June 2025, the Senate condemned the deprivation of due process and called for reinstatement pending hearings and rulings. Have the students been reinstated, have they received their hearings, and how do you plan to protect the rights of all students in your administration, even those who may have violated the student code?

Robert Jones: Well, let me just say first and foremost, I think that question has some factual error in it, but we won't debate that. But the overarching question has to do with the due process. And I said more than due process, it has to do with something that is a fundamental principle that I've always supported, and that is the right for free speech and peaceful protest in a university environment. As you as I said, I've been involved in higher education for a long time. I've been the

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chief executive officer or president or chancellor of two, three major research universities. So the ability of students to protest and to do it peacefully about those things that they care about is a fundamental principle that I've always stood up and argued for, even when external pressures have tried to get me to suspend. Student organization just because some outside entity didn't like the tone or the tenor or the cause that they were demonstrating for. And so I will always stand up for the ability of our students to exercise that right to free speech as it relates to the code of the university and to do it lawfully within the intent and the letter of the law. I can't comment on specific disciplinary procedures because that is protected on a FERPA. So I'm not trying to dodge the issue, it's just that I have no authority and it's a violation for me to talk specifically about any matter that is ongoing in our student conduct process. This process, in response to the action that happened on May 5th, I want to say unequivocally, while I support free speech, I cannot and I will not support the destruction of public property and the behavior that puts our students and their colleagues and the people that were employed in that building in harm's way. This was above and beyond the pale of what I call free speech expression. And it clearly crossed the border into what you might refer to as civil disobedience. So, to put it plainly, it violated the law. It was unlawful. It was antithetical to our student conduct code. And anytime when anybody, anyone decides to go beyond the parameters of free speech, I will support you protesting any place, anytime that's within our Student Conduct Code, but to go so far as to occupy a building. And the kind of subsequent behavior that led to the arrest that occurred is not something that I can support because it's against the law. I've been very, very clear about my role and responsibility for upholding our student conduct code. But also for making sure that the laws are obeyed as it relates to all of us here at this university, I have the obligation to abide by the law and as members of this community, whether you're students, faculty or staff. You have obligation to abide by a certain code of conduct as well as obeying the law in what we do in carrying out the three-part mission of the university. But I can, will say this without specifically talking about these individuals and the role that they play. And this interdisciplinary engineering building episode is that it's very, very clear to me and this episode is brought a lot of clarity and I've been around student conduct code and making sure that student conduct codes are appropriate. Because it's all about protecting our students and everything we do is from an educational framework, not from a punitive framework. But when you have to have a code in order to be very, very clear about those things is the expectations that we have of you as students in our university community, and I think it's very clear that this event that happened on May 5th is a prime example that we need to revisit some issues in our code. It has some issues that like clarity. It has some issues that frankly I believe the whole way that the conduct code hearings are held or antithetical to what I think needs to be done at this university at this particular point and so rather than trying to figure it out on our own, we've are working with a consulting entity that has a lot of experience. I've been working with them on student conduct issues at every university almost that I've been at since my time at Minnesota. Help us understand what is appropriate with the focus on the student experience and how the student conduct process is part of the educational experience that must be in place at a university like ours when there are things that clearly go beyond what's prudent and what's practical and what is clearly codified in our code and crosses over into areas that it's not just the university's obligation to resolve these issues. But in this case in particular, it invoked the legal outside legal entities being involved as well. So this is really was and I was still in Illinois when this happened and I can tell you it was very unsettling and we just have to find ways to continue to work together to make this university a better place, to make sure there's room and voice for all voices to be heard and to be respected and to be supported without any sense of being targeted or putting people in harm's way.

Erick Jacobsen: Our next question concerns divestment. In May 2024, the Student Senate passed Resolution 30-24 to divest from companies that provide equipment, funds, or services used to directly maintain, support, or profit from the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land. Since then, ASUW Bothell has also passed a resolution to support divestment. What plans do you have to work with the Board of Regents on furthering the divestment process?

Robert Jones: Well, first and foremost, let me start by saying as a university leader, you have to be able to respect and all different kinds of perspectives and opinions that people have about local as well as global, domestic as well as foreign issues. It is not for me and it's not for university to tell people what perspective to take, but I think that there is one thing that I've tried to be very clear at every university that I've been a part of. And I think there's a misperception about the authority that I have as the President of this university. The authority that I have has been sub delegated from the Board of Regents, the nine folks that hired me back in February 2nd or 3rd to be the 34th president. of this university. And while I have administrative oversight and responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the three campus university, there are certain things that are outside of the scope of my job that is reserved as a responsibility of the governing board. Which are the trustees and the governing entity that I am that I report to. And in this particular case related to the issue of divestment, I do not have any authority or any involvement in how the university invests its resources. A lot of those resources come from philanthropic donors, from alums and from current students, even in parents who support this university. I have no responsibility of the first of all, making decisions about what is invested in and what's not invested in. That portfolio is managed by a different entity by the university, and so I have no responsibility and no. No obligation or opportunity to influence that decision. I think you're all aware that the board voted on this back in March and he voted on the issue of not convening an advisory committee on social responsibility, which I think was the fundamental question and the way that the whole divestment proposal was framed. So it's not sub-delegated to me by the board to make those decisions. And in fact, the board has responsibility for them. But that actual investment decision of what to invest in and what not to invest in is actually, occurs in a different part of the university that I have no direct oversight for. I think the board has spoken clearly that they don't think that this is the appropriate time or to that the action would be appropriate for this university at this juncture. So I'm not trying to avoid the issue and I've had to explain this every place I've been the way that investments happen. The way that it happens here is different than in Illinois, that's different than Albany, that's different than Minnesota. So that is something that's really outside the purview of my responsibility and my authority as the President of the university.

Erick Jacobsen: Our next question concerns corporate partnerships. With Starbucks drawing student criticism and boycotts amidst union busting practices and other controversies, and companies like LexisNexis and WestLaw holding partnerships with UW Libraries while funneling data to ICE, many of UW's corporate partnerships have been called into question. What partnerships, if any, do you hope to discontinue, and what is your stance on partnerships with multinational corporations in general, over small, local businesses?

Robert Jones: Well, let me remind you, I've been here a little bit more than 100 days. This is a large, complex university. I have a good sense of who some of the key partners that we. We have, but this is a large complex place with 16 colleges and a number of academic support units and research enterprises. That's one of the largest research enterprises in the country. That is what makes this university great. So I have not spent my time in the last 100 days trying to understand who to not partner with. What I'm trying to do is understand those partners that we need to strengthen our relationship with so that we can be more effective in carrying out the mission of this university and

that we meet our obligation to provide the most amazing education for you and for every student that attends and enrolls at this university. So. There are many organizations that we have partnerships with. It's a very, very long list. And of course we want partners that are aligned with our core values and our educational mission. But I'll be very candid. I don't have a list of companies or entities that at this point I have any perspective other than trying to understand what their partnership and relationship is with this university, how that meets our mission as a world-class university and how we need to think about those partnerships in the future. And that's about far as I've been able to take it in the last 100 days or so. But I know that these things mean a lot to our students, they mean a lot to our faculty and the staff, and they mean a lot to me personally. And so that's part of my onboarding process is to get to know each and every one of these partners, whether we're talking about corporate partners or community partners, nonprofit partners, et cetera, et cetera. It's part of the onboarding process that we have been embarked on since August 1st and we'll continue that as a part of our listening and learning to better understand these Partnerships and to see what is the future is going to be for engaging or thinking about how we continue to partner with those entities that can advance our three-part mission.

Erick Jacobsen: Our next question concerns sustainability education. The ASUW Student Senate has been advocating for a sustainability credit requirement since 2010, with the most recent Resolution in support passing last Fall. Many major public universities across the United States, including CWU and UC San Diego, have adopted such a requirement already. This requirement would not increase the number of courses/credits required for graduation, and a list of sustainability-focused and sustainability-intensive courses currently exists on the UW Sustainability website. Would you sign a Sustainability Credit requirement into effect if passed by the Faculty Senate? What work are you pursuing to increase sustainability education overall?

Robert Jones: Well, let me say first and foremost that sustainability is one of those core strategic issues that's been part of the soundtrack for not only my life as an administrator. But it's been very much a part of my research agenda, where I spent 34 and a half years looking at issues of global climate change and how that would threaten the sustainability of this country's ability to continue to feed the world and because of global climate change impact on decreasing the grain yield of important agricultural crops. I've been doing this a long time, even before the word global climate change was coined. Or sustainability. It used to be a big debate in my early years of my career where from people thought sustainability was a bad word. You didn't talk about it in the context of food production, but we've come a long way in understanding why sustainable approaches to food production is critically important because protecting this environment is absolutely critical and that is something that I do deeply care about this issue of incorporating some kind of credit bearing course or credits for sustainability courses again, not trying to pass the buck here, but I want you to understand how this university operates. I am the Chief Executive Officer for the whole university. The issues of academic affairs and curricular matters resides within 16 degree granting colleges who reports up to someone that maybe some of you had a chance to meet, and that is Professor Tricia Serio. Who is the Chief Academic Officer we call her the Provost. She has oversight for the curriculum in partnership with those folks you call your instructors or the faculty members in the department. They're the ones that set the academic agenda. That's also in partnership with the faculty Senate because the primary role of the faculty is Senate is to assure they have oversight over the curriculum at every university that I've been a part of. And so it's more, it's not, you know, I don't have the ability to sign off on anything in that regard unless been vetted through the appropriate processes and is part of a issue of adding additional courses or additional course content. So I reckon to answer your question is I don't know, I can't sign off on something that's outside of how things are done or operational in our lives at this university, but I can't emphasize

enough, there's nothing that I care more deeply about. And the Sustainability Initiative at the University of Illinois reported to me for nine years. I actually chaired it and went to every meeting that I could, sometimes I had to subdelegate it. But the bottom line issues is that's one of the things that I've been briefed on here, just had a briefing 2 weeks ago about our sustainability goals. And our sustainability structures and a vision for this university around everything from how do we make our power plant more sustainable, more environmentally friendly? How do we reduce CO2 emissions from that to more sustainable energy structures. How do we think about not only photovoltaic, but other kinds of sustainable issues? And I can tell you, I'm very impressed with some of the decisions that this university has made in partnership with the city. In terms of my understanding, I haven't a chance to use it yet, but I understand that part of our commitment is to decrease the number of cars that drive through this university each and every day. And I understand I can get on the light rail and swipe this card and pretty much go all I can tell you don't. I hope you understand how unique that is. That is a commitment not only on behalf of the university, but a commitment to partner with the city. This is what I talk about, partnering with the communities that you are part of. We are anchored here in Seattle. We're anchored in Tacoma and Bothell. And a lot of the decisions that we've made has been around the focus of how do we make sure we're meeting our obligations to creating a safe and a sustainable environment, reducing CO2 emissions, think about all kinds of alternative energy platforms that we need to think about. And I've been having conversations in the short time that have been here about some other cutting edge technology that as far as I can tell, we haven't thought about adding that as a part of the ecosystem, we have to decrease our dependence upon fossil fuels and et cetera, and to make sure we have a more sustainable future for each and every one of you as students and for this university writ large.

Erick Jacobsen: We did have three more questions, but because we've reached 5:45, I wanted to give you all your 15 minutes to submit questions. Joseph, Are you ready to read out the moderated questions?

Joseph Riggio: Yes I can. So one question we submitted from an anonymous senator. Given the current political climate and the uncertainty it creates around visas and post-graduation employment pathways, how is UW planning to strengthen support for international students—both in terms of campus well-being and access to meaningful career opportunities?

Robert Jones: Well, this is another area that's been a very high priority for me across all three research universities that I've been a part of. And let me give you a bit more context on why this is so critically important at this juncture. Appreciating the best and the brightest students, not only from the state of Washington and across the US of A and across the world, has been the hallmark of a world-class university, which defines who we are as an institution. It is a position that we want to hold on to and we must find ways to protect our ability to continue to of course, our first obligation is to educate as many students from the state of Washington, and you're going to hear me talking about a strategy to make sure that we can move from 71% of our students graduating with no known debt to raising that number because that's as a public entity. Entity that is supported by tax dollars. That's our first obligation. But as a world-class university, we are that because of our global reach and the global impact of the work that we do, not only in teaching, but in innovation as well. That is why, as I said earlier, that young people and their parents from across the world have been sending students to universities like the University of Washington to get a world-class education. And what is defined this nation as being the number one innovator is the fact that a number of those folks have chosen to stay and contribute to the innovation agenda that we all benefit from. And I can't think of a place that has benefited from it more than here in the state of Washington, in particular of Seattle. So, there's a lot that's going on now related to visas issues, et cetera, that is

putting a lot of that into jeopardy. And I want to assure you that at the early part of this calendar year, there were folks visas that were being revoked and universities had to step up to take the responsibility to inform our international students when that happened. And then to try to work to mitigate and get those visas restored. That's the type of thing that we do as university leaders and I can tell you it is one of the issues that we are greatly concerned about. That we need to continue to be the place that welcomes students from all parts of the world with the great hope of coming here, getting an amazing education and to contribute to the innovation agenda that's not only important for this nation, but I think important for the world. So we will continue to do what we can to protect the fundamental principles. I want to make this a broad statement. The fundamental principles that has made this university what it is today are at risk, and this is what myself and my staff spend every day time working to mitigate those, because the future of this university depends upon it. And that is a no exaggeration, but it's something that we take very, very seriously.

Joseph Riggio: Thank you President Jones, another question for you. Many high-demand undergraduate majors at UW require students to take multiple prerequisite courses and apply through a competitive admissions process to gain entrance. Do you plan to increase capacity for these 'Capacity-constrained' majors to accommodate more students?

Robert Jones: You know, that's a critically important question because I've been around higher education long enough to know that every university structurally and operationally is different. But this is one of the unique elements of this university. But I want to remind you, just because it's unique doesn't mean it's bad. But at this particular point, I can tell you I've asked questions ever since I've been here. I asked about enrollment management. I asked fundamental question, how large do we want to be in Seattle? How many students can we accommodate in Seattle, Bothell and Tacoma? Bothell and Tacoma are very clear about the aspirational goals that probably or goals for the next 10 to 20 years. Very strategic, incremental growth to accommodate the educational needs of the Tacoma area as well as the Bothell area and taking advantage of the fact that we now can better serve more students from the state of Washington. Because we have a university that will meet any of the students needs and that's the value proposition of having a multi-campus university. The issue of capacity restraints is I'll be acknowledged. I haven't been at a place that had a capacity restraint, constraint structure. And So what we're trying to do is figure out basically and fundamentally what does that mean, particularly in this point in time in the history of the UW. Where we have benefited from the fact that this university has such a stellar reputation that we still in many ways do. We have more students interested in coming to this university than we can accommodate. And so the capacity constraint issue is one that Provost Serio and I are trying to get our arms around because I do understand fundamentally and you might, I'm not making this up. I was sitting there trying to get a little lunch and this young man walked up to me, whose father moved here three or four years ago from North Carolina, and he's waiting to get in our engineering program and he can't get in. Because of the issue, just, I mean, you can't get in. There's no direct admission into this particular program where this is true for a number of different colleges that you all are part of. I'm willing that a lot of you are not directly admitted into the major that you desire to pursue. It is one of the nuances and unique features of this university, and we are trying to figure out how sustainable that is, both in the short term and the long term, because we have taken one step to move beyond the current situation in the university. In fact, I was just in a meeting with him this afternoon. We just hired our first enrollment management person in the history, the 164-year history of this university and Provost Serio just hired him and he is helping us to think within the context of the structure about capacity constraint. Is there a better way to provide more direct access to a particular major or to the college that you desire to pursue your education in. Folks, there's not a simple issue, but it's, you know, everything. Somebody told me most things that are simple have already been done. But this is one

that I care greatly about and one that as a university we have an obligation to bring greater clarity in terms of our whole vision a whole enrollment management structure. How large do we want each campus of the University of Washington to be and where capacity constraint may be limiting our ability to accommodate more students? That are clearly, clearly qualified to get into this university. And that's the challenge we have is that we have amazing students, both from the state of Washington, amazing students across the country and across the world that want to enroll in this university. But we don't have the kind of flexibility to think like and act the way many of our peer institutions do because of the historic structure here. But we are making the first steps by hiring someone who's had long capacity and enrollment management strategy. Danny Barrow is his name. He spent a number of his more recent job was LSU. So, he's not a new person to dealing with this issue and this is one of the issues we look forward to coming back and bringing greater clarity. Because I have to better understand what are the challenges, what are the historical context for this structure and what reasonable and practical that we can do to bring greater clarity and this is going to help us a we better understand what does this mean in terms of the current faculty we have, I mean this is going to drive our faculty recruitment and other kinds of effort as well. It's a big complicated issue, but I just want to assure you that we're not just sitting around talking about it. Provost Serio hired Danny Barrow about a week before I he started a week before I did, so we're still relatively new, but I just want to assure you that I'm sure that most of you, perhaps some of you were admitted directly, but for a large number of students. This is one of the things that we have to get our arms around and figure out what is right for this university, particularly at this particular juncture in our history.

Joseph Riggio: Thank you President Jones we have time for one more question. Question from a senator. Considering the current federal threats on the undocumented community/institutional DEI campaigns, how do you plan to protect cultural spaces like the Ethnic Cultural Center that grant the physical space for UW's many undocumented, first-generation, and largely cultural student organizations to meet/feel safe in community?

Robert Jones: Well, let me just say I this is an issue as well that I care greatly about because I can tell you diversity, equity, inclusion. Still, it's critically important to this university, to this nation as it's ever been. And what we are, you've noticed that we have not gone the path of many of our peers, but at the same time, I will tell you fundamentally, I said this in my first interview on the day that I was announced where I said our values will not change. We may have to change how we think and how we operate some of these programs because what we need to do a better job of emphasizing the fundamental fact that the core principles and values of this university have always been about diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. That this university as a public entity, I have a right and I have a responsibility that each and every person that chooses to study here will not be treated any differently because of their religion, their race, their political perspective. The University of Washington is for everyone, and everything that we've done in the very short time I've been here is to try to bring clarity to what these words means in the context of this university as a public entity. And our absolute obligation that the University of Washington is for anyone that prepares themselves to be admitted to this world-class university. And we will do all we can to make sure that people feel a sense of belonging. And they are treated fairly. I say this not because it's our core values. It's our mission as a public entity. But there's no one that knows better than me, myself, and many of you in the room what it feels like to be treated as the other. Thank you all for allowing me to be with you. I appreciate it.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Erick Jacobsen: All right, moving into nominations and elections, our first election for today is the Joint Commissions Committee. The JCC brings together ASUW's 9 diversity commissions and four advocacy programs. What does diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging mean to you, and how would you utilize your experiences to facilitate communication between the Senate and the JCC? Meetings are Mondays from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Are there any nominations? You are looking to get involved in the DEI side of ASUW and university administration. This is a great pathway to that. All of our diversity commissions sit on this committee. Are there any nominations? You may nominate yourself or another senator. Are there any nominations? With that the nominations period is closed and we will move on to the next election. The next one is the Student Safety Advisory Board. What is 1 safety related issue that you have observed on campus and one way you would seek to solve that? Are there any nominations for the Student Safety Advisory Board?

Naomi Law: I'm wondering if we know when the meetings are being held.

Audrianna Scott: Currently we don't have a set date for them yet.

Erick Jacobsen: So, they'll be working around your schedule.

Sam Parlotz rescinds nomination

Skylar Best elected via acclamation

Erick Jacobsen: Next, we'll move on to the UW Recreation Student Advisory Board. This is just Student Advisory Board for the department UW Rec. This was implemented through UW ASUW legislation, so it's a very important check on the UW Recreation Department.

Gavin Horton nominates Russel Ross

Russel Ross accepts

Erick Jacobsen: I have a fantastic imagination and great intuition.

Naomi Law nominates Cecilia Hellman

Cecilia Hellman declines nomination

Erick Jacobsen: Are there any nominations? With that, the nominations period is closed. We will have nominations again next week and elections, and we'll move on to the Conduct Review Board. This is you'll serve as a reviewing officer of the Conduct Review Board. I've been told that a lot of the cases that face the Conduct Review Board are related to academic dishonesty and in particular, artificial intelligence. So for that, our question is what experiences have you had using AI in assignments and how would you use those experiences to inform fair judgments on AI related cases of academic dishonesty?

Joseph Riggio nominates Kavi Pasupathi

Kavi Pasupathi accepts

Jude Belland nominates himself

Zain Asif nominates himself

Ava Wahl nominates herself

NEW BUSINESS

Erick Jacobsen: Our first piece of new business, please give me a moment while I adjust this microphone. I'm very short and very sorry. our first resolution is R-32-1. This is the first resolution of this session. Yay. This is written by Pierce Wallbaum, our General Affairs Committee Chair. The summary is to improve students ability to make informed registration decisions, this resolution proposes that the University of Washington require a pre-registration syllabus description or an equivalent outline for every scheduled course and to ensure that it is displayed in MyPlan. The existing syllabi integrations with accessibility standards and reasonable exceptions, and I forgot to read the title. It is A Resolution to Increase Academic Transparency During Registration. And this was assigned to the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee. Our next resolution, R-32-2, full disclosure, this is one that I sponsored and so when it is read on the floor, I will be yielding the chair to Joseph as Vice speaker. But considering as this is just a summary, I'll just read it out. The summary is the Western under the title. Sorry is A Resolution to Participate in the Western Undergraduate Exchange. The summary is the Western Undergraduate Exchange, or WUE. Sorry, sorry, I don't know what happened there. Or WUE is an interstate program across 16 U.S. States and territories which caps undergraduate tuition for non-resident students at 150% the rate for residents of the state or territory at participating institutions. Although Washington State University is a member of this program and UW is a member of the Graduate and Health Professional Equivalent programs, UW does not participate in WUE. This bill calls for UW to participate in the program, which would drastically drive down non-resident tuition costs. And increase college affordability and accessibility for non-Washingtonian students. This was assigned to the General Affairs Committee, and our next resolution is in Times New Roman for some reason. It is JR-32-1, a joint resolution for a graduate and undergraduate student regent. Again, the joint resolutions are just, they go through all the same process as a resolution of the Senate, but they also go through that same process on the side of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate, which serves graduate and professional students in particular. So for a lot of issues that affect graduate and undergraduate students. There do tend to be joint resolutions on those topics. The summary is for 28 years the UW has only had one student regent who has been either a graduate or undergraduate student. With such a wildly varying undergraduate and graduate experience, this has been a 0 sum competition whereby only one perspective or the other is heard on the Board of Regents. More often than not, a graduate student who has not attended UW for their undergraduate experience. Both perspectives are important, and so this bill seeks to establish a separate graduate and undergraduate student region, and this joint resolution was assigned to the On Campus Affairs Committee and then again SB-31-6, an act to address adequate and affordable housing for students and establish shared campus planning meetings has been assigned to the Off Campus Affairs Committee, and since this is the first time we are seeing this in committee this year, I will read the summary of that too. Rising housing prices in the U District is making affordability for UW students extremely difficult, allowing students greater opportunities to voice their perspective on developmental planning in terms of a focus on affordability, affordable housing in U District and campus. This legislation is designed to ensure that ASUW promotes open student seats to U District Partnerships and to the UW City University Community Advisory Committee. So you have your legislation. We're going to break out in committee meetings now.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

On campus affairs

- Conducted a brief introduction on amendments

- Read and discussed JR-32-1 A Joint Resolution for a Graduate and Undergraduate Student Regent
 - Bill JR-32-1 passed favorably (15-0-1)
 - Zain Asif motioned
 - Greyson Hedglin seconded the motion
 - No amendments made
- Suggestions to push more amendments in all future bills
 - Brief Q&A/comments regarding amendment suggestions

Off campus affairs

- SB-31-6 (An Act to Address Adequate and Affordable Housing for Students and Establish Shared Campus Planning Meetings) :
 - Written by someone who was not on the board of directors so recommitted to the Senate
 - (Passed) Motion to add the THAT clause: To allow hiring for these positions is to be done by Director of Campus Partnerships
 - (Passed) Motion to add THAT clause: These representatives report to the President and Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs on the proceedings of UDP and CUAC
 - (Passed) Motion to strike and add THAT clause on line 69: to hold a housing forum hosted by ASUW Spring 25-26 to allow student participation on housing
 - (Passed) Motion to add THAT clause: that housing forums be hosted by office of Government relation along with partnerships and UW programs/RSOs to inform the students and talk about how they can be more involved
 - (Passed) Motion to add THAT clause: If the 2026 Spring Forum is a success to make the president and office of government relations consider making it an annual event
 - Motion to pass bill SB-31-6 to Senate from OFC (Passed) (15-0-0).

General affairs

- Pierce presenting bill to AAA, Julia stepped in as Chair
- Julia takes attendance
- Bill today: R-32-2- A Resolution to Participate in the Western Undergraduate Exchange Sponsored by Erick Jacobson
- Whereas clauses read aloud by Julia
- Grammatical “and” added by Wesley Andrus
- Lines 28-30 Amended as a group
- Lines 47-49 Struck after a soft vote
- Lines 53-55 Struck after a soft vote
- That clauses read aloud
- Vote: Passes out of Committee Neutrally: 16-4-0

Academic and administrative affairs

- Introduction to policy approval

- Bill summary from Pierce
- Pierce notes the inconsistency of visible syllabi across various departments
- Aiden asks why there is no “Whereas” break following the “and” on line 21; why there is a period instead of a new “That” clause on line 56 following the period
 - Brought up to increase the flow of the resolution and follow resolution norms
 - Pierce notes the “and” on line 21 as necessary; grammar change rejected
- Husna asks about if the “That” clause on line 76 is redundant
 - Pierce states that syllabus can change, and restates that a syllabus summary is provided, not necessarily the whole syllabus
 - Aiden reiterates Pierce’s point
- Kira asks if the resolution would benefit from specific examples of vague course descriptions to bolster
 - Kira’s provided example of vague language
- Isaac asks why there is no requirement for syllabi in place already
 - Pierce does not know why administration hasn’t done anything
- Kira notes that the citation linked in the resolution notated as [2] in “References” goes to the engineering webpage, not a general one as the bill implies
 - Pierce will investigate the issue in preparation for the next meeting
- Action Items:
 - Aiden moves that “updated” be added to line 40 in front of "syllabus description" out of fear that UW may generalize a template instead of updating it each rotation
 - Motion passes and edit made

OLD BUSINESS

Erick Jacobsen: We are reconvened. Thank you all. And we are moving into old business. Our first item,

Dylan Bianchi moves to suspend the rules and move item

Liam Knochen seconds

Approved by raised hand vote

Erick Jacobsen: And with that, we're moving on to our first item of old business, R-31-30. Just to check, is Anna Crow or Peyton Sax here today? OK, I've not heard a response back from them, so I'll just read out the bill. But keep in mind I'm not the sponsor, so there may be questions that I'm unable to answer.

Dylan Bianchi moves to approve R-31-30

Collin Saywers seconds

Kira McKey: I don't know if this is allowed after what's happened, but I also will make another super quick grammar thing that citation number 15, that should just be added to the whereas clause that we just edited on 29, yes. So 26 should have the citation 15.

Erick Jacobsen: We are in the middle of motion, so we cannot do amendments, but because that is grammatical, we can do that. But because we're just pulling a motion, it's just. While we're in the middle of the motion, only like points of personal privilege, maybe points of information or parliamentary inquiry if it's related, are able to happen. Otherwise you'd have to wait till the end, but because that is grammatical, we can just fix it.

Joseph Riggio: So the way I send attendance notices out is very, very bureaucratically. I will admit that I just look at my Excel sheet and if you didn't fill out the form, it's gonna automatically say you're unexcused and then I just send the emails to whoever didn't have the proxy. So literally nothing against you. Just if you can prove that you were here, please spell this. Please vote for the legislation regardless. But if in the case you can't do your attendance vote. You can submit another proof of attendance, so don't be too scared by those emails.

R-31-30 Approved 85-1-8

Applause

Erick Jacobsen: Our next item of business is SB 316 with Dylan, please like to come up to the front as sponsor and what committee was this in? Would Abigail like to please come to the front as well?

Dylan Bianchi reads [SB-31-6](#) summary and THAT clauses

Abigail Appleyard: OK, this passed out favorably 15 to 0 to 0. We obviously went through a lot of different amendments, so got lots of things to talk about. The first thing that we added was that clause saying that hiring for these positions is conducted by the Board of by the Director of Campus Partnerships. The second clause that we added was that these representatives report to the President and Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs on the proceedings of the, UDP and CUCAC and follow guidance from the President and Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs. We struck these two giant clauses right here and we replaced them with that housing forums. That housing forum shall be hosted by the Office of Government Relations and involve U District Partnerships, UW programs, slash RSOS. Focused on Housing and Urban Development and UW students, they will discuss how poor students can have say in local development and say in local development. The meeting would also allow students. And the public to hear about future developments of the University District and campus. And then we added a final clause that says that if the forum in spring 2026 is a success, the President and Office of Government Relations consider making it an annual event.

Erick Jacobsen: Thank you Abigail.

Dylan Bianchi: So the reason this bill was recommitted again is because board thought it kind of misappropriated responsibilities. So specifically here the bodies we are sending new representatives to kind of toe the line between like a local like nonprofit and like an actual city institution like it's middling. So because governmental advocacy is the job of the Office of Government Relations and not the Director of Campus Partnerships and because the president takes authority for city level. Like lobbying, we've moved this from the primary authority of the Director of Campus Partnerships to the President and the Office of Government Relations. The Campus Partnerships will still conduct the hiring process. Yeah, so the Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs, that's MJ. She presented the legislative agenda here. She's the one who handles city level stuff. She and Nandana, our president, will be supervising these representatives and also OGR will take responsibility for the

housing form. This is informal, this is not in the bill, but as an OGR intern, I will be handling that for this year. So yeah, that's why we've made these big changes.

Erick Jacobsen: Alright so these committee edits have not been approved, are there any questions, comments or motions?

Collin Saywers moves to approve committee edits

Avery Kirscht seconds

Approved by unanimous consent

Dylan Bianchi: There were some links in the references that don't work. The correct links have been sent to Erick and those will be updated at some point,

Erick Jacobsen: And then we're working on getting all these amendments approved. Again, are there any questions or comments on the bill as a whole?

Husna Chepkemboi: So I'm just asking for a little bit of clarification. If this bill is passed, does that mean the university will partner with some apartments or housing in the districts?

Dylan Bianchi: So the university already works with these boards. These are boards that include representatives from like local businesses and apartments, whatever. This would just give students more direct representation when talking both about how the city manages the district. This would not be students or the school directly lobbying apartments. So you know, I'm sure we all dislike our U district landlords, but I don't think this would directly involve them.

Erick Jacobsen: Are there any other questions or comments for Dylan? Are there any motions?

Jude Belland moves to table for a week

Wesley Andrus seconds

Isac Pasco objects

Jude Belland: Given the current time period and external commitments that some of us in this Senate have, I believe the tabling is best for the optimal consideration of this bill.

Isac Pasco: I think we should we go to them over there in the green shirt.

Dylan Bianchi: I'm really sorry for making demands on your time. If you gotta go, you gotta go. But this bill has been in process since May and it's it's been held up. It's been sent to board recommitted. I just, I don't want to keep delaying it. I would really like to get this process for appointing representatives moving. So I'm gonna move to the previous question.

Dylan Bianchi moves to previous question

Avery Kirscht seconds

Approved

Motion to table SB 31-6 for a week fails.

Collin Saywers moves to approve SB-31-6

Naomi Law seconds

Tyler Kunz objects

Collin Saywers I want to go home.

Tyler Kunz: I think the objection is valid. I knew you said it. I, just feels it feels we're not doing our due diligence if we just pass the bill just because we want to leave.

Naomi Law: If no one has proposed amendment, then I move we move to. I move to previous question unless someone has a motion or an amendment to be made.

Naomi Law moves to previous question

Spencer Grubbs seconds

Approved

SB-31-6 approved 72-6-4

Applause

ADJOURNMENT

Spencer Grubbs moves to adjourn

Avery Kirscht seconds

Approved by raised hand vote

Minutes Prepared by Jothsna Sundar
Clerk for the ASUW Student Senate
