

# Wisconsin Student Government

October 17-18<sup>th</sup>, 2008

## Minutes

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 5:05pm

**COLLEGES PRESENT:** President-Rachel Weyers, Treasurer-Tammy Murphy, Resource Director-Jan Logan, Secretary-Tessa Weyers, Blackhawk, Milwaukee Area, Madison Area, Chippewa Valley, Lakeshore, Moraine Park, North Central, Northeast Wisconsin, Western, and Wisconsin Indianhead.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The minutes were approved as read with some minor changes. Vanessa Pickar (WTCS – Student Rep.) made a motion to approve the minutes as edited. Margaret Leavy, BTC, seconded it. Motion passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Presented by Treasurer – Tammy Murphy, MATC-Milwaukee. Tammy Murphy corrected the membership dues stating that NCTC had paid and MPTC was not paid. She also explained that the traveler's budget is allocated for executive board members travel expenses for WSG business. The Legislative Budget is an estimate right now. The actual budget will be filled in when all the schools involved have paid the dues.

Vanessa Pickar (WTCS – Student Rep.) made a motion to open a discussion on the treasurer's report. Tim Hyma, Western, seconded it. Motion passed. Questions about the treasurer's report were asked and answered. Justin Wheelock, NWTC, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report with the correction made to the dues paid/not paid for NCTC and MPTC. Vanessa Pickar (WTCS – Student Rep.) seconded the motion. Motion passed by raise of hands. 6 hands and no opposed.

**OFFICER UPDATES:** Rachel Weyers and Luke Krogh attended a number of State Board meetings and District Boards Association meetings. They have been working on networking and planning for the upcoming year. Luke Krogh resigned as Vice President.

**Election of New Vice President Position:** Interested candidates were asked to indicate their interest so that members could get to them and their position on topics on Friday evening. The new vice presidential nominations and election will take place on Saturday.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 6:10 p.m.

**SATURDAY MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 8:32a.m.

**COLLEGES PRESENT:** President-Rachel Weyers, Resource Director-Jan Logan, Secretary-Tessa Weyers, Blackhawk, Madison Area, Chippewa Valley, Lakeshore, Moraine Park, North Central, Northeast Wisconsin, Western, and Wisconsin Indianhead.

**OVERVIEW OF WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM --** An overview of the technical college system was presented by Rachel Weyers. She informed the members that the vacant student position for the Higher Education Aids Board (HEAB) has three applicants. The student position that Vanessa Pickar fills as a member on the Wisconsin Technical College State Board needs to be filled this coming May as Vanessa's term will expire at that time. Any interested candidate should talk to her about it.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES: *By-laws committee.*** Maria Guenther, bylaws committee member, gave a brief overview of the committee and stated that the committee is in the process of looking over the bylaws to see if changes need to be made. Vanessa Pickar (WTCS – Student Rep.), and Rita Martinez, CVTC, volunteered to be on the committee. ***Legislative Committee:*** No update. Committee members will write the Legislative Seminar position paper. They will be in contact with Paul Gabriel, Conor Smyth and Executive Board for WSG. Justin Wheelock, NWTC, volunteered to chair this committee. Mark Kennedy, Western, will co-chair. Maria Nedland, CVTC, Laura Mulhern, CVTC, and Daniel Johnson, NTC, volunteered to be committee members.

**VICE PRESIDENT ELECTION:** Floor opened for nominations. Margaret Leavy, BTC, nominated Kedrick Ingram, BTC, Kedrick accepted. Laura Mulhern, CVTC, nominated Rita Martinez, CVTC, Rita accepted. Joe Calliari, MPTC, nominated Maria Guenther, MPTC, Maria declined. Nominees gave speeches on the reasons they were running and how they felt they could fulfill the position. Eric Matz, Western, made a motion to break into discussion. Natalina Desimone, LTC, seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mark Kennedy, Western, made a motion to amend the discussion to five extra minutes. Ivette, LTC, seconded the amendment. Motioned passed. Candidates were asked follow up questions and each given a chance to respond. A break was taken for a discussion time for each college to decide on their vote. Ballots were collected. A tie vote was received as Rachel Weyers (WSG President) did not vote. Point of order was called noting that the bylaws allows the president to vote if it is a ballot vote. Vote was retaken and Kedrick Ingram was elected as the new Vice President.

**FEBRUARY LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR:** Eric Matz, Western: explained the legislative seminar and what the position paper is. Jan Logan: Presented committee assignments, MATC Madison will be added as a co-chair to a committee with another college. Each committee must work within budget constraints and submit receipts to Jan Logan or Tammy Murphy. This assignment sheet will be sent out electronically to all advisors. Jan also presented the information on the proposed three-tiered registration fees, to reward colleges who are members and active participants in the seminar. Vanessa Pickar, (WTCS-Student Rep.) made a motion to adopt the fees as presented. Margaret Leavy, BTC, seconded the motion. Those in favor of the three-tiered proposal registration fee 7 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Note: (Vanessa Pickar, WTCS-Student Rep. Chose to abstain from all votes until her right to vote as an ex official member is established.)

**BUDGET FOR 08-09:** The WSG president will meet with the Treasurer concerning the 2008-2009 Budget in the near future. Justin Wheelock, NWTC, made a motion to table the Budget item on the agenda until the next meeting. Laura Mulhern, CVTC, seconded the motion. 8 in favor, 1 abstain, Motion passed.

**POSITION PAPER TOPICS:** There was a discussion on what issues are important to technical colleges on a statewide level and what four issues are most important to be addressed in the position paper. Justin Wheelock, NWTC, made a motion to amend the agenda and lengthen the discussion by 25 minutes since the budget item on the agenda was being tabled until the next meeting. Justin Paulson, WITC, seconded the motion. Motion passed, 6 in favor, 2 opposed. The issues identified were state funding, WHEG grant, funding for Vet's Tuition Remission, credit transferability, and more funding for non-traditional students. The issues were discussed in detail.

Move to 5 minute recess to discuss the order of importance of the top issues: 10:40a.m.

Mark Kennedy made a motion to amend the recess to 10 minutes instead of 5. Justin Wheelock seconded the motion. Motion passed, 7 in favor, 1 opposed. Meeting called back to order at 10:52a.m. Each District cast a ballot ranking the identified issues.

Laura Mulhern, CVTC, made a motion to table the Position Paper topics/legislative issues for 2008-2009 and Identifying the Seminar Topics and Speakers until after the goals for WSG 2008-2009 was discussed in order to allow votes to be tallied. Mark Kennedy, Western, seconded the motion. Motion passed. Eric Matz, Western, rose to point of order and made a motion to amend the talk on Goals from 30 min. to 15 min. because the schedule was behind. Joe Calliari, MPTC, seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**2008-2009 GOALS FOR WSG:** Rachel Weyers presented the 5 goals approved at the August meeting and shared how the executive board has implemented and planned ways to accomplish them and how the WSG members can also help to meet them. (I.e. After November 4<sup>th</sup>, introduce yourself to your legislator, and thank them for representing you and ask them to support the technical college interests. Then follow up with another e-mail presenting the position paper. Sign your name as a student of your district not WSG). There was also a discussion on what problems affect the longevity of WSG.

LaTisha Vanden Bush, NWTC, made a motion to form an ad hoc Longevity committee to address the WSG priority of increasing longevity. Ifrah Mohamed, MATC-Madison, seconded the motion. Justin Wheelock made a motion to amend the name of the Longevity Committee to the Goals Committee. Margaret Leavy, BTC, seconded the motion. 6 in favor, 2 opposed. Motion passed. LaTisha Vanden Bush, NWTC, will chair committee, Margaret Leavy, BTC, will co-chair, Committee members: Ifrah Mohamed, MATC; Justin Wheelock, NWTC; Daniel Johnson, NTC; Paola Arce, NWTC; Tabitha Wortham, BTC; and Margaret Leavy, BTC.

**Position Paper's top four legislative issues as ranked by ballot vote were:**

1. State Funding
2. WHEG grant
3. Credit Transfer
4. Funding for Veterans Remission

**SPEAKERS FOR LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR:** Eric Matz, Western, made a motion to allow CVTC governance in arranging the main speakers following the basic agenda from last year with feedback from the executive board. Mark Kennedy seconded the motion. 7 in favor, 1 abstain, motion passed. Sarah Miller, WITC, made a motion to allow Moraine Park governance in arranging the breakout session speakers following last years break out sessions and looking into a speaker on the Veterans Remission Act, with feedback from the executive board. Tim Hyma, Western, seconded it. 6 in favor, 1 abstain, 1 opposed. Motion passed.

**HOW TO ADVOCATE:** Alisa Hoepner, CVTC advisor, talked about how to advocate to legislators and gave out a handout for the members to read on a stepwise approach to doing it.

**WEB SITE:** Shari Prag still needs approval from several colleges to put their logo on the web site to link to their student life. The new web site was pulled up on the Internet. Tim Hyma, Western, made a motion to table the web site agenda item until the next meeting. In the meantime the representatives will look at the web site and Shari Prag's information and send feedback via e-mail to Rachel Weyers with the subject title "Web site", on what they feel needs to be added or changed. Note: Only content can be changed, the format is fixed. Justin Paulson, WITC, seconded it. Motion passed.

**VANESSA PICKAR (WTCS-STUDENT REP.) WTCS BOARD UPDATE:** Vanessa Pickar comes to WSG because she is an ex officiate member and student representative on the Wisconsin Technical College State Board as a voice for students. She Spoke on what types of funding are available for technical colleges and students. She also explained her position as a student appointed by the Governor to sit on the Wisconsin Technical College System State Board and the need to fill it in May. She will also be e-mailing out two issues students need to be aware of in the 2009-2011 State Budget.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Status of November 7-8<sup>th</sup> meeting:** Rachel Weyers – WSG President, entertained a motion to cancel the November 7-8<sup>th</sup> meeting due to the inability of the minimum two executive Board members to be present at the meeting. LaTisha Vanden Bush, NWTC, made a motion to cancel the November 7-8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mark Kennedy, Western, seconded. 6 yes, 2 no. Motion passed.

**Ex official voting privileges:** Vanessa Pickar brought up business of the voting rights of the ex official members to determine where the WSG members stood on this position. **Motion:** LaTisha Vanden Bush, NWTC, moved to not allow the ex official members the right to vote in WSG meetings, Laura Mulhern, CVTC, seconded the motion. Discussion was opened. Resolution not concluded and LaTisha Vanden Bush, NWTC, made a motion to table the active motion until the January meeting. Mark Kennedy, Western, seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. (Bylaws committee will also address this.)

**An informal approval of photo release for the ropes training photos was given to Jan Logan to send to WSG members and Advisors and to place them on the WSG website. All approved, 0 opposed.**

LaTisha, NWTC, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Passed by consent.

**Meeting Adjourned 12:40.**

Next meeting Times:

January 23 & 24, 2009 at Madison Area Technical College in Madison

February 22-24, 2009 at Concourse Hotel in Madison

April 24 & 25, 2009 at Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac

Recorder: Tessa Weyers