

Washburn University Student Government Association
Burdick/Wood and Coulter/Durst Administration, April 30th, 2025

Position	Last Name	Present (Beginning)	Present (Final)
Senator	Abernathy	X	X
Senator	Adhikari	Y	Y
Senator	Barbery	Y	Y
Senator	Bourell	Y	Y
Senator	Brown	Y	Y
Senator	Brungardt	Y	Y
Senator	(M) Carter	Y	Y
Senator	Cattoor	Y	X
Senator	Cervantes-Rodriguez	Y	Y
Senator	Giles	Y	Y
Senator	Hastings	Y	Y
Senator	Hinds	X	X
Senator	King	Y	Y
Senator	Lloyd	Y	Y
Senator	McCreath	Y	Y
Senator	McFan	Y	Y
Senator	Meier	Y	Y
Senator	Motes	Y	Y
Senator	O'Leary-Worsley	Y	Y
Senator	Puerta	X	X
Senator	Ross	Y	Y
Parliamentarian	Sharp	Y	Y
Senator	Smith	Y	Y

Speaker	Timm	Y	Y
Senator	Whaley	Y	Y
Senator	Yucesan	X	X

Position	Last Name	Present (Beginning)	Present (Final)
Special Events Director	Clark	Y	Y
Marketing Director	Hammes	Y	Y
Campus and Community Affairs Director	Redington	Y	Y
Diversity Equity and Inclusion Director	Kerney	Y	Y
Legislative Director	Newfer	Y	Y
Budget Director	Ginn	Y	Y
Chief of Staff	Roth	Y	Y
Vice President	Durst	Y	Y
President	Coulter	Y	Y
Advisor ²	Dr. TLC	Y	Y
Advisor ²	Dr. G	X	X

ROLL CALL QUESTION:

- I. Call to Order – Vice President Ryan Durst
- II. Roll Call – Chief of Staff Kira Roth
- III. Review of Proceeding Meeting Minutes
- IV. Cabinet Reports
 - a. Taylor Redington, Campus & Community Affairs Director
 - i. Happy Denim Day! More information about Denim Day and what this means. Cookies and Cars went well! Thank you for attending. Success Week is coming up; rundown of the events that are happening.
 - b. Belle Hammes, Communications & Marketing Director
 - i. New hours are ready to be posted; remember ½ hours possible during Success and Finals week. Fill out the forms that are associated w/ Marketing. Denim Day photo happening after senate.
 - c. Chavanna Kerney, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Director
 - i. Tomorrow she'll be meeting with Spader from Chartwells. Talk to Chavanna if you have questions! Apply to be Chair!
 - d. Lillian Clark, Special Events Director
 - i. WU Fest! An email went out today—let Lillian know if you need to be sent that email. There will be papers going around for a volunteer opportunity happening this summer.
 - e. Caleb Newfer, Legislative Director
 - i. Happy Denim Day! Working on Advocacy days—will create a form to talk to folks about what they are interested in so that we can advocate for what folks want to advocate for. If you have questions over legislation, let him know.
 - f. Meredith Ginn, Budget Director
 - i. Been working on paperwork and reimbursements. All student org reimbursements are finished. Lots of grant reimbursements. Allocations Chair! Apply if you're interested.
 - g. Kira Roth, Chief of Staff
 - i. Decorum reminder.
 - h. Ryan Durst, Vice President

- i. We are getting to a stressful part of the semester—we are all here for you if you need anything at all. We are talking to the people that we need to talk to and starting those conversations. We've been looking ahead to the summer and we are looking at talking to lots of folks over the summer. Building connections!
 - i. Kate Coulter, President
 - i. Intake form! Please fill this out!!! Chair applications are due on Thursday at noon—please apply if you are interested. We are planning on having a casual senate next week. We are looking to establish committees and chairs during this meeting. We will present the budget tonight
 - j. Dr. TLC and Dr. Grospitch, Advisors
 - i. Pay attention! Show some decorum. You will hear from Dr. G starting in May about all of the campus moves—they will try to update people as often as possible. Classes listed on your schedule are correct right now. Be a helper! Make sure to help people when they need it. You should get ready for the adjustment. WUBOR is meeting tomorrow, there will be lots of information sharing, so be prepared to hear about that.
- V. New Business I:
 - a. SB 2025-26 #017 Legislative Director Title Revision
 - i. Bill is given neutral status in Committee of the Whole
 - ii. The reasoning behind the change is to make sure that we are bringing back this research portion so that we can adapt and meet the needs of the students. There will be a shift in focus with the position. We would like to bring the change back.
 - iii. Bill is passed.
 - b. SB 2025-26 #018 DEI & Legislative Hours Update
 - i. Bill is given neutral status in Committee of the Whole.
 - ii. All hours on Cabinet would be increased to 20 hours. This would help us to be more advocacy focused. There would be more responsibilities added on to these positions. With this, there is a need to increase the number of working hours. There

were questions about the amount of work, but this is not likely to be a concern.

- iii. Slight changes are made to the legislation
- iv. Hastings: Are these flex hours or are they intended to be time in the office? What kind of events would they be working on?
 - 1. Time in the office or in meetings. Events will depend on the director and political climate. Meet the needs of the students.

v. Bill is passed.

c. SB 2025-26 #019 DEI & Legislative Salary Update

- i. The bill is given neutral status in Committee of the Whole
- ii. This would increase the pay of these two positions so that they are equal to the other positions on Cabinet. This will increase the number of hours worked as well as the pay for these positions. The math for this does not break our budget; it is actually completely reasonable. Part of the reason that they are looking to make this change is to change the tier system that happens on Cabinet. We don't want to have this system be so dramatic. Some slight changes are made to update the document.

iii. Bill is passed.

~~d. SB 2025-26 #020 Summer Stipend Revision~~

- i. Tabled indefinitely

VI. Public Forum I:

a. Direct Funding 2.0

- i. Senator Hastings proposes his idea for Direct Funding for WSGA. There have been some changes made since last time.
- ii. Does not change the reimbursement process, this is a pilot project, it is meant to support small organizations, OSID supports this plan.
- iii. Brungardt: What did the process for this proposal look like? Did you talk to small organizations like those you claim to cater toward?

1. We did not re-hash conversations, we did talk to senators that were originally opposed. There was a lot of input, but we didn't talk to orgs again. We need to solve the issues with senate perception.
- iv. Brungardt: This is still only 2 events per semester—how does this make a huge difference on people?
 1. Talking to Alpha Delta and some members of URGE, but these conversations all happened a long time ago. This is still a pilot program, so there is always the chance that this can change and more events can happen.
- v. Coulter: Just to clarify, there will be a meeting at the beginning of the year so that people that are looking at this funding will learn about the new system.
- vi. \$1,500 can be requested per event
- vii. Bourell: What does a small organization look like, under this system?
 1. This is about how much capital and money you have. This is for those that cannot pay for the event up front, so this would be catered toward them.
- viii. Bourell: Can we use this money in a different way from how we usually use funding?
 1. This will come from the same pool of \$5,000, so this will not really change a whole lot. The \$5,000 is flat and so is the \$1,500.
- ix. Timm: Is OSID now more receptive to working with us? Have we made the changes that they wanted to see?
 1. OSID is not the most excited, but they are still supportive.
- x. Lloyd: There are only 2 requests to help make sure that OSID is not getting overwhelmed as well.
- xi. Giles: Have you explored all other options for this?
 1. P-Card is a full stop NO. Law School has their OSID function as their student gov.

- xii. Bourell: What's the scope of organizations benefiting? Did they ask for this? Proof?
 - 1. There are multiple organizations that would benefit from this. Yes.
- xiii. McFan: Can you update the orgs on this new info
 - 1. Yes! They will be updated with the info at the budget meetings that they are required to go to.
- xiv. Director Clark: This could benefit people like Mock Trial that use their funding for a specific thing
- xv. President Coulter: This is open to all of the organizations on campus. This is geared toward these "smaller" orgs, but all people would benefit.
- xvi. Lloyd: There is technically not a single org on campus that could not see some sort of benefit from this.
- xvii. Cattoor: What does Dr. G think about this?
 - 1. Dr. G says "There have been hurdles but they have mostly been due to staffing. We do not have someone that is dedicated to student accounts, so it is hard to say what this means for other folks. This is something that we have talked about for 4-5 years. This is happening now because George and Bella pushed really hard, but now we are really working to move the pieces. If we approve it, we will try!"
- xviii. Timm: How will we spread the information about this?
 - 1. We will spread this information through the mandatory meetings that orgs are supposed to go to. We would also like to do a press release.
- xix. Bourell: Motion to end the Public Forum
- b. 2025-26 Budget Proposal
 - i. Kate and Ryan talk about their proposed budget. We get copies of the 2024-25 proposed budget, 2024-25 real budget, and the 2025-26 proposed budget.
 - ii. Ross: How confident are we in these projections?

1. This is not a set budget, and there is not any way to actually be 100% certain about student populations. We can make projections and predictions based upon what we know now. We won't know officially until next fall.
2. Dr. G: It is really impossible to say how many people there will be. All of higher education is just a big guess.
- iii. Lloyd: Looking back at previous budgets, the numbers that we have now are pretty realistic. Regarding salaries, how do we plan to accommodate and make sure that we actually pay these people if we know that the budget will go up.
 1. This has been accounted for, but we also have a buffer here. It is also not that big of a deal if we go into a deficit. Meredith talks about reserves. We have a lot in reserves, so we would probably be completely fine. If we spend this money, this would actually be better because the value of it is depreciating.
 2. Newfer: Some of the overspending probably came from the fact that they increased the LD positions hours after the budget was passed and introduced.
- iv. Director Clark: If there are things that need to increase for WU Fest or any other event, how would we go about getting more money?
 1. This is part of the purpose of the Discretionary Fund. There are systems built in here that can be used to buffer and prevent issues.
- v. Bella Wood: We would be perfectly fine with the budget for salaries—we would be spending exactly \$2 more than what we ended up spending last year.
- vi. Timm: What is the big idea with Lyft?
 1. Based off of the restrictions that we have now, we can approximate what we will spend in the coming months. There is also buffer room included in this line.
- vii. McCreath: Student grants are increasing by \$10,000—why is that?

1. We want to give to students as much as we can, so we would like to increase this funding so that we can help as many students as possible. A lot of these estimations came from past budgets, so we want to set a precedent of being able to give more.
- viii. Lloyd: I think that Student Org funding is going to go a lot faster, so would it not make more sense to put more money here than it would to fund like 3 more conferences?
 1. This is a \$50,000 increase, and it's not set in stone. We want to have a projection, so this feedback will be taken into consideration.
- ix. Brungardt: This is just getting something on the books. This is just an idea, it's a proposal. We just want to see and let people get an idea of what we want to do/fund.
- x. Hastings: This seems like a good increase for Student Org Funding, especially if we are taking the Direct Funding into consideration.
 1. We want to give back as much as possible to students.
- xi. Bella Wood: The fiscal year expires on June 30th, so we have to have some sort of framework to work off of until we get the official numbers in October.
- xii. Bourell: Motion to end the public forum.

VII. New Business II:

- a. SB 2025-26 #021 Direct Funding 2.0
 - i. Bill is given neutral status in Committee of the Whole
 - ii. Ross: Motion to vote on the bill
 - iii. Quick amendments are made
 - iv. Approve: 10 -- Opposed: 3 -- Abstain: 8
 - v. The bill does not pass
 - vi. Ross: This bill has been in the works for a long time and it is very supportive of equity. This would help Washburn's campus. If you vote against it, you vote against equity.
 - vii. Hastings: I would like to remind you to ask questions. We can start this, but we can end it at any time.

- viii. President Coulter: We would like to highlight that both admins have put in a lot of work for this, and both admins are in support of this. This would increase equity here on campus.
- ix. Lloyd: This bill would support students and we want to make sure that they all have the chance to have these events.
- x. Bourell: In my experience, we have problems with the reimbursement process. We are not sure how this would help with the reimbursement process instead of just delegating the work to another place.
 - 1. Dir. Ginn: This would eliminate a portion of the process and make it more simple. You would not have to use your own funding, and it is not just pawning things off on other people. This would actually help your concerns.
- xi. Bourell: Isn't each student org allocated a particular amount of funding?
 - 1. This would change the way that we could get that funding. Yes, we have a specific process and you get a particular amount, but you get a portion of this funding in a different way.
- xii. Hastings: This is not being shoved off on OSID, we are not shoving it off on them, this is just a new way for them to help students.
- xiii. Bella Wood: This is surprising! The biggest complaint is that they have to pay first to get anything, and this would literally fix that problem. The reimbursement process is explained, the other side of this is also explained. This process would actually make things easier. Bella is 100% in support
- xiv. Timm: Have there been metrics developed to check on this process and test how effective it is as a pilot
 - 1. We will determine how well it is working after the fall semester. We will talk to student orgs that use this system, we will use our vision here to see if this lines up.

- xv. Dir. Redington: This helps people that do not have the money up front, they are then able to order it first without having to pay up front. This makes things easier.
- xvi. Dir. Hammes: We have graphics! We will give the money away anyway, and we can stop this experiment at any time.
- xvii. Bourell: Would the student rep have to attend an additional meeting with the parties that would be ordering things?
 - 1. They do have to go to the meeting to talk to the people about what they want to order. This could change and turn into an email later in the process.
- xviii. Adhikari: If the bill is passed and the student org has to go through OSID, will there be a change in how long it would take to get the goods?
 - 1. It takes 10 days to get to ChapLynn, but this would only change some parts of the processes.
- xix. Whaley: Would there be restrictions on what people can buy?
 - 1. There is the 1,500 limit and there could be other restrictions as well.
- xx. Bill is passed.
- b. SB 2025-26 #022 2025-26 Budget Proposal
 - i. Bill given neutral status in Committee of the Whole
 - ii. Quick changes are made.
 - iii. Ross: This is a good budget and it will work well until we have our real numbers and real budget.
 - iv. Bill is passed

VIII. Announcements

IX. Roll Call – Chief of Staff Kira Roth

X. Adjournment



SENATE BILL 2025-26 #017
TITLE: Legislative Director Title Revision
ORIGINATOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
SPONSOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
STATUS: Committee of the Whole – Passed

WHEREAS: The current title “Legislative Director” does not fully reflect the breadth of duties involved in researching and analyzing legislation that impacts higher education and student life, and

WHEREAS: Washburn Student Government Association (WSGA) values proactive, informed advocacy at the local, state, and federal levels to support policies that benefit students and institutions of higher learning, and

WHEREAS: reinstating the research emphasis in this role will clarify its expectations and further equip the Cabinet to engage meaningfully with legislative and policy developments, and

WHEREAS: the role has increasingly demanded legislative analysis, data gathering, and policy interpretation—particularly in areas such as financial aid, campus safety, higher education funding, and academic freedom, and

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE WSGA SENATE:

SECTION ONE: The position of “Legislative Director” will be formally renamed to “Legislative Research Director.”

SECTION TWO: All references to the “Legislative Director” in governing documents, will be updated to reflect this title change

SECTION THREE: This legislation shall become effective upon passage by the WSGA Senate and by bearing the signature of the WSGA President and Vice President.

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Ryan Durst
WSGA Vice President
Presiding Officer of the Senate

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Coulter", written over a horizontal line.

Kate Coulter
WSGA President



SENATE BILL 2025-26 #018
TITLE: DEI & Legislative Office Hour Update
ORIGINATOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
SPONSOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
STATUS: Committee of the Whole – Passed

WHEREAS: The Washburn Student Government Association (WSGA) Cabinet members are expected to carry out extensive responsibilities that serve the diverse needs of the student body, and

WHEREAS: the positions of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Director and Legislative Director are critical roles in shaping advocacy efforts, campus inclusivity, and representation, and

WHEREAS: these directors often engage with external partners, research federal and state-level policy, plan advocacy initiatives, and support underrepresented students, requiring substantial time and commitment, and

WHEREAS: all other Cabinet-level positions have been standardized at 20 hours per week, providing consistency and ensuring equity in workload expectations and compensation, and

WHEREAS: the current hour allocation for the DEI and Legislative Research Directors does not reflect the breadth of work required by these positions.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE WSGA SENATE:

SECTION ONE: The office hours for both the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director and Legislative Research Director be increased to 20 hours per week, beginning with the Fall 2025 term.

SECTION TWO: This change shall be reflected in the Cabinet Policy document under Chapter 1, sections 3 and 4.

SECTION THREE: This legislation shall become effective upon passage by the WSGA Senate and by bearing the signature of the WSGA President and Vice President.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Durst".

Ryan Durst
WSGA Vice President
Presiding Officer of the Senate

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Coulter".

Kate Coulter
WSGA President



SENATE BILL 2025-26 #019
TITLE: DEI & Legislative Salary Update
ORIGINATOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
SPONSOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
STATUS: Committee of the Whole – Passed

WHEREAS: The Washburn Student Government Association (WSGA) is committed to equitable treatment of Cabinet members in both workload and compensation, and

WHEREAS: the roles of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director and Legislative Research Director require the same level of time commitment, expertise, and responsibility as other Cabinet-level positions, and

WHEREAS: the current hourly wage for these two positions is \$13.35, which is below the \$13.60 per hour wage of other Cabinet members.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE WSGA SENATE:

SECTION ONE: The hourly wage for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director and Legislative Research Director shall be increased to \$13.60 per hour to match the pay rate of other Cabinet-level positions.

SECTION TWO: This wage adjustment shall take effect beginning in the next applicable payroll cycle.

SECTION THREE: This legislation shall become effective upon passage by the WSGA Senate and by bearing the signature of the WSGA President and Vice President.

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Ryan Durst
WSGA Vice President
Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Kate Coulter
WSGA President



SENATE BILL 2025-26 #020
TITLE: Summer Stipend Revision
ORIGINATOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
SPONSOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
STATUS: Committee of the Whole – Tabled

WHEREAS: Select members of the Washburn Student Government Association (WSGA) Executive Cabinet are expected to carry out important duties during the summer term, including transition planning, budget preparation, meeting attendance, and student advocacy, and

WHEREAS: the current summer stipend of \$500 does not adequately reflect the level of commitment, time investment, and responsibilities required during this period, and

WHEREAS: increasing the summer stipend will ensure fair compensation for the hours worked and promote greater retention and accountability among Executive Cabinet members during the summer months, and

WHEREAS: an updated stipend amount of \$1,000 more accurately aligns with the workload expectations and ensures consistency with WSGA's values of equity and responsibility, and

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE WSGA SENATE:

SECTION ONE: The summer stipend for WSGA Executive Cabinet members shall be increased from \$500 to \$1,000, effective at the beginning of Summer 2025.

SECTION TWO: The WSGA Budget will reflect this change and allocate funds accordingly to support this adjustment.

SECTION THREE: This legislation shall become effective upon passage by the WSGA Senate and by bearing the signature of the WSGA President and Vice President.

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Ryan Durst
WSGA Vice President
Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Kate Coulter
WSGA President



SENATE BILL 2025-26 #021
TITLE: Direct Funding Act 2.0
ORIGINATOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
SPONSOR: Senator Hastings
STATUS: Committee of the Whole – Pending

WHEREAS: WSGA has the responsibility to allocate Student Activity Fee funds to students and student organizations through the Funding Policy, and

WHEREAS: not all student organizations can afford operation and upfront costs, which adds extra barriers when navigating the standard reimbursement process, and

WHEREAS: time and effort have been invested by the Administration and members of Senate in finalizing a Direct Funding Policy amendment for more equitable funding.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE WSGA SENATE:

SECTION ONE: The governing documents of the WSGA shall be updated to reflect the changes produced in the following document titled “Funding Policy – Direct Funding Amendment”.

SECTION TWO: This legislation shall become effective on July 1st, 2025 and upon passage of the WSGA Senate and by bearing the signature of the WSGA President and Vice President.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Durst".

Ryan Durst
WSGA Vice President
Presiding Officer of the Senate

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Coulter".

Kate Coulter
WSGA President



SENATE BILL 2025-26 #022
TITLE: 2025-26 Budget Proposal
ORIGINATOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
SPONSOR: Coulter/Durst Administration
STATUS: Committee of the Whole – Pending

WHEREAS: The Washburn Student Government Association (WSGA) is responsible for the allocation of the Student Activity Fee to fund student initiatives, campus programs, and organizational support, and

WHEREAS: the 2025–2026 Budget Proposal was developed through a thorough review process, incorporating recommendations, organizational needs, projected revenues, and student feedback, and

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE WSGA SENATE:

SECTION ONE: The Washburn Student Government Association formally adopts the 2025–2026 Budget Proposal as outlined in the attached document.

SECTION TWO: The WSGA Budget Director, Internal Finance Committee, and Allocations Committee shall oversee the implementation of this budget throughout the 2025–2026 fiscal year.

SECTION THREE: This legislation shall become effective upon passage by the WSGA Senate and by bearing the signature of the WSGA President and Vice President.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Durst", written over a horizontal line.

Ryan Durst
WSGA Vice President
Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Kate Coulter
WSGA President

