

**Western Washington University Associated Students  
Green Energy Fee  
Tuesday, February 5, 2013**

**YU 460**

**Present:** Katie Savinski (Chair, VP for Student Life), Victor Celis (VP for Academics), Grace Wang, Ed Simpson, Nina Olivier (AS Environmental & Sustainability Program Associate Director), Sadie Normoyle (AS Green Energy Fee Education Coordinator), Regan Clover, Seth Vidana, Jacob Lesser, and Ashley Selvey. *Absent:* Nicole Brown

**Advisor:** Kevin Majkut

**Secretary:** Kaylee Galloway

**MOTIONS**

**GEF-13-W- 05**      Approve the minutes from January 15, 2013. **Passed**

**GEF-13-W- 06**      Approve the minutes from January 22, 2013. **Passed**

*Katie Savinski, Chair of Green Energy Fee Committee, called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*MOTION GEF-13- W-05 by Lesser*

Approve the minutes from January 15, 2013.

Second: Celis              Vote: 5-0-0              Action: Passed

*MOTION GEF-13- W-06 by Lesser*

Approve the minutes from January 22, 2013.

Second: Celis              Vote: 5-0-0              Action: Passed

**IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Management Expenses**

Savinski said that it is really important for the committee to pay special attention to the expenses section on each of the applications and the inclusion of the management expenses. Vidana said there are currently three projects. He said new to this round of projects is a separate section of funding that is for management expenses. He said there is a third category of project management. He said there are certain tasks that do not fall under the GEF coordinator or the project manager job. Vidana said that SEED has requested \$1,500 to hire someone over the course of two years to keep the project going. He said that outside assistance might be needed. He said that the Dashboard team's request was even larger. He said that to make sure the dashboards are working post installment, the team is requesting additional \$7,800 in funding for maintenance. He said that this is a new option. Lesser noted that the GEF Education Coordinator is included as a line item and wondered how it was considered in the cost. Vidana said that there are options, but that it is a matter of what Normoyle can take on. Normoyle said that she is included in SEED and Western SOLutions. Olivier said that she can make edits to the job description and submit it to the personnel office. Savinski felt that it was decently appropriate to provide the additional funding if necessary to have the GEF Education Coordinator participate in the data collection for the SEED project. She said that she would be

in favor of paying a student because data collection is an important aspect. She said that she is more hesitant about the funding for Dashboard for a salary position. She said that it makes her uncomfortable. Savinski said that it would be ok for the SEED project asking for funding for the Resident Representative's assistant. Lesser was on the same page and recognized that it was not a lot of money. Sadie said that she doesn't see it as a problem because it is only two hours a week. She said that the SEED project is about reaching out to people and that would involve educating people. Savinski said that it is important to make the changes to the job description general. Olivier said that Normoyle's job description would need to be edited. She said that currently, the job description included education, AS responsibilities, and ESP responsibilities. Savinski said that once the changes are made, the process to approve the changes will not take a long time. Vidana said that some flexibility will be good especially with the small grant fee. He said that some of the small grant projects might need additional help from Clover and Normoyle. He said that it would be difficult to ask for people to volunteer their time. He said that there are some things that would have to fall onto existing staff. Celis said that with SEED and the amount of work from the residents would be volunteer work. He wondered how to keep them accountable. Wang said that the committee would have to coordinate with housing.

Clover said that it was important to have the Resident Representative Assistant as the check-in person to make sure that the students are motivated and held accountable. Selvey wondered if there would be an effect on the cost of housing. Several committee members said that there wouldn't be a difference. Savinski said that the GEF would be subsidizes the more expensive aspects. Clover suggested including a question to the projects that would discuss funding and how much they could get by with. Savinski wondered if people had any additional questions. Celis said that he valued hiring a student for the work with SEED and SOLutions. He said that paying for a professional staff for the dashboard but then also find ways to include students. Wang wondered if there was an option for work study. Simpson said dashboards has gotten great support from facilities for promoting because they anticipate energy costs to decrease. He suggested using some of that cost savings. Lesser said that he wants to keep everyone accountable. Vidana said that there is a separate budget for special projects. He said there are two categories of labor, one to install the projects and another to maintain. Selvey suggested allocating a specific amount and draw from that. Lesser said that it seems to be more of a one-time deal as it currently notes. Wang said that there is enough money to cover all of them, but will there be enough money to carry over for the smaller grant fee. She said that she is excited for all of the projects.

## B. Project Overview: Questions and Concerns

### **Dashboards:**

Lesser said that he was curious about the building choices. He thought that Buchanan Towers was great, but thought the VU and Wade King were already pretty efficient. Clover said building choices had much to do with visibility and that both Wade King and the VU were high visibility buildings. She said that the plan offered the Fairhaven complex as an alternative. Lesser would rather see the Fairhaven complex. Savinski said that having one in the VU would be beneficial. Vidana said that there will be passer-by people and power users that will have more involvement. He agreed that people do not have a lot of influence in Wade King. He would like the signature from Wade King to say that the project is good to go. Clover said that the project owner form was just finalized and signatures are being collected for that. She said that the committee will wait for that form before funding is granted. Wang wondered if there was a contingency on a veto. Clover said that if the building didn't want it, then it couldn't be funded there. Vidana said that it is ideal if the buildings have a lot of support. Lesser said that the teams would be taking out the kiosk and wondered what would happen with it. Vidana said that not many people use it. He said it would be an option to remove it. He said that there is a way to access the information from the dashboard on a personal computer. Savinski said it is important

to get all the questions out on the table to that they can be recorded and given to the team members so they can prepare answers to share to the committee. Celis wanted to determine a very direct ask of benefits.

**Environmental Outreach Hydration Station (EOHS):**

Lesser wondered about the price breakdown. Clover said that is on the hydration station materials list. She said that it is not as clear on the application page, but that she has a clearer price breakdown that is more detailed. Lesser noted that this project is adding a kiosk and another project is taking one out. It was noted by several committee members that there were a few pages missing from the application. It was decided that it would be rescanned and distributed to be discussed at the next meeting. Selvey wondered about the touchscreen and finding a way to make it more interactive so students can be aware. Clover said that the EOHS group was influenced by the Dashboard team and that it would be a way to connect the hydration stations with the dashboards. Saviški worded the question to say something like "how do you plan to design this kiosk to catch students attention and make them want to use it?"

**Sustainable and Energy Efficient Dorm (SEED):**

Lesser noted that the portable cooking equipment would need to be replaced every two years. Clover said that it was a conservative estimate. Celis said that there is one per suite. Clover said it included the stove top and the toaster. Wang said that there is a place in town that can recycle the appliances. Clover said so the question would be, how long would the other ovens last? Selvey noted the initial and last date of data was a two year lifespan. She wondered what would happen after two years. Vidana said that after two years, it would be determined how effective the room would be and that it would be anticipated that sustainable rooms would be more of a norm. Simpson was worried that the stakeholder didn't add anything to the application other than their signature. Lesser wondered if this would be connected to the Dashboards. He also noted the aspect of giving eco reps and environmentally conscious people more priority. He said that he thought that it might be more beneficial to include people who are not as aware so they can learn. Selvey suggested having someone knowledgeable with others who are not as much. She said that it would be a way to increase the affected population.

**Western SOLutions:**

Lesser wanted to know how it could be tied into the dashboards. He also wondered about weekly metering because it would be cool to meter it more frequently so it is closer to real time. He said there could be some sort of automatic reader connected. Simpson said that in the academic buildings have implemented power logic systems into the electric and steam meters so numbers can be recorded hourly. Olivier said that she is on the project. She said the group wondered if they wanted to include funding for a measuring system. She said their idea would be to post a link on the educational outreach board online so classes can use it and tie it into classes and increase professor usage. Olivier said that is why the team chose to meter weekly. She said that it depends on what the dashboard can do. She said the team would like a local networking for the projects. She said that it would be nice to get all of the projects on the same panel so students can look at everything. Vidana said that his understanding is that if there was a meter, then it can be tapped into the dashboard. Olivier said that there was some sun testing and that they will be put on roofs. Lesser wondered about the total savings. He said that it wouldn't work with government funded buildings and that Western wouldn't get the savings because the state legislature writes a check for the energy used. Simpson said there was some concern over the timeline for construction. Clover said that it would be too late to get it on the board by the summer, but that it is possible for fall. Lesser was concerned that the REC center would need to be closed. Olivier said that it would not need to be closed for the duration of the project.

The committee was satisfied with the discussion and deliberations. Savinski said that the committee will meet next week and that there will be a representative from each team there to

answer questions. She said that the meeting would probably be in VU 567. She said that the committee can further discuss and then decide on the projects after some of the questions are answered. Lesser would like to see the budget breakdown. Savinski said that she will have Kevin prepare a budget. With regards to project lifespans, Clover said that it is a question on the owner form. She thought it would be important to determine the lifespan for each project. Savinski said it is 25 years for SOLsolutions, which would be the lifespan for the technology. Vidana said that it is dangerous to leave it open ended because the projects need to be maintained. He said that he would like feedback from the committee. Savinski said that on the form, maybe a comment section can be added that would discuss the lifespan. She said that it wouldn't be taking ownership of the GEF but that if the project is beneficial, it might want to be expanded. Simpson suggested doing a time range because technology changes. Selvey said that there might be something better for some technologies but that other technologies stay relatively the same over time. Savinski said there is not enough context for each project to determine that and that it would be fine for Clover and Vidana to make that recommendation.

#### **V. NEXT MEETING DATE**

February 12, 2013

#### **VI. ADJOURN**

*The Meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm*