

**Western Washington University Associated Students**  
**Green Energy Fee**  
**Tuesday, March 5, 2013** **VU 460**

**Present:** Katie Savinski (Chair, VP for Student Life), Grace Wang, 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:* Victor Celis (VP for Academics), Nicole Brown, and Ed Simpson  
**Advisor:** Kevin Majkut  
**Secretary:** Kaylee Galloway

*Katie Savinski, Chair of Green Energy Fee Committee, called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

Savinski said that the committee will not be allocating funds for the Dashboards project today because voting quorum was not present.

**III. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES**

**IV. FUNDING ALLOCATIONS**

**V. PROJECT UPDATES**

**A. Western SOLutions**

Clover said Western SOLutions went to talk to Marie regarding the Ree Center project who had a few more questions. She said that her response was that the final project design was not provided, which normally is not provided until after the grant has been awarded. Clover said that Marie would be willing to sign a preliminary form supporting the project, but would not sign the project owner form until she sees and approves the final design of the project. Clover also checked in with the engineer who calculated the preliminary estimates at \$28,100. She said there are three options. First, is to have the GEF committee allocate \$28,100 to have Facilities Management produce documentation with a 50/50 that she will say yes or no to the project form after that. Second, is to research other alternative options on campus that Facilities Management has found to have high solar volume or high hot water usage. Third, is to say no now and give it another year. Clover said that the student team is willing to do more research and that more details are being requested. Vidana said that drawings for the projects are normally done after. He said that he is getting the feeling that Marie does not want solar panels on her building. Vidana said that this is a large investment and that other locations are being considered. He said that Marie is looking at the building and the budget, and that she is pushing back. Clover said that Marie said she does not support pilot projects in non-academic buildings. Savinski said that the field costs are weighing heavy on the Ree Center. Wang noted that the projects will save money over time. Savinski said that it is scary to make that initial large investment. Vidana said that something could happen in the future to cost more and that Marie is risk adverse. Wang said that the campus is focused on sustainability and that she is discouraged that Marie is against this project. Majkut said that there are a lot of projects that are coming that would impact the Ree Center budget. He said that the committee should think about the short run and going to another place with the project, but then in the long run, having more conversations about these projects. Majkut said that Ree Center is an entry building on campus and that they start student tours there. He said that projects that signal what Western stands for such as sustainability should be showcased there. He said that

conversation should be opened up to discuss future projects and ideas. Clover said that Marie is also concerned about staff. Majkut confirmed that staff comes out of the Ree Center budget. He said that Facilities Management covers academic buildings only. Vidana said that even some of the smaller projects such as a sign to advertise have been shut down. He said that he would like to see their boundaries opened up and if there are additional questions that can be answered for the Ree Center to go forward with this project. If not, he said that the project should be implemented at a different location. Olivier said that the team has been looking at other buildings. She said that the VU is a really great possibility because it is of high use during the summer. Majkut noted that food services uses hot steam. Wang said that it is a great second option and said that Fairhaven could also be a great option. Vidana said that the ideal location is where the pool is. Savinski said that the committee should wait until more questions are answered.

#### B. EOHS

Clover said that she talked to Marie who expressed frustration with the light that indicates the filter status. She said that she has talked to maintenance staff on campus with regards to cleaning the hydration stations. She said the hydration stations are difficult to maintain because there is a plastic base with a grate with a rubber bottom behind it. Clover said that there has been mold that develops if the hydration stations are not cleaned adequately. She said that the Ree center has been steaming theirs to make sure it is clean. Clover is looking into a new model that has been installed in other locations. She said they are considering changing the model, but that it will not change the price. Clover had not considered replacing the current models, but just changing the one that will be installed. She said that she kind of wants to keep the current ones, but if there are continuous problems, then changing them should be considered. Majkut said that he likes the counter too, but recognized that cost benefit should be considered. He said that the current units might not be meeting needs. Clover said she took the issue back to Facilities Management to discuss the cost of maintenance and informed the project team of the increase. Vidana said the piloting aspect is working well because things are being learned such as potential problems. He said that the whole sustainable movement has been enhanced. Clover said that she has talked to other campus to talk about issues and that this process has been a learning curve. Selvey wondered if the counter helped motivate students and that it might be worth the maintenance costs. Vidana said that the last project started out with a gooseneck and toggle and that the systems have become more developed over time. Savinski said also that there is an updated SEED budget. Clover said that some of the costs were not multiplied out which is why the numbers changed. Savinski said that the committee approved less than what is listed on the new budget. She noted that there will be the additional 20% for the contingency funds. Vidana said that it would be nice to have some flexibility with the positions and responsibilities.

#### C. Dashboard

Savinski said that team has answered additional questions. She said that the team noted the Fairhaven complex as a good alternative. She said that they also provided more details with regards to the staffing. Clover said the team also defends the funding increase for the GEF education coordinator. Vidana wondered if the committee would be open for staff to come back requesting for more funds to help with the education portion. He said that both Clover and Normoyle would be maxed out without that additional funding. Savinski said she is confused because the job is AS and funded through GEF. She said the job description would have to be changed at the AS level. Majkut said that it is a salary position and so there can be some flexibility in how the position allocates their time. Wang wondered if the 20% reserve would cover that. Majkut said that it becomes an administrative issue. He said that if the committee didn't want to do that, then it would not be appropriate. Savinski said that it is a lot of money and would be adding \$3,000 to the overall cost. Clover said that the number shown is

wrong because he is using the wrong salary amount. Majkut said it would be about \$880 dollars. Savinski wondered if this would require a change in the number of hours in the job description. Majkut said that it can be added to the position and if the position cannot handle the extra time, then something else can be figured out. *Lesser walked in at 12:35p.m.* Vidana said that the base level request would be more flexible in the position. Clover said that what the program would output might need to be simplified. Normoyle said that she is still confused about what her responsibility would be. She wondered if it was collecting data daily or weekly, and that weekly would be more manageable given current hours. Vidana said that there are different audiences. He said that there is a more technical display and a more simple display. He said that there are opportunities in areas on campus, but that someone has to take the complex information and simplify it. He said that it is important to determine what information people want and that flexibility is needed for this pilot. Normoyle said that it comes back to how frequently the data needs to be collected. Majkut said that the purpose of each project might vary. He said that the purpose of the project is to educate people and that it is relevant to the GEF Education Coordinator position. Normoyle said that it is going to be trial and error and that it will fit into her job description. Her concern is how often because she doesn't want it to take away from general GEF education component. Vidana said that staff needs to help put together team proposals once the project is installed. He said that monitoring and managing projects is a third area. He said that this is a new area. He said that he can see how it fits into Normoyle's and Clover's area. Majkut said that the expectation was to have the building owners take this responsibility on. He said that it might be the case that this responsibility shifts onto the committee and requires additional staff and staff time. Savinski said that there would be some réévaluation with Normoyle's position. Majkut said that putting a two year timeline would be ideal and then reevaluate after that to determine if it has been a good use of time. Savinski said that she would send out the document with the answers.

## **VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Scoring Matrix**

The committee had no concerns with the scoring matrix. Clover said the projects are due at 5p.m. today. She said that Transition Western is doing a proposal. Normoyle said that more people came to the second set of Small Grant forums. Clover confirmed that she would be reviewing the applications, filling out the scoring matrix, and then making recommendations to the committee.

## **VII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

March 12, 2013

## **VIII. ADJOURN**

*The Meeting was adjourned at 12:50p.m.*