

**Western Washington University Associated Students  
Sustainable Action Fund  
Friday, November 20, 2015 VU 567**

**Present: Emma Palumbo (ASVP for Student Life), Hannah Brock, Anna Kemper, Ed Simpson, Nate White, Meghan Demeter**  
**Absent: Seth Vidaña, Eric Alexander, Brian Rusk**  
**Advisor: Greg McBride**  
**Secretary: Bryce Hammer**  
**Guest: Alec Darr, Eric Leonhardt, Derek Bradley**

**MOTIONS**

**SAF -15-F-3**            Motion to Approve Funding for Lyn Oske. **Passed.**

**Emma Palumbo, Chair of Sustainable Action Fund, called the meeting to order at 5:07pm.**

**I.        CALL TO ORDER**

**II.       REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

A. There will be no approval of the minutes.

**III.      ACTION ITEMS**

A. Lyn Oske Presentation—Eric Leonhardt, Derek Bradley, Alec Darr

Eric Leonhardt introduced himself to the group and said he was from the Vehicle Research Institute at Western. He said this year they are celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of building cars with students and they've built more than 50 cars. They're very excited about this project because it will involve students from several departments around Western and it will allow them to develop a vehicle that can be used here on campus by the grounds crew. It will reduce Western's carbon footprint. They'd like to design it in a manner that will allow them to produce more if necessary. They're looking at a 10x increase in efficiency for these vehicles, right now the cars that are used get about 10 miles per every gallon of gas and they can increase that to 100 mpg. In addition to that they will be trying to adapt existing vehicles to a more efficient plan. They've been meeting regularly with facility management and have determined that the grounds workers carry about 400 pounds of stuff as well as an additional 100 pounds of personal items they carry like boots, clothing, etc. In their vehicles there will be room for two passengers, all their gear, heating, ventilation, defrosting, etc. The range is key because if they get to the 30 mile range there will be government tax incentives that will kick in. This is a neighborhood vehicle but will be able to hit about 50 mph. They will gauge its use among pedestrians and come up with protocol to fit. They will use guidelines

for the vehicles to ensure their safety and they will meet the revised Washington codes. The Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards will be taken into account, which the current vehicles do not meet, as an additional precaution. He said they will try to improve how people see these electric vehicles. These vehicles often get oversold in terms of what they can carry, they plan on changing the gearing to fit the demands of the ground workers. It will still be lightweight and more efficient than the existing vehicles. They met with Charles Knutson, the Transportation Advisor to Governor Inslee, he pointed out that the governor has a plan to put 50,000 electric vehicles on the road by 2020, currently Washington only has about 13,000, which is still quite a lot for a state. On a state level they're looking at air quality, this vehicle supports those broader issues. It will also reduce our dependence on foreign oil. Alec introduced himself then started talking about metrics and affordability. He said there are several ways they plan on measuring this project. First, they predict they'll save \$720, or 240 gallons of gas, will be save per vehicle per year. They will be measuring miles driven to determine how much use the vehicles are getting. He said by switching to their vehicles there will be 2132 kg per vehicle per year reduction in gas. They'll also be promoting the SAF and the VRI through this project, and trying to change public perception of EVs. One of the ways they're doing that is through vehicle design and aesthetic. The vehicles will be aluminum and blue, which will look really cool. To get outreach happening they're going to do a drive event where they'll allow certified drivers and select passengers to drive around and show people what these vehicles are capable of. In January, Eric will be doing an academy of lifelong learning course that is open to all of Bellingham which will focus on the benefit of electric vehicles. They'll also be doing showcases to promote EVs in Red Square. Alec said they're also open to the SAF suggesting events to bring the vehicles to that are sustainability centered. He said the student involvement is strong and ongoing. Ideally they'd like an ongoing communication with the facilities and management department that students will be involved with. Electrical Engineering students will be involved with the drive training. Anthropology students will help them understand how the vehicles are used. The presence of the vehicle on campus will be strong and will also, in and of itself, garner student involvement. Derek brought up the proposed final budget. The final number is \$44,425. There will be ongoing costs for the vehicle both during production and when they're finished. Facilities management has said they'll pick up the fees after the first year. The VRI is donating about \$20,000 worth of equipment to the prototype and if facilities management decides to move forward they'll be responsible for covering that cost. Project scalability is built into the project, they have a history of instructing multiple vehicles over just one quarter, so the VRI is capable of producing more vehicles if facilities management asks for them. Also, these vehicles will be able to be repaired by facilities management themselves, which was one of the more frequent complaints in respect to previous vehicles. Hannah asked if the \$44,000 they're requesting would cover just the first vehicle. Derek said yes and any additional vehicles would cost about 70% less. Ed said that if anything breaks down would the person they bout it from cover it under warranty. Eric said it depends, they have three

Controllers that are available from the same company and they have three electric motors also available. So they have a plan B in case they need a back up to get through the pilot period. Emma asked for other questions, there were none. Emma thanked them for the presentation and let them know the committee would discuss it and make a decision. Eric, Alec, and Derek left. Emma said she thinks the project gets a lot of student engagement and publicity. Hannah said she's also excited about it. Ed said the experience the students get from this is something they'll be able to take out of this. Emma said all her questions were answered by the presentation. Ed said that facilities management is excited about it. Hannah said she'd rather round up to \$45,000 for safety.

***MOTION SAF-15-F-3 by Brock***

Motion to approve \$45,000 for Lyn Oske.

Second: Palumbo Vote: 5-0-0

Action: Motion Passed.

**IV. CONSENT ITEMS**

**A. AS Environmental Center—Anna Kemper**

Emma said this is a small grant item so it would not normally come to committee but the request is being made by Anna Kemper, a member of the committee, so it's coming as a consent item. Anna said the Dr. Vandana Shiva is an eco-feminist from India who has done work in a lot of different areas. She's been involved with farm worker justice, she's actively opposed Monsanto in India, and she's been active in empowering women, especially in agriculture. Her agent approached Western in June and the project was passed to Anna. Anna said the amount it costs to bring Dr. Shiva to Western is more than the EC's budget for the entire year. They've gone to the Diversity Fund and the Large Event Opportunity Fund and got approvals from both. The total cost to bring Dr. Shiva to campus is \$12,500, Anna is asking for \$5,000 from the SAF. She'll come February 25, 2015. In the morning she'll give a workshop on women in agriculture. Anna said she's talked to the Women's Center, the Ethnic Student Center, the Social Issue Resource Center, and AS Special Productions, and they're all on board to support this project. They're also reaching out to the Outback to put that on. The main event is a large scale speaking event happening in the PAC that evening. The morning after there will be a small breakfast funded by the EC. Anna said the PAC has confirmed the space for her. Publicity wise they have banner space reserved, they've connected with several AS offices, and they're hoping to work with Community to Community. The large scale speaking event will be free to students, so they're focusing on students first, and they might have a small fee for community members. Hannah recommended they visit specific classes to make sure the word gets out. Anna said that was a good idea, they've also thought about programming through Facebook because students sometimes don't read their emails and it will allow people to see how many people are interested. Greg asked if the stage would

be the main stage of the PAC or the concert stage. Anna said it would be the main stage. Nate said when he and Seth were reviewing the application they liked that Dr. Shiva's time here will be spent well. They were also wondering if it was an appropriate use of student funds if they were to bring the presentation off campus, like to the Mt. Baker Theatre, to make it a more community oriented event. Nate said he thinks it's a great opportunity for Western students to connect to the broader community and they'd like to incorporate local agriculture folks. He said they would be okay with it being on campus but he'd like to include the larger community. Ed said it's an interesting idea and they might be able to work with the foundation because they've been pushing links within the community. He said the Mt. Baker Theatre costs might be something they could help with. Emma said she's not a fan of that idea because moving off campus means getting fewer students and since it's being funded by the Large Event Opportunity Fund, the Diversity Fund, and potentially the SAF, which are student funded, it should be available to as many students as possible. She said if the PAC is being opened to community members then she thinks they can still reach the goal of wide participation. Hannah said she seconds that, and while she thinks hosting the event in Mt. Baker would generate more revenue through ticket sales, the goal of the event is student attendance and since the PAC is so large there will be enough space to fit all the people Western does outreach to. Ed said if it ends up being popular they have the ability to stream it to the concert hall. Greg said he looked at the capacity of Mt. Baker and the PAC. The PAC main stage can hold 1,050 and the Mt. Baker Theatre can hold 1,500, so there's a 450 people discrepancy. He said if you simulcast to the concert hall, which has a capacity of 650, there would be more seats than Mt. Baker. Anna said she didn't think that having it in the PAC will drive a large amount of community members away. Ed said the lack of parking would be the biggest drive away. Hannah said that downtown, where the Mt. Baker Theatre is, has a similar problem so either it will be a problem for students or a problem for community members. Anna said the event will be after 4:30 so the parking at school will be better. Nate said in the outreach to the community they should ask the farmers and the people in agriculture what works for them, and they could benefit from the workshops, particularly because there's an opportunity to make those interactive. Hannah asked if they were voting on this. Emma said no because it's a consent item. Greg said connecting with local farmers would be beneficial because they can address the needs of local agriculture and discuss them with Dr. Shiva. He also said because of the diversity of Dr. Shiva's work she can address many of the issues that concern our campus and the community, beyond agriculture. Anna said she's excited to bring all of the AS programs in because of her intersections. Hannah asked if in her contract they could include that it has to be filmed by KVIK. Greg said maybe because some speakers have a no recording clause in their contracts. Hannah said they could ask her manager. Anna said it's possible, especially because she's seen videos of her speeches at other colleges. Hannah said Dr. Shiva seems like the type of speaker that would welcome that and KVIK has been doing events like this lately and would probably be interested, also it would be nice to keep students watching it and letting teachers use it in their

classes. Greg said there is potential for collaboration between KVIK and other resources on campus because he doesn't think KVIK has the capacity for an event like this, particularly with the simulcasting, video services does. He said there might also be opportunities to do one on one interviews with Dr. Shiva and KVIK. Hannah suggested that KUGS might be interested in something like that. Anna said her manager suggested something like that, Dr. Shiva wants to get people excited about the speech before it happens. Greg said when Kevin Hines was here they did a TV Washington spot with him about his journey, and Western now has access to that which is like C-SPAN but for Washington State, Western might be able to do that again. There would be a medium for delivering rather than just recording if that happened. Nate asked what the next steps are. Anna said the two other grants have been approved and she's setting up a meeting with other AS programs to talk about the workshop and how the different stakeholders will be a part of it. She's hoping the contract will be approved on Monday so she can send it to them and get it back relatively quickly. Hannah asked what they're waiting for approval on. Anna said she was waiting on the approval from the SAF grant. Hannah said she thought the grant had already been approved and it was just coming to the committee for notification purposes. Emma said they have to give the final consent. Anna said she didn't know it was a consent item until that day. She also only found out about their two other grants that week so she hasn't had a chance to work on the contract yet. The next step will be drafting that, talking to the other AS programs, and finalizing the structure of the event. Nate asked if he could go to the meeting with the other AS groups. Anna said yes. Hannah asked if Western is paying for her flight and her stay. Anna said there are a few other costs that aren't included in her fee, she's doing a speaking tour so they'll be splitting the cost of travel and her hotel stay but it will be a flat fee so that's nice. Anna said the Environmental Center will be taking the cost of the travel and there are other costs, like ticket costs. She said the PAC, even when you're not asking money for tickets, charges a small fee for each ticket and the EC plans on covering the cost of that. Hannah asked why that's a rule. Greg said it covers the cost of the physical ticket and it pays for someone to be there to hand it out. Anna said otherwise there will be a brunch cost, the cost of the PAC, and a few other things. She's looked at her budget within the EC and she's hoping a few other AS programs will help cover the cost of those small things. She said they think AS Productions, specifically, might be able to help. Nate asked if they would need a check in hand by Monday or if they'll sign the contract and hand money over later. Hannah said the money transfer will happen on the day of the event. Emma said they don't need to vote but she'd like to make sure the committee is okay with the grant money being spent like this. The committee said yes, they were.

## **V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Winter Quarter Meetings—Emma**

Emma said she's like to discuss planning for meetings in winter quarter because scheduling meetings hasn't been easy thus far. She said she and Nate had been

talking about planning a consistent meeting for every other week but that may not be necessary due to the workload of the committee. She was wondering if people were more comfortable with having that set meeting time or if they'd prefer to plan meetings when necessary. The committee responded they'd rather have the set meeting time. Emma said she'd send out a doodle poll to see what times people are available.

*Meeting adjourned at 5:51pm.*