



AS Student Enhancement Fund Committee

Thursday, April 20th, 2017

9:00am

VU 460

Members: *Present:* Tiffany Ng (Student Enhancement Fund Facilitator, Chair); Marya Rybalka (AS Business Director, Vice Chair); Grace Heller (student-at-large); Julia Phillips (student-at-large); Daniel Gallegos (AS Club Representative); Emma Caro (ESC Clubs Representative).

Absent:

Advisor: Raquel Wilson (Finance Manager)

Secretary: Chrissa Browder-Long (Board Assistant for Internal Committees)

Guests:

Motions:

SEF-17-S-1 Approval of Natalie Bankuti for \$100 for the registration fee. *Passed.*

SEF-17-S-2 Approval of Celia Major for \$675. *Passed.*

SEF-17-S-3 Approval of Juliana Johnson for \$376.20 for transportation and lodging. *Passed.*

Tiffany Ng called the meeting to order at 9:10pm.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

II. DISCUSSION ITEM

A. NASU Funding Request

Tiffany Ng stated that the Native American Student Union requested funding for The Gathering of Nations Powwow in New Mexico. They initially asked for transportation, registration and lodging funding from SEF but ESC Steering gave them \$2,000, which covers registration. Ng stated that some errors needed to be changed. She stated that the car rental amount changed to one van and the pickup location was changed as well. The updated cost was \$200, not including gas. The lodging comes to \$2,057 for four rooms for three days. SEF covers transportation, the remaining is \$1,227 covered by ESC Steering. SEF ended up giving them the same amount of money even though their budget went up because ESC covered the additional costs. They have three people going by car instead of everyone flying. They will spend \$592 for eight people to take the shuttle to SeaTac. Ng added that ESC Steering funding would cover the gas costs.

B. University of Reading - Wiltshire Archeology Field School

Ng stated that Natalie Bankuti had asked for funding to purchase camping equipment for lodging but since it would become AS property after the event, she decided to buy her own gear to use in the future. Ng stated that Bankuti is only asking for \$100 for the registration fee.

MOTION SEF-17-S-1 By Ng

To approve Natalie Bankuti for \$100 for the registration fee.

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed

C. WWU Advanced Women's Chorale Estonia & Finland Trip

Celia Major applied to go to a choir tour in Finland and Estonia during the summer with a request of \$675. It is non-credit bearing so she is eligible for SEF funding. Emma Caro stated that since WWU is getting the money, she wondered if it is ethical. Grace Heller stated that since the money is being used for lodging and travel expenses, she feels that WWU is just managing the money, so she thinks it is ethical. Raquel Wilson stated that she was uncomfortable with funding this proposal but she contacted Christopher Bianco and explained the proposal. Bianco explained that it is a great opportunity for cross cultural development and great representation of Western. It could also create precedent with having students come to SEF for funding. Wilson added that this fund is to enhance student's college experiences and help students with financial hardships. She thinks that it fits in with the SEF rubric but they can always adjust SEF's policies and procedures if they feel the need. Marya Rybalka stated that she is comfortable with this request because it is the last payment and Major had expressed great financial need for the funding.

MOTION SEF-17-S-2 By Van Ng

To approve Celia Major for \$675.

Vote: 6-0-0 Action: Passed

III. Socialist Alternative Club

Ng stated that Eric Lawrence was having issues with getting a response from Activities Council about funding so he was not sure if they were going to get funding in time. Activities Council is calling him in this week to let him know about the results. Ng is going to push this item until the meeting next week. Lawrence did not have details yet because he was not sure how much he would get from Activities Council. Wilson stated that it doesn't make sense that he is asking for so much because Loran Parrish is going to the same conference and it didn't cost that much. Ng clarified that when Parrish made the request it was just for them to go to the conference but now the rest of the Socialist Alternative Club wants to come. Lawrence met with Ng and gave some initial numbers but Ng told him to come back with more information but he has not met with her again. This item will come back at the next meeting.

IV. Northwest Biomechanics Conference

Ng explained that Juliana Johnson and a friend applied to go to the Northwest Biomechanics Conference but the second person who applied is no longer a student, so they are no longer eligible for SEF, so they are only sending one person to the conference. The request is for transportation and lodging expenses. At the conference, Johnson would be presenting a research project on behalf of Western's Department of Human Health. They will be exposed to research from other universities and she is planning to add this to her résumé. It furthers her experience by becoming more engrossed in the Pacific Northwest community of biomechanics and it is very academic based. Ng stated that she thinks it is a simple but strong application. Johnson would like gas for 742 miles roundtrip, which comes to a total of \$133.56. The lodging at the Phoenix Inn for 2 nights will cost \$242.64, so the total request is for \$376.20. All committee members strongly agree, "There will be appropriate and relevant academic/educational value or impact" by attending the event. The next point on the rubric is "Positive Change to Student Communities". Ng stated that it would benefit her academic department. Grace Heller thought that it would be beneficial and motivational to other students by seeing a student go to an influential conference.

Emma Caro disagreed; she thought that Johnson is the only one benefiting from attending the conference. Ng stated that overall it is agreement from the committee members. The third point on the rubric is having a “Visible Impact to WWU”. Ng stated that she agrees with this. There is information exchange with others in that professional field and it is a representation of Western. There is overall agreement by the committee members. The last category is “Personal and Professional Development”. Ng stated she agrees for personal development because it is good opportunity to practice and present her research. There is overall agreement on the personal development criteria. Ng stated that this conference would look great on her résumé to help her with graduate school. There was strong agreement by all the committee members on professional development. Ng stated that it is a reasonable amount and it fits all the criteria of the rubric.

MOTION SEF-17-S-3 By Ng

To approve Juliana Johnson for \$376.20 for transportation and lodging.

Vote: 6-0-0 Action: Passed

Ng noted that the SEF has about \$14,000 left for the quarter. Rybalka asked if they are allowed to approve summer applications even though SEF is not active during the summer. Wilson stated that they could as long as the event is before September. Ng stated that they will look at one more application next week. Wilson explained that it would be approved from the allocation of next year’s budget but she stated that SEF can ask for a carryover of the money left over. Ng stated that she would appreciate any input on the funding caps via email.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

VI. ACTION ITEMS

VII. ADJOURN

Ng adjourned the meeting at 9:46pm.