

Intro to the Sustainability Equity and Justice Fund!

History of the Sustainability Equity and Justice Fund;

Originally the SEJF was the GEF and was used to offset energy credits

Then it was the Sustainable Action Fund to expand the fund to be used for sustainability efforts beyond offsetting energy credits

Now, as of last year, it is the Sustainability Equity and Justice fund, this is to reflect the growing definition of sustainability and its intersection with equity and justice on our campus

What is the Sustainability Equity and Justice Fund?

It is money that is accumulated from the Sustainability Equity and Justice Fee that all students pay for

It is \$.90 per credit with a cap for each student for 9 dollars a quarter

Excess money from the year prior is still in the fund so the actual dollar amount of how much money is in the fund is sometimes unclear, but that is why we have budget updates from the SEJF staff

What kind of things do we fund on committee?

Hear applicants through the granting process --grants are then sent to committee to review, vote, give feedback, etc.

Examples of past projects:

- ❖ Sending students to conferences (\$200-\$4,500)
- ❖ Bringing Majora Carter to campus to speak (\$10,000-\$20,000)
- ❖ Creating a professional staff position for the outback farm (\$120,000)
- ❖ Installing Big Belly trash sorting stations on campus (\$70,000)
- ❖ Funding to support in-dorm composting efforts (\$50,000)
- ❖ Event support for Sustainability Period (\$10,000)

Who is in this committee?

Voting:	Non-voting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ AS VP for Student Life❖ AS VP for Business Operations❖ 4 Students at Large❖ AS ESP Director❖ 1 Faculty as appointed by faculty senate❖ 1 representative from business and financial affairs❖ 1 representative from the SAIRC and ESC each	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ SEJF grant program coordinator❖ SEJF grant education coordinator❖ SEJF project coordinator❖ Assistant Director of the viking union Facilities (advisor to the ESP)❖ Anyone else who we may invite to committee to give us feedback or context for a project

How does voting work?

- ❖ Items need to pass with a majority in order to have passed through committee
 - Majority=majority of people who are present at the current SEJF meeting, and they must pass with no less than 4 votes
 - A majority of voting members being present constitutes as “Quorum” (4 voting members)
- ❖ We vote on “action items” or “consent items” in the agenda
 - Information items must be moved to a action item before voting on it
- ❖ We use Robert's Rules of Order to motion to vote!

Robert's Rules of Order

"I call this meeting to order" = "Hey everyone the meeting is starting"

"I would like to move to vote on item 'b' in our agenda" = Hey ya'll, I feel comfortable making a decision about this item and would like to vote on it

"I second that motion" = I agree with what the person said previously and would also like to vote"

"All those in favor say 'aye'" = If you want this to pass say "aye"

"All those in opposition say 'nay'" = If you don't want this to pass say "nay"

"All those abstaining say 'oi'" = If you're indifferent or can't vote due to a conflict of interest say or do not have enough information to vote affirmative or negative and have no outstanding questions "oi"

Essentially it is a system of speaking that has strict rules so we can all be clear when we motion, vote, or engage in committee.

Questions so far?

- ❖ Committee documents?
- ❖ Charge and Charter and Bylaws?
- ❖ Training?
- ❖ Roberts Rules?
- ❖ Funding?
- ❖ Anything else?

What is Sustainability?

“sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Sustainability in context: pillars of sustainability

- ❖ **Human health** --how do environmental factors affect human health in terms of physiological health as well as mental health
- ❖ **Ecology** -- how do environmental factors affect biodiversity, flora and fauna, biological processes, etc.
- ❖ **Social justice** -- how do environmental factors affect vulnerable communities in terms of economic opportunity, health, equity, safety, etc.
- ❖ **Economics** -- how do environmental factors affect the economy in terms of profitability, longevity, the job market, supply, demand, consumer needs, and other facets of the economy

Environmental Justice

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of **environmental** laws, regulations, and policies.

- ❖ What does this look like or not look like in practice?
 - Standing rock Sioux nation
 - The South Bronx
 - South Seattle
 - Cherry Point
 - WWU and Disabilities

IT ISN'T ENOUGH
JUST LOOKING FOR
QUALITY IN THE PRODUCTS
WE BUY, WE MUST
ENSURE THAT THERE IS
QUALITY IN THE LIVES OF THE
PEOPLE WHO MAKE THEM

— ORSOLA DE CASTRO —

Never forget that
justice is what love
looks like in public.

—CORNEL WEST

PHOTO: JAMES STEWAR



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Empathy is not simply a matter of trying to imagine what others are going through, but having the **will to muster enough courage to do something** about it. In a way, empathy is predicated upon hope.

— *Cornel West*

