



AS FINANCE COUNCIL

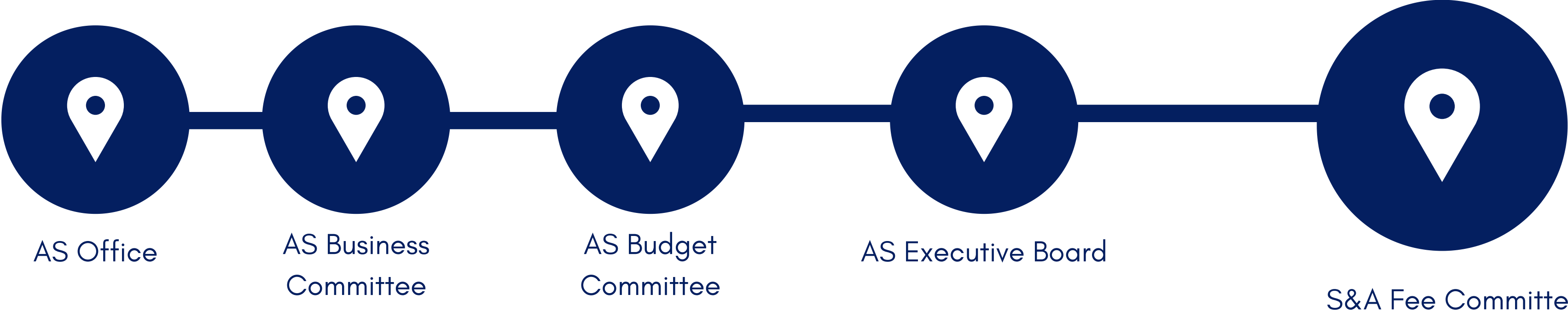
A summary of proposed changes

QUICK VIEW

- The AS Board of Directors (now Executive Board) traditionally managed every aspect of the AS, including the money.
- As a result of the AS restructure, the Executive Board (and Student Senate) now exist to represent student needs in university admin structures.
- Currently, no board is directly in charge of managing AS funds.
- The AS Finance Council is proposed to act as a consolidated body to manage AS funds.
- The Finance Council has membership of the Executive Board, Student Senate, AS Offices, and a student at-large to ensure that every voice is heard.

THE OLD WAY

This is how the budget process used to work.



PROBLEMS

with the old way

TIME

In recent years, the final AS Budget has never been ready for the S&A Fee Committee process because of the time consuming budget process. Instead we present an incomplete version.

FOREST V. TREES

When evaluating the budgets, student staff/elected officials often don't have context for line item requests. We spend too much time looking at the trees when we need to make decisions about the forest.

RESTRUCTURE COMPATABILITY

The old budget process and financial policies aren't compatible with the new ASWWU constitution. We need a solution to integrate the new roles of the Executive Board and Student Senate.



INTRODUCING A DIFFERENT IDEA...

VALUES:

TRUST

Built on a foundation of trust: unnecessary bureaucracy slows us down and prevents us from doing our best work. The people doing the work know best how money needs to be spent.

EFFICIENCY

Consolidating steps while maintaining student voices where they count will allow us to present a completed AS Budget to the S&A Fee Committee on time to best serve the AS & all WWU students.

REPRESENTATION

The primary stakeholders of the AS Budget Process are AS Offices. Now they have a voice at the table while including the Executive Board, Student Senate, and a student at-large to act as the student body voice.

THE NEW PROCESS

This is how the budget process would work with the AS Finance Council.



AS Office

AS Finance Council

S&A Fee Committee

AS FINANCE COUNCIL

MEMBERSHIP

AS BUSINESS DIRECTOR (CHAIR, NON-VOTING)

AS PRESIDENT (VICE-CHAIR)

AS VICE PRESIDENT

AS SENATE PRO TEMPORE

AS STUDENT SENATOR

1 REPRESENTATIVE OF AS RESOURCE OFFICES

1 REPRESENTATIVE OF CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICES

1 REPRESENTATIVE OF AS ACTIVITIES OFFICES

1 STUDENT-AT-LARGE

BUSINESS MANAGER (ADVISOR)

ASST. DIRECTOR FOR STUDENT REP. & GOV. (ADVISOR)

AS BOARD ASSISTANT (SECRETARY)

AS FINANCE COUNCIL

WHAT WILL IT DO?

- Review overall budget proposals (not individual line items) and major changes for AS offices' yearly budgets.
- Voting on the final AS Budget to present to the S&A fee committee.
- Reviewing grant proposals from AS Reserves.
- Reviewing AS Large Event Fund applications.
- Revising and approving AS policies that relate to finances.
- Sending big decisions to the Executive Board & Student Senate for their opinions.

POLICY CHANGES

These policies would be under the AS Finance Council:

- AS Wage Policy
- Carrying Over AS Funds
- Food & Beverage Policy
- Reserves Policies
- Transfer Policy

To read these policies, [click here](#).

Specific funding boards like Activities Council and the SEF Committee would have the power to edit their guidelines.

QUESTIONS

from AS employees & advisors

WHO WILL APPOINT THE AS OFFICE REPRESENTATIVES?

In the future, the Student Activities Board would appoint a representative of AS activities, etc. For now, a request for reps will go out to the office advisors. If there is more than 1 nominee per area, each person will submit a short statement and the Finance Council advisors will make a final decision.

HOW WILL WE MAINTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY IN DEALING WITH AS MONEY?

Before the restructure, the AS Board had unilateral authority over AS money. Internally, the Finance Council will be held accountable by having representatives from each area of the AS to provide perspective on their respective areas.

Externally, the Finance Council will be held accountable by the Executive Board & Student Senate. The student at-large will provide perspectives from outside the AS.

HOW WILL THE PROCESS BE ACCESSIBLE?

Instead of requiring students to perform line-by-line reviews of long Excel spreadsheets, the Finance Council will review a simple summary of the each budget outlining major changes. The Business Director and Fiscal Specialist will work with budget authorities to perform line-by-line, clerical reviews of budgets. The Finance Council will receive specialized training to provide the necessary context and skills to make good decisions. No prior experience is required. The Finance Council meetings are public and will be well publicized to allow any student or community member to voice their opinions.