AS FINANCE COUNCIL

Official Recommendations Concerning S&A Fee Collection

Summary

In recognition of financial hardships faced by WWU students, the AS Finance Council recommends an 85% reduction in the collection of Services and Activities Fee revenue for the Associated Students during spring 2020. To supplement the beginning balance for spring 2020, the Associated Students will access its operating reserve in addition to collection of 15% of normal S&A fee revenue.



Normal AS contribution per student per quarter

Recommended AS contribution per student for spring 2020

Background

AS Finance Council

Purpose: The purpose of the AS Finance Council is to ethically and responsibly manage student fee dollars allocated to the AS.

Membership: AS Business Director (Chair, non-voting), AS President (Vice Chair), AS Senate Pro Tempore, 1 AS Vice President, 1 Student Senator, 1 Student at-Large, 1 Representative of AS Resource Programs, 1 Representative of AS Central Services, 1 Representative of AS Activities, VU Business Manager (Advisor), Assistant Director for Student Representation & Governance (Advisor), DOS Fiscal Specialist (Secretary)

Acknowledgements

- We acknowledge that as of April 2nd, 4,706 people have signed a petition urging WWU to reduce tuition and fees and understand that students who have lost jobs now find themselves in extremely difficult financial situations.
- The Associated Students remains fully committed to all current AS employees in offering financial support via their continued employment.
- We recognize the efforts of multiple other campus groups such as DRAC and Campus Recreation to adjust their budgets to reduce the burden of student fees.
- We are committed to reducing the financial burdens on student by lowering our reliance on the S&A Fee as much as possible in spring 2020 while maintaining responsible financial stewardship of AS programs.



AS Budget

Spring 2020 Estimates

The following estimates were generated by Associated Students budget authorities, the Business Manager and Business Director.

Name	Estimate	Description
Programming/Core Expenses	-\$43,475	Estimates for all spring 2020 program costs
Personnel Expenses	-\$620,919	Estimates for all spring 2020 personnel costs
Personnel Savings	\$9,421	Known savings from decreased/vacant positions
Total	\$654,972	Total projected spring 2020 AS expenses

The following estimates show the projected revenue collected by the AS at various percentages of the S&A fee revenue, including a 5% decrease in enrollment for spring 2020.

Name	Estimate	Description
10% S&A (-5% enroll)	\$86,783	10% of normal fee level with 5% less enrollment
15% S&A (-5% enroll)	\$130,175	15% of normal fee level with 5% less enrollment
25% S&A (-5% enroll)	\$216,959	25% of normal fee level with 5% less enrollment
100% S&A (-5% enroll)	\$867,834	Normal fee level with 5% less enrollment

Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Outlook

The following estimates show a likely scenario for the following fiscal year.

Name	Estimate	Description
Total Expense	-\$3,184,722	Total AS base budget at normal operations
Total Revenue (-5%)	\$2,997,009	Revenue with no fee increase & 5% less enrollment
Difference	-\$187,763	Deficit with 5% less enrollment & no fee increase

Available Balances

The following chart details the current balances of relevant AS accounts:

Name	Current Balance	Description
Current Operating Balance	\$340,071	Balance in operating budget beginning spring 2020
Operating Reserve	\$281,600	Savings for a "sudden & catastrophic" loss of revenue
Student Enhancement Fund	\$35,014	Funding for student travel to academic conferences
Large Event Reserve	\$44,530	Funding for large AS events benefiting all students
VU Organization Reserve	\$63,033	Professional development and unforeseen expenses
Discretionary Reserve	\$409,086	Unallocated funds for pilot projects/one-time expenses
Total	\$833,263	Total liquid balance beginning spring 2020



Recommendation

On 3/31/2020 and 4/3/2020 the AS Finance Council reviewed scenarios of collecting 0%, 10%, 15%, 25%, 30%, and 50% of the normal AS allocation from the Services and Activities Fee. The AS Finance Council voted 8-0-0 in favor of collecting only 15% of the normal AS allocation. This following chart details this scenario:

Name	Estimate	Description
Total S20 Expense	-\$661,481	Spring 2020 expense + institutional recharge
S&A Fee Revenue (10%)	\$130,175	10% of regular S&A revenue (with 5% less enrollment)
AS Beginning Balance	\$340,071	Balance in operating budget beginning spring 2020
AS Operating Reserve	\$191,235	Usage of the AS operating reserve
Year End Balance	\$0	Ending AS balance of fiscal year 2020
Available Reserve Balance	\$642,028	Ending balance of available AS reserves

