



# AS Finance Council

May 4, 2020 9:30 a.m. Teams Online Meeting

**Members: Present:** Nate Jo, Chair (AS Business Director), Nicole Ballard (Student Senator), Adah Barenburg (AS Student Senate Pro Tempore), Lani Defiesta (AS President), Corey Griffis (student at-large), Christina Ngo (Resources Rep), Selome Zerai (VP for Activities), Rachel Walsh (Central Services Rep), **Absent:** Keenan Kaemingk (Activities Rep),

**Advisors:** Leti Romo, Assistant Director for Representation & Governance; Raquel Vigil, Business Manager

**Secretary:** Cindy Monger, Dean of Students Unit Fiscal Specialist

**Guests:** Jamie Hoover, KUGS General Manager; Jenn Cook, AS Clubs Manager; Stephen Magnuson, AS Outdoor Center Programs Coordinator

## MOTIONS

**FC-20-S-08** Approval of the minutes of April 23, 2020 and April 28, 2020. *Passed*

**FC-20-S-09** Recommend FY'21 Adjusted Request as the FY'21 Operating Budget to present to the Services & Activities Fee Committee. *Passed*

*Nate Jo, chair, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.*

### I. Call to Order

### II. Approval of the Minutes

*MOTION FC-20-S-08 by Barenburg*

Approval of the minutes of April 23, 2020 and April 28, 2020.

Second: Ballard      Vote: 6 - 0 - 0      Action: Passed

### III. Revisions to the Agenda

*Cory Griffis joined the meeting.*

### VI. Public Forum

### V. Action Items

#### A. FY21 Budget Recommendations to the S & A Fee Committee

The purpose of the meeting is to pass a budget as it will be presented to the Services & Activities Fee Committee today at 4 p.m. It is not to decide how exactly AS funding will be spent next year. The AS FY'21 Budget will continue to be reviewed and eventually presented to AS Student Senate and AS Finance Council. The Service & Activities Fee voted to reduce the fee for summer, the AS are expecting \$150,000 in revenue for summer. Right now, they are showing a deficit of \$32,769 for FY'21. Reasons to consider approving a deficit budget is that a) they think they may spend less than budgeted, b) they think they will receive more revenue than expected, c) they are prepared to use out of AS Reserves if needed.

Jo is proposing including the wages for the grant that is ending this year for the Womxn's Identity Resource Center (WIRC) Advocacy Coordinator student employee. The addition of this position would match the 3 student staff in all other identity offices. The only other grant ending is the Outdoor Center Trip Leader Training and they have enough remaining in their grant to

carry forward for next year. The addition of the WIRC employee would bring the deficit to about \$40,000.

Zerai was wondering how the breakdown of percentages by area compares to last year. Jo said that this is the first year that they have broken the budget down into these new areas, so they do not have comparison numbers by area, but the budget overall is down 1.3%, even with the wage increases. Barenburg is shocked by how much they spend on staff than on services. Romo said that the breakdown can be misleading because professional staff is also based out of student needs. For example, the way that Cook supports student clubs could not be done by a student that changes from year to year. The staff is dedicated to student needs. Jo said that the information was not meant to make a value statement. Jo said, everyone employed by the AS whether student or professional staff, are employed to serve students.

Barenburg thinks that they should approve this as it would be a disservice to the WIRC to not approve this position because all other office in that area has 3 employees. The presentation explained clearly why it was needed and this is the only decision package in this position.

Cook is curious if the Summer Concerts were still budgeted in this proposal. Jo said that the series is proposed at \$2,270. Reductions proposed by Budget Authorities are included in the presentation. Jo doesn't it is ever wrong for it to be

Vigil said that historically it has been an organization that the employment of students in the AS has been the largest program of the AS. She is surprised that professional staff may have eclipsed student staff and doesn't feel the numbers are correct. Monger said that she was concerned about including these numbers because they reflect decreases in student employment over the summer which would make the difference between the two types of staff larger than normal. Student employees are more in number but are working a maximum of 19 hours whereas staff typically work full time. Jo said that this is a draft. Vigil said that internal revisions should not be used to substantiate the request to Services & Activities Fee Committee. Jo said that they are not assuming the student hours would be cut from the student budget. The reductions are included in the budget that will be presented because otherwise it would be \$120,000 in deficit. Jo is open to suggestions for how best to accurately represent and to ensure the numbers are correct. Jo thinks transparency is important. Vigil said that as advisor, she is seeing this for the first time. She knows that there is a lot of value in student employment and it is the largest AS program. In this one year, during the Covid-19 Pandemic, there is a value in maintaining employment for staff. There is also a value in employment for students, with the exception of reconsidering student employment while classes are online. Jo said it may be helpful to include a pie chart from last year as well. Jo welcomes continued feedback on this document. The goal is to tell how they came up with the budget, what the AS spends their money on, and a synopsis of the process.

*Rachel Welch left the meeting to attend class.*

Barenburg feels that approving the budget is acceptable. She thinks that the draft document should continue to be revised for clarity and in response to the Town Hall and the value that students place on student employment. She feels comfortable voting on this draft budget today because she has seen it many times and understands where it is coming from. Zerai thinks they should continue to revise the draft Executive Summary. The decision package and the rest of the budget looks great to her. Defiesta agrees with Leti, if we are trying to practice transparency, we need to be very clear describing these numbers in the draft document. Romo feels that it might seem divisive in how it is presented. Jo can see that students without as much inside knowledge might have a reaction about why they are spending so much on staff. Jo would like to be as transparent as possible. Vigil would like to review the numbers because it doesn't look quite right to her. Romo feels that there could be an asterisk underneath explaining how many staff and how many students and their hours. Ngo I think that it's a context problem because most people don't have a point of reference for those numbers. Ballard also sees the value in adding

additional context surrounding the numbers in the chart. Zerai feels like adding additional context gives more transparency. and while she understands and strive for simplicity, she feel like simplicity is really hard to have when looking at budgets.

*MOTION FC-20-S-09 by Ballard.*

Recommend FY'21 Adjusted Request as the FY'21 Operating Budget to present to the Services & Activities Fee Committee.

Second: Griffis      Vote: 6 - 0 - 0      Action: Passed

## **VII. Other Business**

## **VIII. Adjourn**

*The Meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.*