



# AS Finance Council

February 2, 2021 4:00 p.m. Teams Online

**Members: Present:** Noemi Bueno, Chair (AS Business Director), Abdul Malik Ford, Vice Chair (AS President), Ben Crandall (Central Services Rep), Sargun Handa (AS Senate Pro Tempore), Brandon Lane (Student at-Large), Ranulfo Molina (AS VP for Diversity), Kaylan Rocamora (Activities Rep), Selam Swier (AS Student Senator), Nichole Vargas (SAIRC Rep) **Absent:** Daniela Rodriguez (ESC Rep)

**Advisor:** Raquel Vigil, Viking Union Organization Business Manager

**Secretary:** Cindy Monger, Viking Union Organization Fiscal Specialist

## MOTIONS

**FC-20-W-06** Approval of the minutes of January 19, 2021 as stated. *Passed*

**FC-20-W-07** Approval of the minutes of January 26, 2021 as stated. *Passed*

*Noemi Bueno, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.*

### I. Call to Order

### II. Approval of the Minutes- January 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

*MOTION FC-20-W-06 by Lane*

Approval of the minutes of January 19, 2021 as stated.

Second: Rocamora Vote: 8 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

*MOTION FC-20-W-07 by Rocamora*

Approval of the minutes of January 26, 2021 as stated.

Second: Lane Vote: 8 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

### III. Revisions to the Agenda

### IV. Public Forum- no guests were present

### V. Action Items

### VI. Information Items

#### A. AS Fee Webpage

Bueno and Eric Alexander, Executive Director of Student Engagement would like to have a webpage that explains to students how ASWWU spends their portion of the Services & Activities (S & A) Fee. They are looking to Student Technology Fee webpage because it is easy to follow. Bueno wants to make sure that they use accessible language. Molina thinks this is a great idea and wants to share the knowledge the council holds about where money is being sent. Molina feels this level of access may also make students want to come to meetings and learn more. Lane said that each year there is a summary created by the Business Director and Monger that helps to describe to students how money is spent. Vigil said that Monger does provide a great document and the Business Director in the past has provided a few charts showing the breakdown of the funding for the AS approved budget. Bueno would like to include visuals. Vigil also suggested looking at the Departmentally Related Activities Committee (DRAC) page as well. Vargas thinks pie graphs are good because you can see the proportion of how much money goes where. Rocamora asked if they could add it to the tuition/fees page. Lane wondered if they could have another tab at the top of the ASWWU Website for the budget. Molina said graphs are a good idea and they could include some language that explains the chart, graph, or table. Vigil feels that they could ask S & A about this

and also look at options for ASWWU website. Monger shared the budget summary from the last two years with charts and tables. Molina and Crandall like it. Vargas said the colors and dividing it up make it easier to read and process. Crandall and Rocamora asked that all documents be accessible in font size and color. Monger said she's been using colors that are on the pallet that show as different shades for people who might be color blind and makes sure the pdf screen reader is accessible for documents posted. Bueno said that on the Student Business website there is only a paragraph that says very broadly how the S & A fee money is spent and wants to get more information out there. Vigil said shout out to Monger who has always been attentive to accessibility and presentation of information. Font Size, Font, color. For sure a work in progress and new information to mindful of. Karen Deysher has been a great advocate on these issues as well. So proud of this committee for also wanting to be mindful of accessibility and presentation of information. She loves working with this council! Lane requested having a breakdown of how much money each person pays per quarter for each area. Rocamora thinks they should have more general information to start with but offer deeper level information through links. Ford thinks large breakdowns might be better. Lots of dittos. Lane feels that simple is best and has faith in the staff in creating the page. Bueno asked if they should include the process of how the budget gets approved. Vigil said questions being asked of the Business Director will give clues to what students want to know and should drive the transparency. Bueno said that people ask how the fee money is spent primarily. Lane thanked Bueno for all of her work on this. Bueno feels like this is a good time to do this and make it a priority. She will work with IT to get a draft started.

#### **B. Guiding Principles**

Bueno compiled some possible Guiding Principles. Lane felt must not "use personal bias when evaluating" is vague. Vargas said this was included in the Queer Guild rules because voting members often times know the people applying for funding. Handa said that people should not vote on something for which they will personally benefit. They should abstain from the vote. Crandall thinks that people should be able to share their opinion and advocate for things in their area, but perhaps not vote on them ultimately. Vigil agreed and said that some people were appointed to represent programs and areas on this council, and they should be able to present information and advocate for things related to their areas. There is a difference between advocating for or sharing additional information and voting on something that personally benefits the individual. If they are going to get personal gain, then they should abstain from voting. Lane gave the example of operationalizing the Student Senate, and the input of the Senators on the council is valuable. He thinks that personal bias should be better defined. Vargas said that there is a difference in advocating for things that benefit offices versus personal benefits/gain. Rocamora suggested "council members must be aware of potential biases and be transparent about these biases." Vigil agrees with removing the "not" section since there was only one item and reframing it as a positive. Vargas agrees with disclosing biases, and then case by case basis the council can decide if a situation warrants an abstention. Crandall thinks checks and balances between members is good. It means getting checked for things they may not be aware of and also gives space to make a "mistake" that is more a learning opportunity. Lane suggested this is more of an ethics document. Lane thinks the guiding principles would be changed each year with the priorities for the group. Whereas the ethnics document would remain the same from year to year. Vigil encourages the council to look at the differences between guiding principles, values statements, rules of operation, and ethic statements before next week.

#### **VII. Other Business**

#### **VIII. Adjourn**

*The Meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.*