



Western Washington University Associated Students Student Enhancement Fund Committee

June 3rd, 2020, – 11:00 am – Microsoft Teams

Present: Rachel Zamora (SEF Coordinator); Nate Jo (AS Business Director);
Soumya Ayelasomayajula (AS ESC Assistant Director for Logistics);
Raquel Vigil (VU Finance and Business Manager); Sargun Handa (AS
Senator at-Large); Travis Felver (AS Club Event Coordinator); Alicia
Prokopenko (AS Assistant Director for Club Finance)
Secretary: Jude Ahmed (Executive Board Assistant)
Guest(s):

I. CALL TO ORDER

Zamora calls the meeting to order at 11:04am.

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION SEF-20-S-4 By: Prokopenko
Motion to approve the minutes from 4/8/20. **Passed.**
Second: Zamora Vote: 5-0-0
Yes: 5
No: 0
Abstaining: 0

MOTION SEF-20-S-5 By: Felver
Motion to approve the minutes from 5/13/20. **Passed.**
Second: Ayelasomayajula Vote: 5-0-0
Yes: 5
No: 0
Abstaining: 2

IV. Action Items

V. Information Items

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Prokopenko wants to talk about the main points from the Club Travel Focus Group. The goal is to make club travel more equitable and accessible. Clubs can become confused and frustrated when they do not know where to go to get more funding for travel. They need to have some sort of map of where all the funding sources are for clubs. They also need one form that can go to multiple places instead of having to separately apply. The smaller funding sources do not have adequate funding to support

travel as individual councils. They want to find a way to have club members have access to other funding streams such as SEF and allow for more collaboration. Jo agrees with this need although is concerned about what will happen if clubs seek out SEF for funding because mixing of funds could lead to logistical problems and equity issues. So much is funded from SEF is because it is often their only form of funding and isn't sure how to expand that to club. Ayelasomayajula says the group has seen that some clubs will split up and apply to a bunch of different funds including SEF. It would be helpful to have Queer Guild Council or the ESC Budget able to collaborate with a Diversity Travel fund since those budgets do not necessarily have travel funds set aside because travel changes so much. Vigil believes that clubs tend to get more support when they fundraise as a group and they want to make sure that there are opportunities for individuals to still apply for SEF and worried about how to explore equity in the AS funding structure. Fevlers big takeaway was combining group travel funds would work well but having that separate from individual travel. Ayelasomayajula has seen in the past that if people in a club want to go to an event that would apply to their club apply to the SEF or a department because they know they would have a hard time to get support as a club and go on their own. There are over 200 clubs so that is where clubs can't always fundraise easily because clubs need money to raise money. Clubs are often also large parts of the student experience at Western but not just as an extracurricular and so it is so important to have more support for clubs and funding clubs. Zamora says in their focus group they believed they should not have a centralized fund but they could have a Travel Fund with an academic and Diversity Fund. A proposed amount from SEJF for grant fund would be \$35,000 which would go into the Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity Fund and that could be a collaboration with SEJF or start on an SEJF grant application. Jo says that they passed a reserve policy that gives the employee travel fund, including elected officials as employees, \$20,000 which will stay under the control of the Personnel office.

Zamora wants to wrap up the quarter with a discussion on what worked, what didn't work, and what the committee can work on. Zamora especially wants to hear from those that have sat on this committee for two years and how they have seen the committee change. Zamora feels the committee has a great system communicating and they did a good job going off of each other's idea and giving each other space to talk. Zamora also feels the unified funding form worked well in getting applicants. Jo says Zamora did a great job of collecting with applicants and she did a great job letting applicants know that they care about them and are working for them. Ayelasomayajula also wants to thank Zamora for taking feedback to applicants and reporting on how applicants responded quickly. Zamora asks what they should work on next year since travel will likely be very limited in October. Ayelasomayajula is glad to hear Zamora will be back at the committee because there are a lot of questions the committee repeats with applicants and she will know what to expect for the committee since not everything they look for is in the application itself. Vigil feels they should continue to work on the rubric to support students. For example, the Black Male Summit was one application in which they wanted to support but the language in the rubric limited their approval and that was one issue where it felt unequitable and the committee could have done better. Jo wants to recognize that the AS has failed to provide support Black students and they need to do more next year to center Black students and not just create a new fund, but make sure that the existing ones also center Black students. Vigil believes that changes in the rubric's language are necessary regardless if they create a separate travel fund. Jo says

they can decide here if they want to change the rubrics tie to academic studies and tie it to academic success as well. If they want to broaden the rubric so they might not need to meet every criterion to pass application. Prokopenko agrees that this is a discussion that must continue and looks forward to knowing that the committee will continue to develop SEF.

VII. ADJOURN MEETING

Zamora adjourns the meeting at 12:07pm