



# AS Finance Council

February 23, 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), Brandon Lane (Student at-Large), Ranulfo Molina (AS VP for Diversity), Kaylan Rocamora (Activities Rep), Daniela Rodriguez (ESC Rep), Selam Swier (AS Student Senator), Nichole Vargas (SAIRC Rep) **Absent:** Sargun Handa (AS Senate Pro Tempore)

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

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

**Guests:** Dr. Fred Collins, Assistant Director for Outdoor Recreation, Casey Hayden, Assistant Director of Student Activities, Stephen Magnuson, Outdoor Center Programs Coordinator

## MOTIONS

**FC-21-W-11** Approve the Minutes of February 16, 2021. *Passed*

*Noemi Bueno, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.*

### I. Call to Order

### II. Approval of the Minutes

*MOTION FC-21-W-11 by Rocamora*

Approve the Minutes of February 16, 2021.

Second: Vargas

Vote: 7-0-1

Action: Passed

### III. Revisions to the Agenda

### IV. Public Forum

### V. Action Items

### VI. Information Items

#### A. Outdoor Center

Stephen Magnuson, Outdoor Center Programs Coordinator said that the Trip leader training program is in the pilot program as a grant and they will be asking for an additional carry forward in this area.

#### 1. FXXCHL- Challenge Course Operations-

Reduced the revenue in this area in anticipation for the course being closed this summer.

Facilitator training has not been included in this budget in the past, but they put in some hours for this now of 28 hours. They had a pilot program grant for this in the past.

Magnuson took the model that they use now and broke it down into how many hours and hiring 5 positions and added this. There is an overall reduction in the budget of \$2,000.

#### 2. FXXOCA- Outdoor Center Admin

The main impact to this budget is the student coordinator positions. They will be opening up more of their services on the other end of Covid-19. This year they have staffed most of the areas virtually with a few in person services. The one position that will be excluded this upcoming fiscal year is the Challenge Course Administrative Coordinator. They primarily do scheduling and billing for the course. The course is not currently open, if they open in two years, they will not need to have two employees. There are a few more positions with reduced summer hours.

3. FXXOEQ- OC Equipment Shop

Magnuson worked with the student to try to predict what revenue projections could look like this year with diminished opening. They have begun to do curbside services for free to provide services to people who are paying the Services & Activity fee. They do anticipate charging again next year. There have been requests from students to get equipment rentals going again. Wages are once again their biggest expense. They conduct regular quarterly meetings over dinner time and provide food for that. This is a reduction of about \$4,000. Rocamora is excited to have the shop open again. Equipment rental prices have not been reduced. They are heavily subsidized by ASWWU.

4. FXXOEX - OC Excursions & Instruction

Magnuson said that this is a revenue generating program, but it is really to cover the cost of the leadership required to support the trip. They are trying to think of a way to have things be more equitable for students in this hard financial time. They will be doing many free trips and then charging for a few trips that are more expensive. Vigil asked about the fluctuation in revenue especially starting a few years ago. Magnuson said that the weather impacts this program quite a lot in terms of high winds or high avalanche conditions. There are sometimes trips cancelled and this would impact the revenue. It is also dependent on the coordinators and how much they wish to pack into a year. FY 17 was a really ambitious year and also the weather wasn't an issue. Last year the spring trips were all cancelled, and the program didn't operate in the spring as well due to Covid-19. Magnuson said that they lowered goods and services as much as possible due to continued reduced services with Covid-19 restrictions. They have been providing a meal on the Wellness Trips as an incentive and this has been well received by participants. Magnuson said that the trip leaders are paid on a contracted amount. They are really limited in the number of leaders this year since they haven't hired anyone due to not having a way to train and onboard. They have removed the Apprentice Trip Leader for this year, but that would be added back in next time. They would like to start paying the Trip Leaders a better wage, as this hasn't changed in years, but are not requesting that this year. They may want to subsidize trips at a higher level in the future given the economic situation. The addition of other Trip Leaders will not necessarily increase the budget above where it was last fiscal year. The models are built on students being retained for 2-3 years and building upon their knowledge.

Magnuson is hoping to operationalize the grant in the next year to two years. Vargas clarified it was 15 trips for the whole year. Crandall said they are working for 5 per quarter. Vargas asked why these programs are only subsidized and not free. Magnuson said that historically the services that they provide, and the costs are expensive. Part of the revenue for equipment rental goes to replace and repair. As they continue to be critical, they ask what that means in terms of accessibility and equitably. This means that many students are excluded due to financial constraints. This is why they have added more free trips. Vargas said that makes sense because the OC has costs that other areas don't. Rocamora is not sure if there is one - but is there/are we against a "scholarship" option for students? Crandall said "it's called the opportunity fund (I believe!) and it is accessible to students who have financial needs! But even having to ask for that is a significant barrier for folks and so while it's great to have a scholarship fund (and we should make it bigger!) I think it's important to

also look at overall reductions, so the barrier isn't there in the first place!" Vigil said "Vargas great question. Keep that question on your short list as we move into the AS Productions budget presentation. The SAIRC was set up as a Resource, thus no value on revenue generation or ticket sales for "standard" program offerings. The OC was set up as a "fee for service" program...and know we are recognizing equity and access and providing more opportunities to a broader student population...which may warrant a higher level of "subsidy" to fund the OC program."

5. FXXOPO- OC Promotions & Outreach

Promotions & Outreach centralized budget has been reduced a little because they might not be back at full capacity. There has been a decline in people purchasing OC merchandise. They have reduced where possible in the budget. Vigil said "Stephen Magnuson, Dr. Collins and the Outdoor Viking Recreation program are awesome!!! Thank you for recognizing the "pull" on AS and priorities and being a team member in helping the AS prioritize various initiatives over the space of a couple of years versus competing for limited resources in a given year. When one of our programs rise we all rise!" Dr. Collins has spent time looking at how they can do a better job serving students. At this point they are mostly serving people who can afford it. They are trying to look at people who are not typically using the services and ways to reach out to them.

**B. AS Productions**

Hayden did a summary of expenses with the non-wage dollars and they are asking for a decrease of \$3,520 this year, but there is an increase in personnel costs. Overall 5% increase.

1. FXXASP- AS Productions Admin

Hayden just added a new copy of the AS Productions budgets within the files with a second proposal for employees. They are not anticipating having the Poster Sale at the beginning of the year, so this is a reduction in revenue. Hayden is hoping to have them back to full staff. In the original budget they were looking at making some small trims to some positions and bringing in a new position AS Talks Coordinator. Looking towards things more social justice oriented. They would like to keep some things from these remote days, such as interviews with artists, etc. The original budget request didn't trim enough to cover the costs of a new position. The new alternate budget is to keep on hiatus the Assistant Director position (as is happening this year) they would go back to two production assistants. Vigil said that now that they don't have Personnel Committee then it seems to be falling on the Finance Council to make decisions. Vigil said student Budget Coordinators and Budget Authorities can request to move things around if they have no increases beyond was requested in previous years. Lane asked if Hayden feels that AS Productions will be back to normal service levels by fall quarter. Hayden has heard that the university is anticipating 75% back in the classroom. Hayden has seen the coordinators still able to work on getting programming this year. There are reductions in other budgets based on not having large programs. They can have gatherings of 200 people outdoors with social distancing, they may be able to have Lawnstock in the spring with circles for people to sit in to ensure there is physical distance. Vigil asked "how does the creation of a talks coordinator impact the Special Events program. Do you really see a "full" Special Events program?" Hayden said that Special Events has tried to do a speaker series but hasn't been able to do this. He said

that the talks program might be more intimate than the events. He thinks there might be some events that are able to happen in Covid times. Monger asked about the increase in the budget of \$10,000 in student wages. Last year they didn't have the AS Productions Director position. Hayden feels there is a great need for this position. They would also have this position working with the volunteers. Crandall wondered if they had thought of adding half of the hours for the talks position to another position to see if it is something that students want and then look at adding it. Hayden didn't feel that was possible based on workload. Hayden understands the big picture and realizes that they may need to reduce due to the economic situation. It may be that they need to do this as a Grant.

2. FXXAMP- Marketing and Promotions

The poster sale used to fully fund this budget, so this appears to be an increase because that program can't happen next year as it is too many people in an enclosed space for Covid-19.  
FXXART- ASP Gallery

Hayden said that they reduced the amounts based on actuals and expected spending for next year. The receptions are an important part of industry standards. The shipping expenses for freight or transport fluctuate from year to year based on how far away the artist lives for shipping.

3. FXXAVL- Volunteer Program

This is a small budget and they are looking at creating tiers for the volunteer promotions.

4. FXXFLM- ASP Films

Films has been the biggest spending budget this year because of the drive-ins. They are very expensive with the screen rental, labor, etc. They used to get revenue from Banff to help support the rest of the year, but with the virtual event they did not get as much money. This area came in a little more as well because of the reduction in revenue. The reduction in film licensing might mean more nostalgic or classic films, or shared streaming through teleparty.

5. FXXLAT- Late Night Program

Hayden feels like this can be combined with Special Events. It has been reduced due to anticipation for not a large fall quarter event.

6. FXXLWN- ASP Lawnstock

Hayden said this is a carry forward of past years because they haven't been able to utilize this new budget since it was broken out into this separate new budget.

7. FXXMAM- ASP Underground Coffee

There have been some years where they have spent down to the penny on this and divided it by quarters. They reduced a bit in some line items to give a slight decrease.

8. FXXPOP- ASP Popular Music (Major Concerts)

Due to Covid-19 shutdowns they weren't able to try the new model where they have fewer concerts, have them be festival style, and free. This was a large reduction in revenue. This is listed as a carry forward budget because they are hoping on having these events outside next year. Vigil said "sorry to sound like a skipping record. If you are decreasing programming expectations...are you decreasing hours allotted to the programming position?" Hayden didn't see this as a reduction in labor because for example for something like Lawnstock, it takes more than one quarter to plan this event.

9. FXXSPE- ASP Special Events  
Reduction in speaker performer expenses.

**VII. Other Business-** Due to reductions in other operating budgets within ASWWU in like of the current economic situation, it looks like it will be possible for the Student Senate will be operationalized.

**VIII. Adjourn**

*The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 5:48 p.m.*