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AS Finance Council

April 20, 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), 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), Brandon Lane (Student at-Large)

Advisor: Raquel Vigil, Viking Union Organization Business Manager

Secretary: Cindy Monger, Viking Union Organization Fiscal Specialist

MOTIONS

- FC-21-S-04** Approval of the minutes of April 13, 2021. **Passed**
- FC-21-S-05** Approve the Club Activities budgets in the amount of \$98,777. **Passed**
- FC-21-S-06** Approve the Summer Activities budget for the amount of \$2,250. **Passed**
- FC-21-S-07** Approval of the KUGS FM budgets for the amount of \$122,398. **Passed**
- FC-21-S-08** Approve the Outdoor Center budgets for the amount of \$89,560. **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-S-04 By Molina

Approval of the minutes of April 13, 2021.

Second: Vargas Vote: Action: Passed

III. Revisions to the Agenda- Other Business move to Item IV.

IV. Other Business-

A. The meeting was held on the day that the verdict of guilty for the murder of George Floyd was announced. The committee did a check-in and shared their feelings.

V. Public Forum

VI. Action Items

A. Club Activities/summer-

Bueno said that there is a 13.6% budget reduction in this area including temporarily reducing one position.

1. FXXACT Club Activities Admin

Rocamora asked if there is a position being transferred from the Personnel Office to the Club Hub. Vigil said that they haven't made that transfer yet, it might happen in the next fiscal year. The requests for positions came in under their original areas.

2. FXXBSC Club Basic Funding

3. FXXCLC Club Conference Funding

4. FXXCLD Club Leadership Dev Fund
5. FXXFIF Fall Information Fair
6. FXXGRN Grants/Loans/Underwrites

MOTION FC-21-S-05 By Rocamora

Approve the Club Activities budgets in the amount of \$98,777.

Second: Rodriguez Vote: 6-0-1 Action: Passed

7. FXXSMR Summer Concert Series

There is a slight reduction in this budget.

MOTION FC-21-S-06 By Crandall

Approve the Summer Activities budget for the amount of \$2,250.

Second: Vargas Vote: 7-0-0 Action: Passed

B. KUGS 98.3 FM-

The council looked at the budgets to see where the increases were, this included the tower for rental from the city. They have reduced by several positions temporarily in consideration of Covid-19 reductions in fee revenue.

1. FXXKPB KUGS Publicity
2. FXXKPR KUGS Program/News
3. FXXKUG KUGS 89.3 Admin

MOTION FC-21-S-07 By Rocamora

Approval of the KUGS FM budgets for the amount of \$122,398.

Second: Molina Vote: 7-0-0 Action: Passed

C. Outdoor Center-

OC budgets took a 14.9% reduction since last year. Vargas hopes that they will be allocated more in the future to recover from these temporary reductions to subsidize trips and offer more free or reduced cost trips. The goal would be to increase opportunities for students on campus. Crandall would like to see support to keep the cost of trips down, while still paying the staff a living wage. Bueno thanked the OC for their reductions. Vigil said that in light of Covid restrictions being lifted, she can see the OC being able to provide more programming. She is wondering if there is a way to pass a motion that says if the S & A Fee portion to the AS is increased then the first \$10,000 should be offered to the OC for their programming. Partially to let the Services & Activities Committee to know the funding that is needed. Crandall said that if they were to do something like this it will help with reductions in the costs to students and possibly pay the trip leaders a more livable wage. Rocamora assumes there is a sentiment to support the OC to make things accessible because it is one of the first programming offices that might be able to provide more opportunities due to it being outdoor based and able to adapt more to Covid-19 phases more so than other areas. Bueno feels that they can come back to this conversation in the future. Molina asked for possible language. The committee brainstormed "If S & A increases in a way to give an additional distribution, consider allocating an additional \$10,000 for the Outdoor

Center in light of the additional opportunities in Covid-19 for this kind of programming.”

Rocamora asked what amount sounded appropriate [\$10,000 was a guess]. Crandall will look into this some more and meet with Bueno and Vigil this week.

1. FXXCHL Challenge Course Operations
2. FXXOCA Outdoor Center Admin
3. FXXOEQ OC Equipment Shop
4. FXXOEX OC Excursions & Instruction
5. FXXOPO OC Promotions & Outreach

MOTION FC-21-S-08 By Rocamora

Approve the Outdoor Center budgets for the amount of \$89,560.

Second: Crandall

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

Other Business Continued:

B. Ford said, “I still think we need to have a conversation about a possible proposal for the future of the Black Student Coalition as well as have a discussion about the employee development fund + any other pockets of funding mentioned in the BSO demands” This week the Black Student Coalition has a new AS Board Special Account and they are transferring in the Federal Lobby Trip funding, and an additional \$2,000 from the diversity fund [Thanks Molina!]. At this point it is hard to say what the need will be and where the funding should come from. Vigil thinks that it would absolutely be appropriate for a multiple year grant to allow for assessment of how much funding is needed. There is still support for this project.

Bueno also knows that there are discussions with the university to help fund this area so that it is not all student Dollars. Ford is excited to hear about this! There are a lot of changes happening in terms of this work, and the restructure of the Viking Union Organization. The three Black Student Organization Development students will be working with Black students on the structure, mission, etc. Vigil said once this is created then it will become more clear what funding is needed, and where it should come from: S & A, AS, Academic Advising, Alumni, etc. The AS shouldn't take on an undue burden in their support of BSO, it should be shared with the institution and other resources. Ford needs to have more conversations and find more opportunities for funding so that it is not all student dollars funding the initiatives of the university. Molina said the Counseling Center, Foundation, and AS were all excited about this, but they also talked about designating folks within the university and bringing them together to work on this. Rocamora said that the Employee Development Fund is also addressed, but she isn't sure what she is supposed to be doing in this area. Vigil said that the Employee Development Fund is no longer in the operating budget. The Associated Students had already removed that fund when the BSO demands came out. It was removed with the recognition that it was odd to not have the AS Exec Board or AS Student Senate able to access these funds. If there are enough funds in

the AS Reserve cascading funding that they would get a maximum of \$20,000, but it was not funded at that level this year due to reserve depletion. Ford thinks a good step was made to expand who could apply for the account. He will pass on to the coalition that there is a new way for that funding, and it is not in the operating budget. Ford has been thinking about another goal of looking for areas that need deconsolidation of power. It's not to say they should get rid of all power, but to ensure that groups and individuals do not have too much power. Vigil really appreciates that. Vigil is concerned about how much power the AS Finance Council is being backed into. As the Advisor she is asking herself, is it appropriate? Did we just replace the power the AS Board had and moved it down to the AS Finance Council? Maybe it's ok because there are Exec Board Members, Student Senate, AS Employees, and at-large students. Also, some things are approved by the Exec Board and the Student Senate. She also thinks about codependence where there are a lot of different groups doing the same work. Rocamora has been looking at how student led the organization is, and which students, she started looking at other institutions. Cook said that Western is one of the only universities in how the AS is organized. It is very different in terms of the amount of student employees ASWWU pays for their work is a lot more than other universities. People in other universities are encouraged to volunteer and get experience and are often not paid.

C. The AS values of being good stewards of student dollars. They will present the fund as represented in the summary to the Services & Activities Fee Committee. Vigil is concerned that the amount of temporary reductions we are reflecting this year will appear as a large increase in next year's request. The representatives will work on how to present this appropriately as they will need additional funding in the future. This year there was \$100,000 added to the budget for the Student Senate that was offset by these reductions, but they are only temporary.

D. Bueno said that this week is the deadline for ASWWU Grant Proposals.

VII. Information Items

VIII. Adjourn

The Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.