



AS Finance Council

May 25, 2021 4:00 p.m. Teams Online

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

Advisor: Raquel Vigil, Viking Union Organization Business Manager

Secretary: Cindy Monger, Viking Union Organization Fiscal Specialist

Guest: Tanner Randall-Gosselin, AS Outdoor Center Excursions Coordinator (proxy for Crandall); Susanna Schronen, Fiscal Technician 2

MOTIONS

FC-21-S-23 Approve the minutes of May 11, 2021. **Passed**

FC-21-S-24 Approve AS FY'22 AS Finance Council Recommendations. **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-23 by Rocamora

Approve the minutes of May 11, 2021.

Second: Randall-Gosselin Vote: 6-0-0 Action: Passed

III. Revisions to the Agenda- Adding AS FY'22 Budget Summary as Info Item C.

IV. Public Forum-

Ford reviewed the minutes from January until now and he used the find function to look for mentions of Black students, Black endeavors, etc. What he discovered is that when he has been present, it is typically him speaking when Black endeavors are mentioned. When he has not been at the meetings, the word Black does not appear in the minutes. He doesn't know if the minutes are missing something, or if this group is missing something. But he feels this should be addressed. He wondered if he had been absent all year, would Black students and demands have been talked about as heavily and as much. He knows that there are people in this group that often talk about BSO demands. He thinks that if they want to talk about how they really appreciate and care for our Black students, our minutes need to reflect that and so do the conversations in this group. The culture needs to change. He wanted to address this and get it off his chest. Bueno thanked Ford for bringing this up and apologized as the chair for not centering this in this council this year. As the chair next year, she will definitely have this as part of her work. She sits on the committees doing this work but has not been bringing it back in to this council more in those discussions. Molina would like to apologize for not

bringing forward what is happening with Black Student demands and moving funds around. It has always been Ford who has had to take that on. Molina proposed adding this to the Agenda as an item, similar to the Executive Board and Student Senate. Bueno said it could be added as its own section after Public Forum. She feels that in this upcoming year there will be more work in this area, she would gladly have it permanently as part of the agenda. Monger apologizes that this is occurring. She feels like she has mentioned it whenever it is brought up in the meeting [in the minutes], as she likes to center that work as well. She doesn't see any reason not to add it to the Agenda. Monger also wanted to recognize this is the first anniversary of the murder of George Floyd and that it might be difficult for people to be in this meeting right now. Thank you, Ford for using your voice to bring attention to this.

Ford appreciates what everyone is saying. From a general standpoint as an organization, people are looking in from the outside. Their meetings need to be reflecting the same thing that they say their values are. This has been a year in which they put a lot more focus into Black Students. He thinks it is important to have this reflected in the minutes by having people talk about it more. The council does talk about it, but mostly because a Black student sits on this council. If they want to be better, they need to do better. This is a progress and accountability check. He is not going to be here next year, and he wants to make sure that these words being said are actually heard and that change is made. He shouldn't be apologized to, it's all of the other Black students who this council can affect. Also, not even apologies, but actions can be better themselves. Bueno apologized to not only Black students, but all BIPOC students. She thinks that for many years our BIPOC students have not been focused on or represented equally. This was a goal for her this year, she wanted to advocate for students more. This summer, she will be working on building more communication in the AS. Bueno will work on the fee page and will now include how the funds are used to support Black students and other marginalized students. She hopes for her position to support students in any way possible and focus on certain voices more.

Vigil has so much gratitude and thanks Ford, as we learn how to be leaders and advocates for voices outside of themselves and far reaching for better good outside of our communities and societies. She would not have thought to go and look in the same way as he looks at the data. She could offer up apologies or excuses. What needs to happen is that they all walk away with transference of skills. Recognizing whose voice is in the space and whose is absent. How do we advocate for those voices that are absent, in such a way that doesn't keep those voices invisible and displaced. They can't be so good at representing the Black voice that they are not doing things to include the Black voice or perspective in the room firsthand. They are speaking about Black students right now, but they could be talking about Indigenous students, LGBTQ+ students, Palestinian students, etc. They can't be in a place in 2021 where they are talking about people, versus having those people in their committees and active on their councils. The more they can be mindful of representation and voice as they move out of the AS to other

opportunities to serve in spaces where decisions are being made, Ford has offered a gift to be mindful of that. Thank you, Ford. Ford thanked the people who, in this meeting or outside of this meeting, have thought, planned, or advocated for Black students. It has been very different for him to advocate in an organization that isn't Black, for Black students, is very new for him. Before he has served as Black Student Union President but that was one club solely for Black Students and they weren't necessarily doing the same thing as these councils. It is new for everyone else too; it comes easier to him because he is Black. This kind of advocacy on this scale is new to him and a lot of other people. He appreciates those people that have been trying. He looks forward to the future and how they better themselves and this organization and truly change the culture. Bueno appreciates Ford bringing this up because often they just move on from things and don't reflect.

V. Action Items

VI. Information Items

Bueno shared the rubric that was sent to Budget Authorities. Vargas asked if the council reviewed this rubric to see if there are changes. Bueno said they did not because there were not any proposals until right now. She will make a note to review this rubric during the first few meetings of the council.

A. Student Advocacy & Identity Resource Centers (SAIRC)- Queer Guild Council- Grant Proposal

Doc. 2

Vargas said that the Queer Guild started last year, it had been a causal meeting with the Queer Resource Center (QRC) and any queer related clubs to see how the QRC could support the clubs and resource share. This was supposed to be pilot program to support the clubs under the guild in their larger programming monies. It is similar to Activities Council in terms of funding proposals, but it is also a support system and community working together to support each other and events. They had a Queer Prom and a few smaller events, and also funded students attending a queer students of color conference. Some of these things were cancelled when the shutdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic happened. This year, there was one club who sent books to their members to have a virtual book club. Other than that, funding wasn't spent. They met every Monday throughout the pandemic to continue their support. It is a great group that cares about peer students, and each other. Vigil wondered if this was is a carry forward proposal. Vigil said that typically they wouldn't keep extending grants but, due to Covid-19 restrictions, the grant only got about six months of actual programming. Bueno said the council will review this as new grant application for two years at four thousand a year for two years, for a total of \$8,000.

B. Outdoor Center (OC)- Increasing Access + Equity for OC Excursions- Grant Proposal

Doc. 1

There were no questions or comments on this document. The group was asked to read deeply and come with any questions for next week.

C. AS FY'22 Budget Summary

Monger presented the budget summary document. Changes included adding “meeting travel” to the explanation for the move of some funding for FXXBDS to FXXBAD. These meetings are local and required by the position, funding is provided to avoid a barrier to serving on the Board. There was also an error in the positions served on in the council, this was corrected. There are new numbers coming from the Services & Activities Fee Committee. The new numbers for projections after the increase in the fee and the estimated decrease in enrollment were added to the document. For a total amount of \$228,560 over budget. The estimate revenue is typically conservative, and the AS often receives more money than anticipated. If there is additional funding in summer, 80% of the additional will go to the AS. [The budget as passed by the AS Finance Council was about \$70,000 over. These new numbers only came in a few days ago and have increased the amount over budget significantly. This is noted for historical purposes. The council was hoping to stay close to \$50,000 over in their budgeting. They did not review the budgets initially with a total of \$200,000+.]

The Chair moved this to an Action Item via Acclamation, there was no dissent.

MOTION FC-21-S-22 by Rocamora
Approve AS FY'22 AS Finance Council Recommendations.
Second: Handa Vote: 5-0-0 Action: Passed

B. Other Business

A. Services & Activities Fee Updates: A fee increase was passed by the committee of 1.25% to cover the Cost of Living (COLA increase). For the AS the actual increase will be 1.07% after distribution to copyright, housing etc. There is a shortfall of \$524,000 between the areas. Using the current allocation amount that is funded to the AS of 44.65% [not a final number]. Using the numbers for projections the AS would be about \$234,000 over budget, possibly in addition to the \$71,000 already over. [The final estimate was \$228,560.]

B. Bueno sent a request for Carry Forward proposals to be submitted by tomorrow.

II. Adjourn

The Meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.