



AS Finance Council

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

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

Advisor/Secretary: Cindy Monger, Viking Union Organization Fiscal Specialist

MOTIONS

- FC-21-S-09 Approve of the minutes of April 20, 2021. **Passed**
- FC-21-S-10 Approve the AS Productions budgets in the amount of \$201,218. **Passed**
- FC-21-S-11 Approve the Centralized Services budgets in the amount of \$93,140. **Passed**
- FC-21-S-12 Approve the Student Administration budgets in the amount of \$381,835. **Passed**
- FC-21-S-13 Approve the AS Exec Board and Student Senate budgets in the amount of \$269,063. **Passed**
- FC-21-S-14 Office of Civic Engagement budgets for the amount of \$98,031. **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-09 by Rocamora

Approve the minutes of April 20, 2021.

Second: Vargas

Vote: 7-0-1

Action: Passed

III. Revisions to the Agenda

IV. Public Forum

V. Action Items

A. AS Productions (ASP)-

1. FXXASP AS Productions Admin

Hayden decided to remove the AS Talks Coordinator to an AS Grant Proposal he will submit sometime in the next year. There is an increase in this budget due to bringing the AS Productions Director position back after a hiatus.

2. FXXAMP Marketing and Promotions

3. FXXART ASP Gallery

Rocamora said the VU Gallery had mentioned they may be able to take more of a reduction. Vigil said that is fiscally responsible to look at these. At this time they would not send this back to Hayden, the council could just pass at a recommended reduction. Rocamora said it came up in relation to Black Student Coalition work to

move it towards a funding a position. Vargas said that perhaps the office could transfer funding to the Black Student Coalition instead of the council deciding.

Vigil said when folks start talking about taking cuts to the Services & Activities (S & A) Fee the AS has really come to the table with cuts. The other areas haven't, and this can impact the percentage split leaving the AS with less funding. Vigil thinks they should keep the budget close to what they gave to S & A and if the AS receives a lot less, then they can go back to Budget Authorities and look for reductions at that point. Vigil does not want to propose big cuts at this point. Vargas said that AS is for students, by students and have been good stewards of student dollars. Vigil said the AS did an 85% cut to the fee last spring due to the Covid-19 pandemic and wanting to keep money in the pockets of students and their families. Then this year, they expected less funding from S & A and still came forward with a \$15.00 per student reduction for two quarters. Meanwhile the other areas did not do this. The AS has unexpected cost savings, so while Vigil was concerned to start with about these reductions, she isn't now. She also wonders if other areas have savings as well

Bueno said they are anticipating a 1,000-student deficit in the fall and this might impact expenses. The AS may anticipate receiving less funding next year, which could impact decision making. They anticipate a larger shortfall. This upcoming week they are having a conversation about possibly increasing the fee to supplement or for areas to take more reductions. Vigil said that the AS has submitted a lean and conservative budget, she isn't convinced other areas will reduce. She does think they should consider increasing the fee to students. It hasn't been increased in a few years, and due to Covid-19 decreases in enrollment.

4. FXXAVL Volunteer Program
5. FXXFLM ASP Films
6. FXXLAT Late Night Program
7. FXXLWN ASP Lawnstock
8. FXXMAM ASP Underground Coffee
9. FXXPOP ASP Popular Music
10. FXXSPE ASP Special Events

MOTION FC-21-S-10 by Rocamora

Approve the AS Productions budgets in the amount of \$201,218. **Passed**

Second: Crandall Vote:

Action: Passed

Crandall said, "also just something to add into the record and in relation to the AS Production budget. I think it's great that we approved it and provide those services for students! But I also think this council should look at different designations that programs have and why some can offer programming to students free of charge and why some can't. [OC vs AS productions]. From an equity standpoint having some

programs offer free opportunities and others charge for them all coming from student fees seems confusing.”

B. Centralized Services-

1. FXXCMP Computer Maintenance
2. FXXCPY Copy Machine
3. FXXINS Institutional Recharge

Bueno said that in revenues the auxiliaries receives, they have to pay a portion to the university. Vigil said that it is an administrative fee that supports the centralized services that auxiliaries receive. This would be for things like purchasing, payroll, etc. Vigil said that the AS doesn't really have a choice on this one. The fee has increased a bit over the years.

4. FXXPCA AS Publicity Center Admin
5. FXXPCR AS Review
6. FXXTEL Telephone
7. FXXWEB Web Design & Development

MOTION FC-21-S-11 by Rocamora

Approve the Centralized Services budgets in the amount of \$381,835. **Passed**

Second: Vargas Vote: 8-0-1 Action: Passed

C. Student Administration-

1. FXXBUS Business Office Admin
2. FXXMAR Communication Office Admin
3. FXXPRS Personnel Office Admin
4. FXXPTR Personnel Training
5. FXXSER AS Student Employee Recognition

The 13% reduction is primarily the Personnel Office reduction of one position and other small reductions.

MOTION FC-21-S-12 by Ford

Approve the Student Administration budgets in the amount of \$93,140. **Passed**

Second: Handa Vote: Action: Passed

D. AS Exec Board & Student Senate-

1. FXXBAD Board Administration
2. FXXBDS Board Discretionary Fund
3. FXXLAF Legislative Affairs
4. FXXSBR-ASBAAX Senate Initiative Fund
5. FXXSBR-ASBDIV Diversity Initiative F.
6. FXXSBR-ASBSAQ Worker's Rights
7. FXXSBR-ASBSCS Federal Lobbying Trip
8. FXXSSN Student Senate

The increase in this area is due to the AS Student Senate of over \$100,000 there are reductions in many of the other areas. The Senate was approved during the student election three years ago. This proposal also includes the elimination of FXXBDS, FXXSBR-ASBAAX, FXXSBR-ASBSAQ, FXXSBR-ASBSCS. Vigil said if anyone on the council is running or returning to the Exec Board or Senate, they should abstain. Rocamora asked if they weren't able to fill all Senate or Board positions, would the money stay in the budgets? Vigil said unused funding, especially for payroll, remains in the budget for which it was allocated and if there was funding left over at the end of the year would go into AS Reserves.

MOTION FC-21-S-13 by Rodriguez

Approve the AS Exec Board and Student Senate budgets in the amount of \$269,063.

Second:

Vote:

Action: Passed

E. Office of Civic Engagement (OCE)-

1. FXXCC Committee Coordinator
2. FXXELC AS Elections
3. FXXLEG Director for Legislative Affairs
4. FXXLGL Legal Information Center
5. FXXREP OCE Admin
6. FXXVER Voter Ed & Registration

Due to the adjustment in student wages they saw a reduction in hours and a few other small things, the budget is close to the same as last year. Vargas asked about the reductions in Voter Education. They decreased promotional items as they didn't need as many shirts and they removed the catering request.

MOTION FC-21-S-14 By Handa

Approve the Office of Civic Engagement budgets in the amount of \$98,031.

Second: Vargas

Vote: 6-0-2

Action: Passed

VI. Information Items

VII. Other Business

- A. Black Student Coalition/Organizations: Vigil has heard from a couple of places that AS funds can't be used for this use. It's not quite true. What is true is that there is not a formal organization yet and they have not decided if they would like to stay as part of the Associated Students. If they decide not to leave the AS, it gets a little more difficult to transfer money, not impossible. They should get together to talk about what the financial need is and how much they would need from the AS. Until they get to the point where the coalition can request an operating budget as part of the AS. They could ask for a grant, they would encourage a 2-3 year grant. This helps the organization to figure out how much funding is needed. At the beginning the

Senate was grant funded for 3 years at a lower rate than they discovered they needed. Ford said the website it said that if the Black Student Organization decided to be in the AS then the funding would go to the group, and if not then it would go into Reserves. Vigil said that this was a mixup between two advisors. Ford thinks this happened earlier and has been clarified since then. Ford was able to speak with WWU President Randawa, there was funding passed by the state. There is about 1 million for student support students, he said that there could be some funding earmarked to go to this area. It is a goal to get external funding in addition to what the AS could provide. Ford said that there are places that are subsidized, such as the Child Development Center that is partially funded but doesn't go through the reportage of the AS. Vigil said this is correct, it is not impossible. Vigil said that any AS funding has to be tied to student activities and programming. So, this relationship would be possible. Vigil will be sad to see the Black Student Organization go because they make the AS better, but she respects their decision making. Ford thinks there may be more coalitions created in the coming years, and some of them could have a different relationship than the Black students and the AS. Bueno said the decision to not be part of the AS was a unanimous decision. Molina said that there is more to the Black Student demands than just the AS. There is also the Foundation and the Counseling Center.

Crandall asked about monetarily supporting the Black Student Coalition. He wondered what could be done immediately to transfer from an Operating Budget towards BSC. Vigil said there is a special under the Board, it currently has \$6,200. Vigil would imagine that the budget authority (who has yet to be identified) would request a carryover of that funding. There is some startup funding in there right now. Vigil doesn't know why organizations can't transfer to this fund. However, it is an unusual year. If they were allocated \$100,000 and they have only spent \$50,000, then it would seem like they would have money left. It is different this year because they have received reduced revenue as well. Vigil thinks that they might be able to do this at the end of the year because they don't know right now if there will be any funds remaining. Bueno was going to ask Alexander to be the temporary budget authority for this account and to facilitate the carry forward process. Vigil said that there is more information coming. There are some questions about how carry forwards might be going this year. It would be a win for all if the AS was on record for supporting the coalition. Vigil is glad that the council set values and this work would be in line with that. The funding should also come from the administration and not fully from the students.

B. Ford said that they did receive 4.5 million for the longhouse from the state. They may need to do some more fundraising to fully realize the project as they are about \$400,000 short. This is really good news though.

VIII. Adjourn *The Meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.*