



AS Finance Council

January 12, 2021 4:00 p.m. Teams Online

Members: Present: Noemi Bueno, Chair (AS Business Director), Glory Busic, Vice Chair (AS President), Brenner Barclay (AS Student Senate President), Ben Crandall (Activities Rep), Naira Gonzales Aranda (ASVP for Diversity), Connor Johnson (Student Senate Representative), Silvia Leija (Resources Rep- SAIRC), *Late:* Chelsea Joefield (Resources Rep- ESC), **Absent:** Kaylan Rocamora (Central Services Rep)

Advisor: Cindy Monger, VU Administrative Specialist

Secretary: Samantha Hughes, Viking Union Organization Business Services Program Support

MOTIONS

FC-22-W-01 Approve the minutes of December 1, 2021. **Passed**

FC-22-W-02 Approve the Finance Council Values Statement with stated amendments.
Passed

Noemi Bueno, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of the Minutes- December 1, 2021

MOTION FC-22-W-01 by Busic

Approve the minutes of December 1, 2021.

Second: Johnson Vote: 6-0-0 Action: Passed

III. Revisions to the Agenda

IV. Public Forum

V. Black Student Demand Updates

Busic shared that right before Winter break, the Board of Trustees voted to remove the title "Huxley" from the College of the Environment. Bueno mentioned that she would upload a document with more information about the discussion and decision of the Board of Trustees to remove the name to the Teams folder for council members viewing.

Monger shared that there is an opportunity on January 17th at 11:45am to attend an online event in commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr., featuring an interview with guest speaker Dr. Ibram X. Kendi. Dr. Kendi is the bestselling author of the book "How to Be an Antiracist".

Busic added that Western Lobby Day is Monday if you wish to register to vote or get involved in lobbying. Registration for the event has ended, but it is still encouraged to get involved and reach out for more information.

Joefield entered the meeting at 4:15pm.

Joefield shared that the ESC and SAIRC will be hosting the Western Intersectional Lobby Day on the 21st of February. Registration for the event is currently open. Additionally, some of the ESC staff will meeting with the new Fairhaven Senator to discuss creating a microaggressions reporting system. They should be meeting sometime this week or next week.

VI. Action Items

A. Finance Council Values Statement

Doc. 1

Bueno explained the thought process behind the Value Statement last year, which included making a list of values which was then discussed and narrowed down by the council. From there, a rough draft of the Value Statement was created. Through discussion, and all of the council member's contribution, it was updated to the version we know now. On that note, Bueno encouraged everyone to add something to the Value Statement or add comments that if they felt it was needed. Some suggestions included expanding on certain values or focusing on other values we find more relevant for this year. Monger explained that the Budget Proposals will be sent out soon, and this document will help inform their decisions about the proposals as they create them by showing them what the council values. Bueno agreed.

The council edited the document based on the following suggestions. Johnson commented that under Student Success and Well-Being, we should add that budgets should consider both the benefits and downsides do our decisions and expand on health impacts to include physical and mental health. Crandall suggested that under Community Enrichment, we should change the language of the last sentence to reflect that we may be going back in person this quarter after being remote in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Monger suggested altering the sentence before that as well to add "after isolating virtual times" rather than saying "during these difficult, virtual times" to describe why it was difficult. Crandall suggested under Community Enrichment adding something about reducing the burden on students, such as financial or mental burden. Bueno suggested under the Equity section to include mixed status students to the list of students to prioritize. Aranda suggested adding clarification to the final sentence under Transparency to make it more understandable and accessible.

The changes that were made include: Changing the Community Enrichment section to say "Increasing community engagement, involvement and sense of belonging is crucial, especially after isolating virtual times. Allocation of funds to endeavors that support the at-large WWU community should focus on creating/increasing student access to services governed by student fees, regardless of current campus operations". Changing the section under Student Success and Well-Being to say "ASWWU Finance Council supports students succeeding mentally, physically, academically, etc. This is done through attempting to reduce various barriers faced by students be they monetary, physical, emotional, mental, etc. Budgets should consider the impacts of students at large, specifically focused on marginalized and underrepresented communities. Our goal is to mitigate harm and maximize the benefits in the AS, while keeping in mind differential impacts to communities on campus and carefully weighing the pros and cons of each decision we make". Changing the section under Equity to say "Prioritizing the needs of students traditionally underserved or with marginalized identities, including but not limited to BIPOC students, LGBTQ+ students, disabled students, and undocumented/mixed-status students is necessary". Changing the section under Transparency to say "We commit to transparency through having our language be accessible by utilizing language that is easy to read and understand or provides definitions for the user". Changing the title of the document to the correct year.

Barclay left the meeting at 5:24.

MOTION FC-22-W-02 by Joefield

Approve the Finance Council Values Statement with stated amendments.

Second: Leija

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

Barclay rejoined the meeting at 5:28.

B. Finance Council Rules of Operation

Doc. 2

The Finance Council Rules of Operation was briefly reviewed. Monger explained that the wording is based on Roberts Rules with the hopes that this experience may be helpful for students on future committees, but the AS can also make it more accessible. It was suggested that under Voting section C, the accepted terms for agree, disagree, and abstain should be expanded to include yea/yes/aye, nay/no, and oi/abstain. Further discussion and voting for approval was tabled to the next meeting due to lack of time.

VII. Information Items

VIII. Other Business

A. Prep work for the next meeting

Look over the Grant Proposal Rubrics, which will be posted by Monday.

IX. Adjourn

The Meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.