



AS Finance Council

December 1, 2021 4:15 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), Kaylan Rocamora (Central Services Rep) **Absent:** Chelsea Joefield (Resources Rep- ESC)

Advisor: Raquel Vigil, Assistant Director for Business Services and Planning

Secretary: Cindy Monger, VU Administrative Specialist

Guests: Susanna Schronen, VU Fiscal Tech; Samantha Hughes, Viking Union Organization Business Services Program Support

MOTIONS

FC-21-F-07 Approval of the minutes of November 17, 2021. **Passed**

FC-21-F-08 Approve New Equipment Request of up to \$1,350 for climbing shoes. **Passed**

Noemi Bueno, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:18 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION FC-21-F-07 by Leija

Approval of the minutes of November 17, 2021.

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

III. Revisions to the Agenda

IV. Public Forum

V. Black Student Demand Updates- The AS Board and Senate Statement on the Huxley name change was sent to the Board of Trustees. Last meeting, the Board of Trustees made some problematic statements. The student representatives wanted to ensure that student voices were heard, especially BIPOC students. Soon, the Trustees will vote on the name change, which is in line with Black student demands. The statement is available on the AS website for those who wish to read it.

Vigil said that the Black Student Coalition has prepared a rough draft of a funding proposal for a three-year grant. Hopefully it will come before the council next quarter. She requested a little more information on job title, rate of pay, and hours per quarter. She thinks it's around a \$150,000 grant over 3 years. More details to come.

VI. Action Items

A. Outdoor Center New Equipment Request

Doc. 1

Bueno said the representative is unable to attend today, she wondered if they should table the item. Vigil thinks that because it has been on the agenda a few weeks and the proposal amount is relatively low, they may be able to continue despite the representative not being present. Johnson asked if we are getting the climbing shoes

and they become a staple of the program, how long will they last? Vigil explained that once the equipment is purchased, they enter the rental stock and every time they are rented, a portion of the fee goes to the replacement account. Monger said the Equipment Reserve currently has around \$48,000. Vigil said that worldwide there are supply chain issues [due to the Covid-19 pandemic], and she wondered if they should get the order in now rather than wait, because it could be months before they are available for use. The council had no concerns about voting this week.

MOTION FC-21-F-08 by Rocamora

Approve New Equipment Request of up to \$1,350 for climbing shoes.

Second: Gonzales Aranda Vote: 7-0-0 Action: Passed

B. Finance Council Rules of Operation

Doc. 2

There were no edits made to the document by the council members since the last meeting. Rocamora requests that they focus on the AS budget holistically. Vigil suggested that maybe under bullet two of "Council members must" we could add a ", be attentive to the overall AS Budget and the impact of individual departmental requests." Bueno requests that people take 10-15 minutes to review these two documents and add comments.

Bueno Tabled the Finance Council Rules of Operation and Finance Council Values Statement by acclamation.

C. Finance Council Values Statement

Doc. 3

Bueno Tabled the Finance Council Rules of Operation and Finance Council Values Statement by acclamation.

VII. Information Items- there were no Information Items

VIII. Training

A. Review current AS Budget

Crandall asked if there is space, now or in the future to chat as a council about the differences between "services" and "programs" for different AS branches, and how that impacts if students have to pay for things or not. Vigil explained that Institutional Recharge goes towards centralized services such as payroll, human resources, purchasing, etc. The AS must pay whatever is determined as their fee, it is not optional. Institutional Recharge is currently under review. The Executive Director is on the committee reviewing it. Vigil said, Great question, I see this dovetailing into Kaylan's sentiment regarding how we should be looking at the "Big" picture.

Rocamora asked about Pro Staff pay, and why it comes from student fees instead of the university paying it. Vigil answered that the Pro staff paid from the AS/S&A Fee are paid to directly support Student Activities work. If the Student Activities went away, our positions would go away. As a state institution of Higher Education, there is no requirement by the state for WWU to support an enhanced out of classroom experience (student activities). When WWU students choose to "tax" themselves with the S&A fee, the support of Pro staff is part of the funding request. The S&A Fee cannot be used to pay for those salaries that support Administration/Teaching.

Rocamora asked how we can start a conversation with the university about what funding WWU should be taking part in, such as providing monetary relief for resources within the AS so that they have a little more flexibility with the student fee money. Bueno believes that the Blue Resource Center and Black Student Coalition should be receiving university funding. There are conversations happening right now on that topic. The Blue Resource Center (for undocumented and mixed status students) grant ends this year. There was a presentation on budget priorities from the university this year, and it seems like they are prioritizing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. Vigil will talk about what the university should be paying to support a few core areas that the programs should be supported by the university for success for these underserved populations and the programming should be paid by the AS. She has to be careful because she doesn't want anyone to think that she doesn't support these areas; it is that she wasn't the university to pay their fair share. Leija said, "As the Blue Resource Center coordinator, I completely agree that our funding should fall on the administration, so you said nothing wrong!" Rocamora asked how the AS Bookstore Profit Share budget works, and how it relates to the AS. Vigil said that it is called the "AS Bookstore" because of historical profit sharing between the AS and the Bookstore, but it has been many years since profit has been shared. Vigil recommended taking the Bookstore Profit Share out of the Budget Recommendations document next year to avoid confusion.

IX. Other Business

- A. Prep work for the next meeting- Remember to put schedules in Outlook as soon as possible. Right now, it seems that Wednesday's at 4:00pm will work for most people. Monger will send a poll to ask for people's preferred meeting time for next quarter. The poll will also have a section asking about preferences for in-person vs online meetings next quarter. Barclay said it might be prudent to make the meetings hybrid, so there is a built-in fail safe.

X. Adjourn

The Meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.