

Services and Activities Fee Committee
Minutes
May 5, 2021

Called to order:

Christian Castilleja called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Attendance:

Björn Pellmyr, Brandon Wear-Grimm, Christian Castilleja, Deanna Corsilles, Gregg Schlanger, Jessica Thomas, Joseph Bryant, Josh Hibbard, Lacy Lampkins, Sean Dahlin, Terry Wilson, Zoe Brown, Peggy Eaton

Absent: Masina Ieremia, Yunus Timurtas

Guests: Mickael Candelaria, Gregg Heinselmann

Agenda:

MOTION: Björn Pellmyr made a motion to approve the agenda. Brandon Wear-Grimm seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes:

MOTION: Björn Pellmyr made a motion to approve the minutes of April 28, 2021. Josh Hibbard seconded. Motion carried.

Reports:

Chair – Nothing to report.

ASCWU - Brandon Wear Grimm reported that there will be an incoming request from the future ASCWU Board will be working with administration to search out different solutions for the costs for the CCI. Any future supplemental requests may be coming in next year's funding cycle.

Advisors – Joey reported that there would be only two more meetings after this week. These will take place on May 12th and again on May 26th. There will be a gap week on Wednesday, the 19th for SOURCE. If you are returning next year and would like to serve on the S&A Committee, please let the new Executive Vice President know of your interest. Also, feel free to spread the word out to other students about the opportunity to serve.

Lacy reminded everyone about supplemental requests. The original budget was set at \$250,000. We have only awarded one request of \$35,000 for the CCI project, and this leaves the balance of \$215,000 left in that supplemental budget.

Other Business: Communications Received

One piece of communication was received from the International Office. There was an additional question and they responded to that as well.

Also, notification from the ASCWU that the Services & Activities Committee has been awarded the ASCWU Committee of the year. The virtual award will be presented on May 20th at 6pm at the ASCWU End of Year Celebration.

Public Comment:

None.

Old Business:

A. Request for S&A Carry Forward Funds – Voting

i. International Student Activities and Outreach - \$5,485

Opening Remarks: Bjorn asked for a brief clarification regarding 148 vs 522 funds. S&A does fall under the 522 funds. We would be supporting students in the OISP with these carry forward funds and some programming they were not able to do this year. This is not to add, but to utilize funds as originally requested.

Joey: This is a reminder that this is not to add to their allocation, but to give them the ability to utilize their carry forward funds.

Bjoryn and Brandon both agree that this seems consistent with their request.

Discussion: None

MOTION: Brandon Wear-Grimm made a motion to approve the carryforward request for International Student Activities and Outreach. Björn Pellmyr seconded. Motion carried.

B. S&A Base Funding Process – Review & Recommendations

Joey: This is the document that was sent out and provide this as a chance to review this document. What were some of the successes of the committee this year?

Bjorn: We had 9 hours of deliberation and came out intact. We put in all the work to prepare and this was all a great achievement.

Brandon: One success for the year was the onboarding process. Not many committees do this level of training. This works well for the committee.

Christian: Everyone always asks very important questions that align with the policies. All of the questions were very good which helped us to make a much more informed decision. This was a very big success.

Joey: What have been some of the challenges for the committee this year?

Bjorn: It was commendable that we made it through the year. It was taxing and emotionally exhausting.

Terry: Trying to decide that amount of money in a quarter is very stressful. The way the process flows doesn't allow for a lot of feedback and review when a decision is made. Especially based on equity. The policies of the committee such as students from the different colleges, etc and adding a systematic review of the base budgets and the supplemental requests would be helpful.

Bjorn: I spent a long time after deliberation talking with people who were upset at outcomes. I have been a student senator for a long time, but didn't understand the process until I actually got here and experienced the process.

It would be a good thing to create or streamline the process of public comment.

Greg Schlanger: The public comment came in all day long, however, there is not an opportunity for people to make comments throughout the meeting until the end. Next time the meetings will take place in the big board room, but if there is a virtual modality, we need to consider the ability to have a place for public comment.

Bjorn: One thing about the conversation regarding the 9 hour deliberation. It was much more difficult to keep focused as the hours wore on. It is concerning that it wore us down.

Joey: What recommendations do you have for next year's committee and the next budget process?

Lacy: Even in the next few weeks you think of something, please feel free to compile your recommendations and share with the group.

Bjorn: I am very happy that the money was decided by students, but I feel bad for the faculty who had to sit through the presentations but had to abstain from further comment or voting.

Greg Schlanger: I understand that in some years the faculty have voted and other years that the faculty have abstained from the vote. For me it was a good choice as it is student money and allowing you all to vote is a good thing.

Terry: I think that you could remove the faculty and staff from this committee and replace it with elected students to be a part of the process. I don't think that you really need the faculty and staff and that you are quite capable to do this process yourselves. I do feel that it is important to have good representation across the board from every area. If you have people who are elected, they will have more buy-in and all areas would be represented.

Joey: Again, I would appreciate everyone to send your thoughts on the questions that were sent out. Please write and send your thoughts and I will compile those for next year's committee.

Josh: I want to make it clear that I have enjoyed being on this committee. We abstain by personal choice. There are some things that I have voted on.

Sean: I was put in a different position where I came in at the very middle, but I don't know that we can compare a 9 hour session to any other process. Definitely a firehose experience. I asked questions on the faculty side and was very impressed with all of you students and the tasks that you set out to do.

Bjorn: One thing – some people basically asked if we have a rubric and they asked why we didn't go through each presentation item by item, which would have been brutal. It can be difficult to be objective.

New Business:

A. Supplemental Funding Request – Presentation

i. 2102: Student Legal Services (ASCWU) \$20,000

Mickael Candalaria, ASCWU President presented:

Mickael thanked everyone for having him and stated that there was truly a reason why this committee won the Student Committee of the Year award.

Presentation:

The student Government is requesting funding for student legal services.

- Student Legal Services would be a free legal advise resource to any enrolled students who have paid the S&A fee. Lawyers within the Ellensburg community would be billed for hours in exchange for giving students basic legal advice.
- Examples would include:
 - Immigration, Landlord/tenate disputes, protection orders, wills and powers of attorney, name and gender marker changes, criminal cases, discrimination, divorce, traffic tickets and auto collisions and insurance issues.
- Lawyers consulting with students could not be utilized for litigation against the university. All consultations would be completely confidential.
- Intake forms for services would be required for students and vetted by the office of the Dean of Students.
- Opportunities include: a potential to create CWU student internships with Student Legal Services, to develop closer relationships and networks with lawyers who could provide pro-bono law clinics, and contracted lawyers could also collaborate with other CWU departments or organizations.
- Anticipated costs would run \$20,000 for the 2021-2022 academic year and is requested from the S&A supplemental funds. This fee would go towards paying for billable hours for the student's legal advice. It is proposed that this would fund the pilot Student Legal Services and then, if successful, continuous base funding would be requested in the future.
- Metrics of Need: We anticipate the usage rate based on a survey that was conducted with a response of 340 students. We would see close to 100 who might use the service on a quarterly basis. Other numbers indicated daily, weekly, monthly, and annual usage as well. Students indicated the highest scores on the essential use of these services.
- Other institutions have this resource already, including the University of Washington, Western Washington University, and Washington State University.
- Questions/Discussion:

The question was asked about the number of attorneys to be hired. Mickael indicated that this could be one or a second, depending on the needs of students and who might utilize this service. A question was asked in the comment section about the RFQ process asking if another university had already gone through the bid process, would we be able to utilize their bid process without having to go to bid ourselves. Dean Gregg confirmed that

this is the case. We might be able to piggy-back off of the bid process from other contracts. A suggestion was made to seek information from Nancy Pigeon, a faculty member who is a lawyer. She has been doing this kind of work for a long time. It was recommended that she be consulted to get her input.

The hope is to document the topic of the legal advice so that way we have a better understanding after year one or even the first or second quarters of services and what students really have a need for in regard to legal advice

Would Pro-bono services be negotiated in the contract or would this be separate?

No other questions. We will vote on this supplemental request at next week's meeting.

Public Comment

Gregg Schlanger: There is a Juried Undergraduate Student Art + Design Exhibition. A virtual awards ceremony, where students are recognized for excellence in their artwork, will take place at 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 6. To register in advance for the live Zoom webinar go to:

https://cwu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qsoeCMTtQcmmFtKKjnsehA

Bjorn: Commendation to all for the survey which was important this year.

Also, on May 20th, Bjorn will be hosting an event designed to talk to students who are interested in student leadership on campus. The zoom will begin at 5pm. I invite everyone to attend and can provide my zoom link in the chat. A flyer will also be available with the information.

Gregg Schlanger: Yunus sent a comment to say he loves all of us!

Bjorn: Masina sent a comment as well. One thing she found very helpful this year was that the committee brought her up to date after missing fall quarter. Thank you.

No other comments.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Brandon Wear-Grimm made a motion to adjourn. Gregg Schlanger seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Schedule for Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12, 2021, online starting at 5:30 p.m.