

Student & Activities (S&A) Committee

Public Meeting Minutes

Date: January 23, 2026

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: SURC 301 or Zoom

Chair: Alex Matheson

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **3:00 p.m.** by Chair, Alex Matheson.

2. Introductions and Roll Call

Present:

- Alex Matheson, Chair
- Vice Chair Ba
- Rachel [Parliamentarian]
- Alex Cordon
- Abby
- Aeros
- Austin

Advisors / Staff / Guests Present:

- Veronica Gomez, Interim Vice President, Student Engagement & Success
- Justin Santoli, ESC Advisor & Program Manager, Multicultural Center
- Emilio Gonzalez, ASCWU Advisor
- Hondo, ASCWU Student Body President
- Ryan Harmon, Director of Governmental Affairs
- Aylin Parazol, ASCWU Senate Speaker
- Salima Oulcaid, Director of Equity & Multicultural Affairs; ESC Chair

- Cynthia Douglas, Executive Assistant
- Mars Foster, Vice Senate Speaker
- Alexa Silva Cabrera, Student Life & Facilities Director
- Christian, Deputy Director of Governmental Affairs
- ESC Representative (LSO)
- Mal Stewman, Director MCC
- Tommy Skaggs, GM KCWU
- Lola Gallagher, Director SLICE

A quorum was confirmed.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Approve the agenda as written

- Moved by: Vice Chair Ba
- Seconded by: Alex Cordon

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve previous meeting minutes

- Moved by: Alex Cordon
- Seconded by: Vice Chair Ba

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

5. Reports

a. Chair Report

- No report.

b. Advisor Reports

- Erin Sargent reported no updates.

c. ASCWU Report

- ASCWU consolidated four base funding presentations into one combined presentation for this meeting.
 - Time limits for presentations and Q&A were adjusted to allow equitable discussion.
 - Announcement of a new S&A Committee Secretary, **Sissy**, replacing Mia.
-

6. Communications

- No communication was received.
-

7. Public Comment

- No public comments were presented.
-

8. New Business

a. Base Funding Request – Equity & Services Council (ESC)

Presenter: Justin Santoli, Program Manager, Multicultural Center; ESC Advisor

Overview:

- ESC represents nine cultural identity–based student organizations.
- Member organizations receive **\$3,500 annually**.
- Two equity clubs (Asian Student Union; Disability & Accessibility Club) are in the membership pipeline.
- ESC provides funding support and centralized advocacy through the ESC Chair.

Budget Summary:

- Current annual budget: **\$51,228** (approximately \$8,000 less than prior year).
- Budget categories include:
 - Student staff salaries (Executive Assistant and Community Programmer roles)

- Council-wide programming and operations
- Annual organizational allocations

Funding Request:

- **\$64,357 over three years to:**
 - Maintain \$3,500 allocations per organization
 - Restore and sustain both executive student staff positions
 - Prepare for anticipated growth (new organizations seeking ESC membership)

Impact Data:

- Fall quarter engagement: 1,943 students
- 18–20 signature events annually
- Approximately 300 hours of community service per year
- Major events include Mabu High, Rodeo de la Raza, PolyFest, and Dia de los Muertos

Committee Discussion Highlights:

- Explanation of prior-year underspending due to delayed hiring and denied marketing/branding purchases.
- Clarification on staff hours (18–20 hours/week budgeted).
- Discussion on contingency plans if underspent funds recur.
- Clarification that funding requests already assume pending clubs will transition to full membership.
- Concerns raised regarding potential reductions to the \$3,500 allocation and impact on programming capacity.

Outcome:

- Presentation concluded; no motion taken at this time.

b. Base Funding Request – ASCWU Student Government

Presenters:

Hondo (Student Body President), Aylin Parazol, Mars Foster, Ryan Harmon, Alexa Silva Cabrera, Emilio Gonzalez, Cynthia Douglas, Krishna

Overview:

- Student Government operates under authority granted by the Board of Trustees.
- Three branches:
 1. Board of Directors
 2. Academic Senate
 3. Equity & Services Council (budgeted separately)

Key Functions:

- Student advocacy at campus and state levels
- Legislative engagement (e.g., Washington Student Association, Lobby Day)
- Campus programming and leadership development

Budget Requests (Annual):

- Board of Directors: ~\$195,000
- Academic Senate: ~\$74,000
- Student Life & Facilities: ~\$32,000
- Governmental Affairs: ~\$28,000

Key Budget Notes:

- Reduction from prior years due to removal of club insurance (~\$40,000), now managed by SLICE.
- Budgets primarily support student payroll, stipends, programming, travel, and operational costs.
- Student government does not generate independent revenue.

Discussion Highlights:

- Explanation of prior underspending attributed to leadership turnover and inconsistent advising.

- Confirmation that a stabilized advisor structure is now in place.
- Justification for professional attire, supplies, and branded materials.
- Academic Senate funding supports:
 - Senator stipends
 - Required on-campus events
 - Two assistant positions (program coordination and executive support)
- Reduction in Senate payroll would require elimination of Senate seats.

Outcome:

- Presentation concluded, committee questions ongoing.
-

ASCWU Base Funding Request – Committee Questions & Discussion (Continued)

Committee members commended the ASU presenters for the quality of their presentation and noted improved preparedness and responsiveness compared to prior years.

Metrics & Documentation

- Committee members asked about metrics used to assess Governmental Affairs activities, including:
 - Student participation in legislative advocacy
 - Legislators engaged
 - Voter registration and turnout
 - Post-event assessments
- ASCWU representatives acknowledged historical challenges with documentation and reported that new tracking systems have been implemented this year.
- Reported participation examples included:
 - Lobby Days averaging 15–20 participants
 - Committee Day participation of approximately 7 students
- It was noted that this is a non-election year, and data collection is being formalized for future cycles with advisor support.

Student Payroll & Benefits

- Clarification was provided that student payroll benefits represent a required percentage (approximately 5%) of student wages.
- These funds support state-mandated benefits such as accrued sick leave.
- Committee members acknowledged the explanation and noted increased understanding of payroll requirements.

Budget Reductions & Club Insurance

- Questions were raised regarding the removal of approximately \$40,000 in club insurance costs and how remaining funds were reallocated.
- ASCWU representatives explained that:
 - Club insurance funding has been transferred to SLICE and will be addressed in a future presentation.
 - Remaining funds were used primarily to support:
 - Increased student staff hours
 - Expanded programming
 - Improved operational capacity
- ASCWU reported employing approximately 11 student staff across six Board of Directors offices, which has significantly improved documentation, website updates, governance systems, and continuity.

Sustainability & Turnover

- Committee members expressed concern regarding sustainability of funding given high annual turnover in student government.
- ASCWU emphasized the importance of stable professional advising, noting that a consistent advisor has been in place since June and has been critical to:
 - Budget oversight
 - Staff supervision
 - Continuity of operations
- ASCWU expressed confidence that current systems and documentation will support future boards.

Student Employment & Wages

- Committee members emphasized the importance of student wages, noting ASCWU is one of the largest student employers on campus.
- Concerns were raised about reducing salaries, given financial pressures faced by students.
- Committee members reiterated that programming and wages are both core priorities.

Base Funding Context

- The Chair reminded presenters that:
 - No significant new funding is expected in the S&A base funding pool.
 - Requests should be considered in light of prior-year allocations.
- Committee members asked how ASCWU operations would be affected if requested increases were not fully funded.
- ASCWU responded:
 - Academic Senate would be most impacted due to high reliance on payroll funding.
 - Governmental Affairs impacts would be mitigated by WSA support, though not guaranteed long-term.
 - Board of Directors' impacts would depend on future board priorities and programming decisions.

Clarification on Budget Authority

- The Chair clarified that S&A recommends total budget allocations, not line-item restrictions.
- Final allocation decisions within approved budgets remain with the budget authority and ASCWU leadership.

ASCWU Reallocation of Supplemental Funds (2612)

Presentation Overview

ASCWU presented a request to reallocate previously approved supplemental funds within student government budgets.

- Total supplemental funds previously approved: **\$19,000**
- Original allocation placed entirely in the Board of Directors budget.

Proposed Reallocation:

- Student Life: **\$4,000**
- Academic Senate: **\$4,000**
- Department of Governmental Affairs (DOGA): **\$2,000**
- Remaining in Board of Directors budget: **Approximately \$8,000**

Additional Internal Reallocation:

- **\$3,000** to be transferred from Senate to Student Life to support SWECY Day, which is now planned and managed by Student Life rather than Senate.
- This \$3,000 transfer was noted as separate from the \$19,000 supplemental allocation.

Purpose of Reallocation

- Increase student staff hours across Senate, Student Life, and DOGA
- Address minimum wage increases
- Ensure funds are placed in correct departmental budgets to support approved staffing levels

Committee Clarifications

- Confirmed that:
 - No new funds are being requested
 - All reallocations are internal
 - Minimum wage increases are being addressed through a separate supplemental process pending CFO approval
 - The SWECY Day transfer is already reflected in ASCWU's three-year base funding request

Voting Status

- Committee was informed that this presentation was for informational purposes only.
 - Formal action and voting will occur at the following meeting.
-

Public Comment

- Second call for public comment was opened.
 - No public comments were received.
-

Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn the meeting at 4:29 p.m.

- Moved by: Vice Chair Ba
- Seconded by: Aeros

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at: 4:29 p.m.