



ASCWU Executive Board Public Meeting Minutes

April 14th, 2025 | SURC Pit

Call To Order

President Cantu called the meeting to order at 1:02pm

Roll Call

President

EVP

Senate Speaker

Director of ESC

Director of Governmental Affairs

Director of Student Life & Facilities

ASCWU Advisor

Reading and Approval of Minutes

Speaker Hondo motioned to approve the minutes with **Director Carrillo** seconding.

5-0-0

Reading and Approval of Agenda

President Cantu mentions that the reports have been cut in order to allow for more time on discussion for new fee's.

Speaker Hondo motioned to add a report to the agenda and to approve the agenda as amended with **Director Garcia-Sanchez** seconding.

5-0-0

New Business

Sub Fee increase – Custodial work in SURC

Ryan Jack, the assistant director for the Student Union, asked for a bump in the student union fee—from \$74 to \$79 per quarter. Minimum wage is going up to \$17.50, which is hitting their budget. They've got 40 student employees and 15 prostaff, plus rising supply costs to keep the SURC running. Without the increase, they'd have to cut student jobs and services.

President Cantu asked if there've been any effects since the last increase—Ryan said they lost one custodial and one pro staff member.

Speaker Hondo wanted to know how often these hikes happen—Ryan said it'd be \$15 total over three increases if this one goes through.



Director Castillo clarified if this was just to keep things running—Ryan said yep.

EVP and **Director Garcia-Sanchez** asked about the impact on student hours and possible future increases. Ryan said yes to both, but it’s hard to predict what’s next.

President Cantu checked if online and other campus students pay the fee—Ryan said no, just the ones in Ellensburg.

Speaker Hondo raised a concern about the constant fee increases and asked if there are other funding options. Ryan said without the fee bump, they’d lose some “nice-to-haves,” student overtime, and building cleanliness would suffer.

Director Castillo broke down the history: it was \$64 in 2006, jumped 15% last year, and this new one would be another 6%. Ryan added that there might be another one in 2027, and currently they’re facing a 15% budget loss.

Speaker Hondo appreciated that they’re trying to be mindful of student costs. **President Cantu** asked if services would still be okay with the increase—Ryan said yes, the goal is to keep everything steady. **Speaker Hondo** mentioned the student dropout rate has actually dropped from 10% to 3%, and President Cantu wrapped it up saying the fee bump seems necessary.

Speaker Hondo motioned to increase the sub fee by the requested amount with **Director Castillo** seconding.

5-0-0

Rec fee increase

Mike talked about raising the rec fee from \$117 to \$122—just a \$5 bump. This helps keep things running: hours, student jobs, and all that. Without it, they’d start looking at cutting programs next and student hours.

President Cantu asked what happened after the last fee increase—Mike said when student enrollment went down, they had to let go of 6 pro staff, and shut down 2 programs. Costs overall are going up, so this increase is just to keep things operating. He mentioned that most of the equipment is original—still works, but some stuff is outdated and eventually needs replacing. If they ever want to grow or expand programs, they’d need more funding. Without this bump, they’d have to cut student hours and maybe close more often on weekends and during breaks.



EVP asked if the fees cover all of the areas under the Rec including the pool, tennis and other courts— Yes. **EVP** asked if it's \$122 year-round, and Mike confirmed. **President Cantu** asked about summer use—Mike said students can use the rec center in the summer, and camps also use it (they pay for passes).

Speaker Hondo clarified if paying the fee means students can use the rec in the summer—Mike said yep, and for summer students, only those taking 6+ credits have to pay it.

Director Castillo asked if another increase is coming next year—Mike said there's no set plan yet, but he'd prefer smaller increases depending on enrollment.

Director Castillo motioned to approve the requested fee increase of \$5 with **EVP** seconding.

S&A Fee Increase

The S&A fee is currently at \$272. We have a lower project amount of revenue, and we did a reduction by %20. The reason for the increase is that if we didn't then around 200k of program money would be cut if we do not. We would like to increase the fee to \$273 for all quarters.

President Cantu asked how much they are bring in for summer students?

All online and in person students would be paying this fee. For summer we are budgeted to bring in 223K for programs. The fee is a tier scale so 2 credits, which is the min for the fee, pays the lowest amount where someone who is enrolled in 10 credits or more pays the maximum amount of the fee.

President Cantu mentioned that we have all see the impact in the reduction of the S&A committee. Students would be paying \$21 more dollars every quarter.

Director Garcia-Sanchez—If this would not be approved would we see more cuts for people going to S&A even more? **EVP**—Yes, we would go back and look at what programs we would cut to reduce the S&A by around 200k.

Speaker Hondo is on the fence and confused by the wording of S&A so is hesitant to approve the increase. **President Cantu** – If this is not approved S&A would have an even harder time starting this year.

Director Gracia-Sanchez asked with this fee increase wouldn't affect the current budget cut? **EVP**—Yes, this money would be for next year.



Director Gracia-Sanchez how long till we have to make a decision?

EVP—We would need to plan ahead. We need to make the deadline by the PBACK – April 22nd meeting and the BOT meeting 16th – 17th of May.

Director Castillo wonders why would we put S&A in the position, their cuts would be more damaging to students rather than operational hours of the differnt buildings on campus.

Director Castillo motioned to approve the \$11 to S&A with **Director Carrillo** seconding.
Discussion:

Directo Castillo believes we are putting students in a position that they are having to absorb the university's economic turmoil. Im wondering if the fees will ever stop. **Speaker Hondo** - I really dont make like decision on this without the information so I will be abstaining.

President Cantu said we could schedule another meeting so we can talk about this later in the week.

EVP wondered what information could I give in order to clarify the confusion? **Speaker Hondo**—The information that I have learned from S&A, the part that confuses me is that a lot of the cuts go against the first page where it sounds like it conflicts with the Killian guidelines.

Advisor Lola—A process question, the S&A proposal has already gone up to admin. I believe the if ASCWU wants admin to consider something else. Your next convo if you go down that path would be to talk to admin where all parties agree.

President Cantu mentioned that this discussion would also help me before I go into the Pback meeting where I sit on.

EVP—point of clarification—Would this be a Conflict of Interest since I sit on S&A?

Presidnet Cantu—defers to advisors where they assume yes.

President Cantu restates that the motion on the floor is to approve 4% increase to S&A.

2-1-2 Motion fails

S&A Recommendation Discussion



President Cantu suggest we table the discussion
Speaker Hondo motion to table the discussion with **Director Garcia-Sanchez** seconding.
5-0-0

Adjournment: 2:00