**Western Washington University**

**Services and Activities Fee Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, February 24, 2022; 1:00-2:00 pm**

**Microsoft Teams**

**Present:** Michael Sledge, Debbie Curry (recorder), Linda Beckman, Eric Alexander, Raquel Vigil, Glory Busic, Noemi Bueno, Steve Card, Mac Franks, Adam Leonard, Caitlin Summers, Cody Fowler, Lucy Caples, Travis Cram, Rebecca McLean, Jack Herring, Ichi Kwon, Mary Piekarczyk, Quin Wilder

**Absent:**

**Guests:** Megan McGinnis (DRAC), Susanna Schronen (VU Operations), Steve Brummel (Athletics)

**Agenda Items:** 1) Approval of 2/17/2022 Minutes, 2) Electing Chairperson Reminder, 3) Constituent Presentations: DRAC and Associated Students

Michael Sledge called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

Michael asked if there were any questions or comments from previous meetings - there were none.

**Approval of 2/17/22 Meeting Minutes?**

Michael asked for a motion to approve the minutes: Mary moved to approve the minutes. Glory seconded that motion. By a show of hands there were five votes to approve, 0 nays, and 0 abstains. The meeting minutes for February 17, 2022, were approved.

**Constituent Information Presentations:**

**DRAC (Mary Piekarczyk & Quin Wilder / Travis Cram & Rebecca McLean)**

Mary introduced herself and gave an overview and explanation of the [PowerPoint](https://wwu2.sharepoint.com/%3Ap%3A/r/sites/SAFeeCommittee2022-23/Shared%20Documents/General/Meeting%20Handouts/2%2024%202022/DRAC%20S%26A%20Presentation.pptx?d=wb9ba263546334e6ab56b8a893d34e5a6&csf=1&web=1&e=oDeXtz) documentation provided to the committee prior to today’s meeting. Areas addressed: What is DRAC? Who is DRAC? DRAC Reserves, DRAC Significance, Student Publications, Forensics/Debate, International Affairs Association, Theatre & Dance, and Music.

Quin provided an in-depth [DRAC overview](https://wwu2.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/r/sites/SAFeeCommittee2022-23/Shared%20Documents/General/Meeting%20Handouts/2%2024%202022/DRAC%20Overview%20for%20S%26A%20%2822%20update%29.docx?d=w7367236958ae4fb19d52ca2bf33ff7b9&csf=1&web=1&e=EgNpOQ) of DRACs structure, programs for students, and reserves, as well as program summaries of the various constituent groups within DRAC: Student Publications, Forensics/ Debate, International Affairs, Theatre/Dance, Music and WWU Racing.

Quin noted Meagan McGinnis is the overseer for the Student Publications Council and a budget support advisor and she would likely be the best person to ask about greater details should you have any questions.

Quin thanked Rebecca and Travis for helping and asked if there were any questions.

**DRAC Q&A:**

Glory wanted to make a clarification to a comment Quin made regarding student representatives – that the students Quin referenced are not students that have applied and been appointed like AS governance members. She was concerned this could have been confusing for people. Travis responded that he felt the vacancies were just a disruption caused by the pandemic and for purposes of this presentation were mentioned for reasons of simple transparency.

There were no further questions for DRAC.

**Associated Students (Noemi Bueno & Glory Busic / Eric Alexander & Raquel Vigil)**

Noemi and Glory presented the Associated Students overview from the [ASWWU documentation](https://wwu2.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/r/sites/SAFeeCommittee2022-23/Shared%20Documents/General/Meeting%20Handouts/2%2024%202022/Assoc.Students%20Program%20Outline_FY23SA%20Fee%20Committee.docx?d=w41b967015f4641fdbdc660ab9da28622&csf=1&web=1&e=FMOxvF) provided to the committee prior to today’s meeting followed by a brief Q&A. Eric and Raquel were also available to provide additional input during the Q&A and answer any questions.

Noemi presented an overview of the Associated Students *Mission Statement* and the *ASWWU* *Office & Programs*.

Glory followed with the overview of *Student Governance & Representation* which includes the AS Executive Board, AS Student Senate, and the Office of Civil Engagement (OCE).

Noemi shared an overview of the *Student Engagement & Activities* which includes AS Productions, Club Activities (Club Hub), Environmental and Sustainability Programs, KUGS FM, The Outback, and Outdoor Center. The *Administrative and Advising* area which includes the AS Publicity Center, AS Review, AS Business Office, Communication Office, Personnel Office, Professional Advisement and Leadership Development. And the *AS Subsidized Program* the AS Child Development Center (not actually part of or run by the AS).

Referring to Professional Advisement and Leadership Development Noemi had mentioned, Eric added the advisement roles act as support networks for anywhere from 5 to 35 students and 100 volunteers in various programs and in some cases working seven days a week, 24 hours a day; to keep things moving requires a great deal of support and advising. The leadership development part is under the umbrella of this area, but is a separate program in and of itself and used separate yet embedded as a part of the AS.

Addressing the *Fiscal Year 2022 proposed AS Budget*, Noemi provided an overview of the estimated breakdown of relative expenses for the AS areas: AS Central Services representing 59% of the budget, AS Representation 11%, AS Resources 7%, AS Subsidies 4%, and AS Activities 19%. It should be noted that the FY22 percentages include many one-time reductions in response to the enrollment drop related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Referencing who is eligible to be a part of the Associated Students, Glory wanted to be sure it was clear that all fee-paying students are part of the AS; they are all able to participate and are represented by the AS.

Noemi asked if there were any questions.

**Associated Students Q&A:**

Quin wanted to know how covid had specifically affected the AS operations and what they are doing to get back to what they consider normal. Noemi indicated services that were in person explored ways to connect and do business differently such as promoting virtual meetings and fairs, conducting specific safety protocols for the outdoor programs and campus excursions. We have been maintaining the process of re-evaluation every quarter and are now looking to move to yearly evaluations for changes that may be needed as the campus moves forward.

Glory added the AS Executive Board has been holding a hybrid of in person and virtual office hours and board meetings. This quarter we have gone completely virtual with uncertainty around covid to ensure access for all students.

Eric shared that once the committee gets to the place where we talk about budgets, we will see the AS had a large revenue reduction last year and knowing that our programming was going to be limited, voluntarily took a $15 per student per term reduction for winter and spring terms. And as Glory stated, we also learned there are many benefits to having on-line options creating more access opportunities for students to connect. We are focused on getting ramped back up and getting students engaged and we are looking towards better days ahead.

Eric added one of the possible challenges he sees coming this spring is that this will be the first time three of our four classes on campus will have been on campus for a spring term. Due to Covid, juniors left their spring term, sophomores never had a spring term and seniors are going to have their first ever spring term. Eric feels this may be a unique situation for all constituencies and campus environments and looks forward to what spring will bring.

Noemi added the ESC has had a lot of changes and she personally has been advocating for the safe spaces on campus for students and getting those areas back open. We are taking a step at a time and moving forward slowly.

Michael asked for any remaining questions - there were none. Michael thanked Noemi and Glory and the committee for the questions.

Michael added the following comments: Next week the committee will determine the student chair. He encouraged the committee to look and play around with the draft spreadsheet on Teams and hopefully next week we will look at a revised and simpler version. Michael noted if the committee can tie up everything next week the remaining meetings this quarter may not be necessary. Student’s will most likely have registered for spring classes soon and Debbie will be reaching out to the committee sometime next week for student availability for planning spring meetings.

Quin reminded the committee that he is still open to the vice chair position and ready to collaboratively support anyone willing to take on the chair responsibility.

Michael asked if there were any more questions or comments prior to closing the meeting. There were none.

Today’s meeting adjourned at 1:52 pm

Next meeting: Friday, March 1, 2022, 2:00-3:00 pm, Teams Virtual