**Associated Students of Whatcom Community College**

**Services & Activities Fees Committee Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, May 11, 2023

LRN 160

Members: Joshua Norton, Carlyn Finerty, Sam Maria, Nate Langstraat, Nicole Switzer, Lexus Criswell, Hillary Valentina, Heidi Farani, Keenan Kaemingk

* **Convene Meeting: 2:36 pm – 2:44 pm**
  + Josh stated that any students who wants to participate in this meeting would be counted as a voting member.
  + The committee read President Kathi’s letter.
* **Open Floor 2:44 pm - 3:06pm**
  + Josh stated that tutoring is not something they can permissibly fund and funding it would require pulling from reserves or cutting into the current budgets, but he would not advise that.
  + Nate disagreed, said that he believed tutoring is permissible and there is room for interpretation.
  + Josh said he had reached out to other student body presidents for feedback and information about funding tutoring
  + Heidi stated that in consulting with the AAG, this is the first time she had heard about how much the college pays for. Stated that tutoring is not stable without S&A fees and in the past, the committee did not want to fund it, but they did because they believed it was important.
  + Josh stated that this is a student-led process, and that Nate has more power in the room. Asked Nate to be aware of that when talking about what is permissible and impermissible.
  + Josh stated that students, staff, and faculty are upset about the S&A process. People are not showing up to these meetings to help make decisions. Explained his experiences and told the committee he had faced a lot of hostility during the week and apologized for being emotional. Apologized to Nate.
  + Lexus stated that students aren’t showing up in this process, so it is important to have staff here. Feedback from the students suggest that pulling the proposed funding from tutoring would be jarring. Believed they should make this a slow process, over the course of a few years.
  + Josh agreed. Wanted to communicate that S&A fees cannot continue funding tutoring every year. S&A fees are paying for an operational cost of the college. Suggested the committee match the funding from the college.
  + Lexus asked how much was in the reserves.
  + Nate replied that there was almost 3 million.
  + Lexus stated that reducing funding should be dependent on what the AAG says about the permissibility of funding tutoring.
  + Josh wanted to partner with the college but not pay more than what the college pays. Suggested paying $64,000.
  + Nicole agreed. Proposed contributing $60,000.
  + Josh called for a break for the committee.

**BREAK: 3:06 PM - 3:13 PM**

**Open Floor 3:13 PM - 3:37 PM**

* Josh apologized to Nate and the committee for coming off as harsh. He was concerned that students are worried about not having a job next year and they should take the tutoring request to a vote
* Heidi agreed. Advised that Josh not make the motion. Asked whether there was feedback at the previous Board of Trustees meeting.
* Josh replied that there was not other feedback, but President Kathi had mentioned the ICPN funding.
* Sam Maria motioned to fund tutoring at $64,000. Seconded by Nicole. Majority in favor, vote passed.
* Josh asked Nate whether the tutoring center would be able to function with the amount funded.
* Nate replied that this is a question for the director.
* Josh asked Yusuke to talk about the ICPN funding
* Yusuke stated that the Intercultural Center had 8 ICPNS with 10-15 hours a week. This was made possible by salary savings from the Associate Director position. With the same allocation next year, they could hire fewer students or the same amount with fewer hours.
* Josh asked what it would look like with the current allocation.
* Yusuke replied that if they had 8 ICPNS, they could each work 10-11 hours. He stated this would work, but they would not be able to expand.
* Heidi stated that there should be a law that required the college to pay for ICPNS
* Josh agreed and stated it was in RCW 28B.50.920
* Yusuke stated that the only funding they have right now for ICPNS comes from S&A funding.
* Josh stated that ICPNS have been consistent throughout the year. Believed the committee should increase the amount funded but asked Nate to look at the RCW and see what the requirements are.
* Yusuke stated that the current funding does not take into account summer quarter or breaks.
* Josh replied that he hopes ICPNS can join the ASWCC for summer training. Believed the committee should come back to this at a later time once they receive a new number for the ICPN funding.

*Adjourned 3:37 pm*