**Associated Students of Whatcom Community College**

**Services & Activities Fees Committee Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

Syre 216

**Members: Katelyn Upson, Carlyn Finerty, Nicole Switzer, Lexus Criswell, Heidi Farani, Keenan Kaemingk, James Siegel, Yusuke Okazaki**

* Convene Meeting: 2:08 pm - 2:10 pm
* Open Floor: 2:09 pm - 3:13 pm
  + Yusuke asked if the funding for the Intercultural Center was coming from reserved.
  + Katelyn replied that it was coming from reserves.
  + Lexus asked if the conferences and presentations budget line from ASWCC Senate was for the quarterly conference series.
  + Katelyn clarified that the conferences and presentations was not for the quarterly conferences. Explained that the funding was for groups and clubs to attend conferences and travel.
  + Yusuke asked if the student union funding meant that the student unions were in effect for Fall or if it needed to be approved via the bylaws.
  + Heidi responded that the committee can still put funding towards this initiative without approved bylaws language.
  + James stated that different interpretations have been discussed around tutoring. The current ASWCC interpretation would lead into the next few S&A cycles. The committee should state that they listened to students needs and adjusted.
  + James stated that the committee should reword the need to use reserves in more general terms for funding priorities rather than singling out the Intercultural Center.
  + Katelyn asked where they should state they are pulling from reserves within the budget program.
  + Heidi stated that it could go on page 4 under the S&A Budget Summary.
  + James stated that it could go on a memo or just be part of the presentation.
  + Lexus stated that the future committee will need documentation of the decisions they made in the budget book.
  + Katelyn agreed with Lexus.
  + Yusuke asked what the impact would be on the Orca Food Pantry because only half of the budget request was funded.
  + Heidi replied that the Orca Food Pantry would be reduced to 5 hours a day, which would include the summer.
  + Lexus stated that the description for Student Graphic Designers has the word increase, but only $14,000 was funded.
  + Katelyn replied that they will update the language to reflect that the increase was from last year to this year.
  + James pointed out several grammatical errors
  + Carlyn asked how many positions would be funded for the Student Life Engagement Team.
  + Heidi replied that it depends on how many hours students want to work.
  + James asked that the description for Welcome Back Events change to reflect an increase in in-person enrollment rather than an increase in total number of enrolled students.
  + Katelyn agreed.
  + James suggested that the committee should change the description for the ASWCC position on funding professional staffing. Suggested they change the language to “However, it is the interpretation of the ASWCC that these positions be funded operationally by the college.”
  + Heidi replied that the description he is referring to was from feedback from students. Asked whether the last sentence should be change and wanted to find a way to state what interpretation means. Heidi stated that this section is about the opinions of the students.
  + Yusuke suggested that they specify the needs of the ASWCC and that based on the feedback from students, state what they could fund if they were not funding the professional staff positions.
  + Heidi agreed with Yusuke.
  + Carlyn stated that descriptions seem to be more of position descriptions and seem out of place.
  + Heidi stated that previous minutes will reflect that S&A fees can fund professional staff positions.
  + Katelyn stated that while it is permissible, the ASWCC is not able to fund other co-curricular needs due to this cost.
  + James asked Carlyn about the process of creating position descriptions
  + Carlyn read from the bylaws to explain the process.
  + Katelyn replied that they now understand that they cannot include position descriptions in this document.
  + Heidi informed the committee that the ASWCC Executive Board reviewed the descriptions and approved it. Told the committee that if they felt they needed to strike these descriptions, they could.
  + James asked whether position descriptions had been in budget books before.
  + Heidi replied that there are several in this budget book, but if there is consensus from the committee, it could be taken out.
  + Yusuke stated that this language seemed more geared towards explaining why something was funded when other descriptions are more focused on why something wasn’t funded. Stated that students seemed to question why student fees were paying for full time salaries. The opposition should be accounted for somewhere.
  + Lexus suggested they differentiate this committee from the ASWCC as a whole.
  + Yusuke asked Carlyn if they were concerned about the section not being reflective of the student’s opinions.
  + Carlyn replied that they don’t like the wording.
  + Katelyn replied that the committee in previous meetings believed it was important to fund the staff because without them, the ASWCC would suffer and not have their needs met. Stated that there was no alternative to fund these positions outside of S&A fees. Asked the committee if they should include more language about that.
  + Heidi and Yusuke agreed that the description should change to committee rather than ASWCC.
  + Yusuke mentioned that more funding without professional staff doesn’t serve students.
  + Carlyn agreed.
  + Katelyn stated that they hope these conversations need to happen earlier in the year.
  + James referred to the Learning Center description and asked whether it was appropriate to project 2 years in the future for a committee that does not currently exist.
  + Katelyn agreed.
  + Carlyn stated that priorities shift each year and wanted the future committee to feel empowered while still recommending a decrease.
  + James recommended that they change the description to “the ASWCC recommends reducing funding each cycle”
  + Heidi stated the ASWCC Executive Board approved of the budget book, but it would be good to have consensus before sending to Rafeeka.
  + Katelyn asked whether the committee felt the changes were viable.
  + The committee agreed

*Adjourned 3:13pm*