 

**MEETING MINUTES**

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**Date: 01/14/22**

**Topic: Public Meeting**

**Present:**

**- Voting members:** Erin Boas, Najee Rodriquez, Noah Robertson, Sean Terrey, Claire Kelling, Schönn Franklin, Megan Minnich, Latisha Franklin, Xiaoru (Tony) Shi, Warren Sipe, Jake Snyder, Nora Van Horn

**- Nonvoting members:** Yidi Wang, Kate Rutter, Barry Bram

**Absent:** Erin Boas (Excused- left at 8:50am)

**Agenda:**

1. **Call to Order and Opening Roll Call**

*Meeting called to order at 8:02 a.m.*

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

*Motioned, seconded, no objections.*

1. **Adoption of the Minutes (December 7, 2021)**

*Motioned, seconded, no objections.*

1. **Adoption of the Minutes (December 10, 2021)**

*Motioned, seconded, no objections.*

1. **Public Comment**

*Alicia: Express my support for one of the ESF proposal at the Creamery. I am a member of the student sustainability council, work closely with people making this proposal. Relevant to environmental sustainability fund. Looking to integrate students at the Creamery. 2 students are placed at each waste receptable (similar to the Vengoli system).*

*Claire: How involved were you in the proposal writing process?*

*Alicia: I was not involved in writing the proposal, but I worked closely with those who did.*

*Nora: Love to hear your opinion on waste streams linear and logistical economy. There is a large carbon and methane impact of compostable. Has this been a consideration? Is this a weakness of the project?*

*Alicia: Reduction of waste is very desirable. Reusable dining utensils was an idea but isn’t applicable at the Creamery due to the dishwashers, visitation rates, etc. With your concern to the methane, etc., about compostables, they are sent to facilities rather than landfills. They are sent to onsite compost facilities.*

1. **Old Business**

*No old business.*

1. **New Business**
   1. **New Fee Request Hearing Vote**

*Claire:* ***Lions Pantry Request***

*Erin: They had renovations over the last summer with the addition of more refrigerators and freezers, looking to expand salary positions. Closed last summer for the renovations and expect a growing demand. Looking for 103,000 dollars, looking for a communications intern, worker salaries, more marketing since it is a little further off campus, looking to up some of their transportation abilities and get a POS license. Unanimous vote.*

*Claire: Can you confirm this isn’t replacing other university funding?*

*Barry: I can confirm.*

*Unanimous vote to schedule hearing.*

*Claire****: OGEEP Request***

*Warren: OGEEP looking for two new staff positions looking to increase their DEI. Looking for 180,000 dollars. Big problem with the proposal is that it is only target at graduate students.*

*Claire: It also includes McNair Scholars which are undergraduate students.*

*Unanimous vote to schedule hearing.*

*Claire:* ***Student Disability Resources Request***

*Najee: Student disabilities resources proposal. Request for 2 million dollars to renovate student offices in Boucke. Making sure there is advocacy and programming. As it stands, was supposed to undergo renovations. It was scrapped from budgetary constraints from the University. This is the outlet they are going to. It was a refined report. You can see what the staff positions want to do (expand advocacy and education purposes, etc.). First request with the student fee. The funding is nonexistent in the current budget. That was confirmed through SDR leadership.*

*Nora: Is there a way to encourage them to ask for one year of salary rather than 5 years.*

*Claire: Yes, that is flexible. We can make them aware of the process we typically use.*

*Unanimous vote to schedule hearing.*

*Claire:* ***Sustainability Institute Request***

*Alexa: Sustainability institute. Increase knowledge across campus and adding student interns and programming. Holding meetings in the HUB and show films in the Flex Theatre. Have a live sign language support and having captioning. There is another part for student focused engagement activities. Asking for the same thing for 2022 and 2023. There total is 72, 500 dollars.*

*Unanimous vote to schedule hearing.*

*Claire:* ***UHS STI Testing Request***

*Sean: UHS. 420,000 dollars for STI testing. Previous utilization is my only concern. They only used 5,000 but need 10,000 now. Funding levels stay the same*

*Claire: The funding amount will be talked about in the funding hearing.*

*Nora: Last year when they came in for the hearing, they were asking about it being a pilot program. They were enthusiastic about the fact that they could find other funding sources. Curious about the amount of funding potential from other sources.*

*Unanimous vote to schedule hearing.*

* 1. **Environmental Sustainability Fund Hearing Vote**

*Noah: ESF proposal. Prioritized the programs. Lion’s Pantry met all the criteria and would be student facing and producing less waste. The proposal is student driven. How does it connect with the standing allocation? Wanted to see more about the environmental benefit, aesthetic look, transportation, and location. Second proposal was for Student Fark and Student Farm Club. This was about the student education area. Collaboration with other funding sources. Would fund a contractor to come in but wouldn’t necessarily fund the contractor recommendations. And how will the fee board allocation be advertised. Hear more about how students would be integrating into the project. Creation of the sustainability landscapes with the OPP and Eco Action. Student-led and student driven. It is environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable. A lot of collaboration with other efforts/units. Do they have the funds for the contractor plans? Or would they come back to the fee board. Consumer compostables creamery pilot with the OPP and Berkey Creamery. Was rated low on the list. If the university isn’t willing to fund reusable infrastructure (good band-air start/solution). How are students involved? Coast sharing didn’t provide tangible costs. Cans 4 Cause with no institutional partner. Very student driven. We want to give them a proposal if they can find an institutional partner if we were to grant them a proposal.*

*Claire: Comment on the Cans 4 Cause. Have not found an institutional sponsor right now. Looking into it for the future. We have five new fee requests and 4 ESF hearings. We are going to have to meet off-cycler. All of the ESF hearings except Cans 4 Cause should have hearings. In the new fee request project, we down select to 4 ESF hearings. No objections to the vote.*

*Unanimous vote to schedule four hearings (all projects except Cans 4 Cause due to lack of institutional home)*

1. **Topics of Discussion**
   1. **Counseling and Psychological Services Hearing**

***CAPS Presentation (Natalie DePalma and Brett Scofield):*** *CAPS is the primary psychological services at Penn State. Value excellence in care delivery, equifinality, and cultural humility. Employ over 50 staff from multiple backgrounds. Mission is to support students’ mental health and well-being. The UPSFB allocation for 20-21 was used for salary and fringe costs for staff. CAPS has a total of 52 salary employees, 7 parttime clinical staff, 6 practicum students and 3 locations (student health center, Bank of America building, and the Alienway building in downtown State College). Currently serving about 10% of the student body. 3% increase for counseling during the Covid-19 pandemic. Maintain all CAPS positions, fund GSI. Add full-time record specialist in 2022/23. CAPS currently has 3 FT case managers. Responsibilities include student records requestions, locating internal and external referrals for student needs, supporting the hospitalization process. In the past 10 years the number of case management appointment with students increased 370ﬁ. The addition of this position will provide more support for students who have case management needs and allow more hours conducting counseling with students. Adding an assistant director. CAPS has a long history of integration, diversity, equity, and inclusion principles. Increase in gender identity, sexual identity, disability, international students and overall. Number of students. This position will help inform and enhance our programs, provide guidance, etc. Future considerations: space needs, rapid access to information and referral options and continuum of care opportunities.*

*Najee: Highlight an additional of a position. Are there any discussions about potential funding? If you could discuss the current staff members that can field these kinds of communities as it stands with, the funding you receive?*

*CAPS: Working on nomination and selecting someone to help with these services. Strong liaisons and outreach chats and programs. One of our coordinators is specific to gender and sexuality who are temporary staff members but sort of diffused. Wanting to add a targeted position for gender and sexuality support role. The existing positions are stretched and adding someone will help focus time to specific concerns.*

*Latisha: With these coordinator positions, are they the r=sole person when it comes to that topic or do they emanate information to other staff?*

*CAPS: We are looking to have leadership, but it should be shared by all staff meetings for outreach.*

*Tony: You said that CAPS is serving international students. If I went to CAPS, I would feel better talking to someone who speaks Chinese. Is it possible for CAPS to add more personals who speak languages?*

*CAPS: We have been looking for specialists over the years. We have found someone who speaks Mandarin. Always looking for multilingual therapists and typically include it for calls for new staff. Have run into some systemic issues but I can engage in language in a confidential way. The first contact is the most important.*

*Claire: These are increases to the standing allocations.*

*CAPS: Yes*

*Najee: I think there is a myth about long student wait times. If you could go into detail about what it looks like and free counseling*

*CAPS: There is no wait for urgent services. There is a wait for specialized services (similar to an emergency room) We work hard to decrease wait times and waits can range on student schedules. We want to get students rapidly in. If there is a specific problem, there may be a longer wait time for a specific specialist. Typically, a 20–30-minute screening process. 90% of meetings are seen within 2 days without scheduling conflicts. There is also the CAP chat (Monday-Friday).*

*Latisha: You brought up the need for more space. If you were to expand, how would you still serve students downtown/off-campus.*

*CAPS: We want to provide a CAPS chat experience whether it be online or in person. We haven’t gone too far ahead of ourselves with Covid-19, but we will get more information.*

*Yidi: Relationships with other student offices like health promotion.*

*CAPS: We have a strong relationship with the health promotion office. We want to have more collaboration with their offices. Good idea to continue collaborations with other student offices.*

* 1. **Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity Hearing**

*Sonya (director): Center for sexual and gender diversity. Education, advocacy, and outreach. We are currently a professional staff of 4 (director, graduate assistant, assistant director, and administration assistant director). Crafting out stories, living our stories, telling our stories and culture change are ways we frame the conversation at the center. Fall signature programming: all campus LGBTQ+ welcome reception, LGBTQ+ history month and transgender awareness month. Spring has pride month and lavender graduation. On-going signature programming includes LGBTQ+ mentorship programming, anti-racism/social justice program, queer peers’ program, safer sex programming and supplies, etc. There are undergraduate and graduate student groups we work with such as Ally House, Lion Pride, Outlaw, QTPOC, etc. A new center in the Robeson Gallery. Currently at 59,000 dollars spent. We are requesting funding across different student engagement leadership programming such as pride month ($18,000), Welcome Reception ($2,000), anti-racism/social justice ($9,000), etc. Asking for a 50 cent per hour rise (10.50 and 13.50) for graduate and undergraduate staff. Keeping the $8,500 on marketing and outreach. Proposing $184,272.80. $85,000 in the fall, $82,000 in the spring.*

*Najee: Curious about the line item for safe sex practices. To schedule HIV testing at UHS is a long process (meeting with a counselor 2 times, blood taking, etc.) Do you see a push for more of those services in the future?*

*Sonya: There is rapid testing at Boucke. Covid-19 has thrown a wrench into testing and new facility. There is space in our existing space for counseling. UHS is revisiting HIV testing.*

*Warren: Major increase in wages. Those are 60% increase in wage funding. Where is the rest of the money going?*

*Sonya: We fall in the middle and sometimes lower on student wages. We have 9 undergraduate students and 2 graduate students currently. There was a petition going around to keep the space open longer for our student staff to staff that space. More getting our students and paying them at a fair rate but also leaves more toward an increase in hours over the next year.*

*Claire: CUSG does the best outreach to graduate students. I wonder your thoughts on the future increase (25% increase right now)*

*Sonya: We want to offer students the opportunity to be a part of programming and get the services. 7,000 dollars increase in programming even though we are down a programmer right now. There is not an area that we should not be involved in. Greek life, residence life (creating discussions and programming), etc. We want to become more involved in all aspects of student life and experiences.*

*Najee: There has been other factors for raising the cost of living and food, more than necessary to advance wage justice.*

*Sonya: It is important for us to watch a student grow and achieve. Thank you to all of you. We can’t do the work without all the support from you.*

1. **Subcommittee Reports**
   1. **Facilities**

*L. Franklin: I will be attempting to scheduling a meeting for the production of the video. Goal is to have this completed by the end of this month.*

* 1. **Environmental Sustainability**

*N. Van Horn: No update*

* 1. **Standardization**

*S. Franklin: Meeting next week. Reviewing our current selection process and chair positions. Reviewing UPAC funded events.*

* 1. **Communication**

*N. Robertson: Working on projects and scheduling.*

* 1. **Zero-Waste**

*Nora: Suggested deadline was January 15. Get updates.*

* 1. **Equity Fund**

*Najee: Consistent progress.*

1. **Chair Report**

*C. Kelling: April 1st is our fee recommendation. Deadline for our deliberations. After April 1st we have a transition meeting for the new board. I am having a meeting with Warren (finance and businesspeople) on funding facilities.*

1. **UPAC Chair Report**

*Alexa: 110 budgets in house and 60 came in within the last month. I will provide the total amount we allocated*

1. **Communications Intern Report**

*Kate: New projects.*

1. **Comments for Good of the Order**

*S. Franklin: OGEEP Proposal does include undergraduate students.*

1. **Closing Roll Call**

*Meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.*