 

**MEETING MINUTES**

……………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Date: 03/04/22**

**Topic: Public Meeting/Deliberations**

**Present:**

**- Voting members:** Warren Sipe, Noah Robertson, Sean Terrey, Najee Rodriguez, Claire Kelling, Xiaoru Shi, Latisha Franklin, Megan Minnich, Jake Snyder, Nora Van Horn

**- Nonvoting members:** Yidi Wang, Alexa Clayton, Barry Bram, Jolinda Wilson, Jenna Meleedy (Daily Collegian reporter)

**Absent:** Erin Boas, Schönn Franklin

**Agenda:**

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

*Meeting called to order at 8:09 a.m.*

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

*Motioned, seconded, no objections.*

1. **Adoption of the Minutes (February 25, 2022)**

*Motioned, seconded, no objections.*

1. **Public Comment**

*No public comment.*

1. **Old Business:**

*No old business.*

1. **New Business**

*No new business.*

1. **Topics of Discussion:**
   1. **Deliberations**

C. Kelling: Slides are for reference. Today’s meeting is just discussion to see if we need additional information. Voting will happen later. We have 6 days of deliberations.

Facilities Allocation

C. Kelling: Meeting on the Monday after Spring Break to discuss facilities. Will request additional information over break. There are 8 scenarios for consideration. Four changes throughout the scenarios. First, 1 time fee-increase this year. Another eliminates Fisher Hall; another eliminates the Natatorium. These are binary options, either funding or not funding. Another thing to consider is a Wellbeing Building feasibility study, which costs $350k.

N. Rodriguez: Can we ask Damon Sims to commit to an MOU scenario for the Wellbeing Building for what we want to see in the building. A 2% increase is about $5 per student in the facilities portion. Would the $350k added to the overall cost of the Wellbeing Building?

C. Kelling: We might find in the feasibility study that we cannot build a Wellbeing Building for this amount of money. The discussion about what we could build is very expensive. Over Spring break, review the facilities spreadsheets so we can discuss with Finance & Business.

Graduate and Professional Student Association

C. Kelling: Student Governments are not up for review for funding, but they are up for review for policy compliance.

X. Shi: Full, flat funding of $59,542 with some carry-forward money. Would like to see more on the fee board value descriptions, in accessibility and environmental sustainability. Also looking for more student feedback on funding.

Student Legal Services

M. Minnich: SLS is requesting $485,000, which is a decrease from last year. Recommend full funding. Impressive student satisfaction rate. Main decrease is coming from salaries, which is coming from cost-sharing between UPSFB and Commonwealth Fee Board. Looking to add a conflict voucher pilot and a name change voucher.

C. Kelling: Important to note that these programs might be increased in the future, coming to fee board for funding.

N. Rodriguez: Name change voucher has merit. Many students will utilize it.

N. Van Horn: SLS is very receptive to student input. The conflict voucher helps students mediating conflict between roommates for example.

M. Minnich: I think we should fund both of these programs. SLS values align with these programs.

C. Kelling: Conflict voucher is a pilot, so future fee boards should interrogate this program and its utilization of funds and impact. Name change voucher is not a pilot, it was piloted by UPUA for a year beforehand.

Bryce Jordan Center

Schönn absent, we will come back.

University Park Undergraduate Association

J. Snyder: UPUA is requesting $139,629, recommending flat funding. Did not fully utilize funding, but transitioning back to in-person. UPUA interfaces with the student body. Transparency through the Assembly allocating the funding. Expanding the values for fairness, equity, and inclusion. How to empower diverse identities instead of focusing on procedure. Include more information about ADA accessibility, and include more about the SDG in the proposal.

N. Rodriguez: UPUA is aligning with the fee board values and transparency, request for next year depends on the administration.

C. Kelling: Rounding up to not allocate $0.55. For this year, the proposal says UPUA does not anticipate a need to increase their allocation.

Y. Wang: UPUA has an impact on students’ lives, but can we know the variance of funding across semesters? From 2019-20, there is a variance.

N. Rodriguez: Spent down to the $7,000 for the summer transition funding. The Assembly discretionary has $205.

C. Kelling: Up for review next year. Expansion of explanation of values. More discussion of ADA and SDGs. More information on student feedback. More clarification on anticipation to increase.

Student Orientation and Transition Programs

N. Robertson SOTP is requesting an increase, for a total of $109,000. Increase in three categories, for Fall Welcome, Summer Welcome, and for Encore Results May Vary\* program. Fall Welcome includes a new Equity & Inclusion Carnival. Summer Welcome increase is the cost of new programming that was funded in 2021-22 with carry-forward funding. Encore program is for the Results May Vary\* show to be performed in the fall to a bigger audience of students than would see the show during its normal summer presentation.

N. Van Horn: SOTP could review the Encore Theater Program to discuss topics in the show such as sexual violence on campus. Could review before additional funding. Thinking about the context about how consent is addressed in the program. Reach out to the DEI Roundtable and CARSVA and GEC.

A Clayton: Should do more outreach to students to see what students want for orientation.

N. Rodriguez: Issues with Results Will Vary, having feedback would be great. More attention should be put into the content of what orientation looks like. There was a request that SOTP increase its outreach to graduate students.

C. Kelling: Last year, SOTP said they were prepared to increase graduate student outreach and that would reflect in their allocation.

W. Sipe: Would like to fund the Fall and Summer Welcome, not the Encore Theater Program. I don’t see an impact on the community with the program.

M. Minnich: I agree with Warren, it would take their allocation to $104,000 which is more typical to pre-Covid.

N. Rodriguez: Important to be more cognizant of specific increases this year.

L. Franklin: Agree on the graduate-student side. An example might be to work with GPSA and the Black Graduate Association during their joint tour. They could provide some resources to these groups. How do we make resources easier to access from the siloes?

C. Kelling: Would like to see, minimally, graduate-specific outreach. Partnership with GPSA.

N. Van Horn: Would like to see a graduate-specific event, or graduate-student focused areas at events. In the short term, should do graduate outreach. When they come back next year, they should ask for funding for an event for graduate students specifically.

W. Sipe: Orientation was focused on residence students. Not relevant to graduate students.

X. Shi: No international-student-specific programming, would like more information about this. Students are on their own after the brief programs SOTP has, but no continued support. Looking for more inclusivity with language. More resources for translation, in communication with faculty and advisors? SOTP could provide training to cultural organizations to give transition information in preferred languages.

C. Kelling: Graduate/Professional students are systematically put-away from these events. International students are not targeted with events but are included in these events.

Y. Wang: Agree with introducing resources for international students during programs.

A Clayton: Orientation should do more than make students aware these resources exist, but should be integrated more into the programs. For example, connecting students with cultural organizations.

C. Kelling: In terms of allocation, interested in increasing to Fall Welcome and Summer Welcome. Encore Theater Program content needs to be reviewed. Graduate and professional students need tangible outreach, beyond committee membership and providing events that are open to all students. Ideally, would like to see graduate student-targeted events. Provide this in next year’s request. Work with the Black Graduate Association and GPSA for tours/events. Would like to see more inclusion for international students, combatting the silo effect.

Council of Commonwealth Student Government

L. Franklin: CCSG received $5000 in 2021-22 allocation, requesting flat funding. Recommending full funding. Advising them to do more outreach to graduate organizations. Could discuss the retreat, other expenses seem appropriate.

C. Kelling: Retreat is not open to all students. Fee board Steering Committees have discussed this. There was not consensus, I don’t support this utilization of funds.

N. Robertson: Agree with Claire on retreat funding. Retreats are open to CCSG members, and no student has been denied access to the retreat, but it still isn’t public

N. Van Horn: Encourage CCSG to seek external funding sources like UPUA. CCSG not recognized as legitimate as UPUA/GPSA. Recognizing their legitimacy/equity disparity while encouraging them to seek other sources. Could they break down their non-student-fee dollars, the unrestricted account and success with fundraising from alumni. Fee board should not be involved in fundraising, but could connect CCSG with fundraising resources (in the context of funding retreats). This comes up every year, need more transparency to see how to address this concern.

J. Snyder: Were awards removed if they were personalized? (Yes)

W. Sipe: Other things we fund involving teams/club sports, similar to retreats? Denying funding based on selection/inclusion might not be universally applicable.

C. Kelling: Voting majority historically decided retreat funding is okay. In feedback, could have conversation about fundraising.

Counseling and Psychological Services

L. Franklin: 2021-22 allocation was $872,008. This year, the request is $1,071,908; I recommend full funding. This includes 2.5% increase for staff, a full-time records specialist, and an assistant director for DEI. Addresses SFB recommendation from last year, which was that CAPS should retain BIPOC and multilingual staff. Increase in student utilization supports the demand for more diverse staff. There would be two records specialists, one fully-funded by SFB and one half-funded by SFB.

C. Kelling: Reason not splitting the new records specialist cost with CFB? (No clear answer). Think we should still split the cost. I think the request demonstrates responsiveness to the fee board.

S. Terrey: Support for full funding.

W. Sipe: Most students will express support for improving CAPS. This position is a good idea to meet students’ needs. It would pave a path for providing more services.

N. Van Horn: Concerned about adding support to bureaucracy, rather than positions that interface with students. An assistant director that does administrative work is different than having counselors for students.

C. Kelling: This DEI admin will be involved in developing better service to marginalized students. Could inquire more about this person’s responsibilities.

L. Franklin: CAPS does not want to bring in counselors with specific backgrounds and then match diverse counselors with diverse student backgrounds. CAPS wants to increase training so that all counselors are prepared to meet with diverse students. CAPS is trying to find more counselors in greater-demand language, but issues with visas and lack of qualities that would retain these counselors.

X. Shi: How to navigate counselor licensing?

C. Kelling: Reason for not splitting both positions with CFB?

N. Rodriguez: New records specialist increases efficiency, there is merit in that.

C. Kelling: CAPS is also newly piloting tele-services. Might ask for more support in future years on this program. (General support for tele-help)

L. Franklin: CAPS is actively looking to identify other programs to bring to the fee board.

C. Kelling: Check with CAPS and CFB about splitting positions. On the DEI assistant director, voice support for responsiveness to fee board and support for serving diverse student needs. Tele-health is a good option.

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

*L. Franklin: No report.*

*C. Kelling: Survey is being released today.*

* 1. **Environmental Sustainability Fund**

*N. Van Horn: Met to discuss recommendations.*

* 1. **Standardization**

*C. Kelling: Any updates on New Fee Request documents?*

*L. Franklin: No report*

* 1. **Communications**

*N. Robertson: Working with Kate on comms. Website updates coming soon.*

* 1. **Zero Waste**

*N. Van Horn: No update*

* 1. **Equity Fund**

*N. Rodriguez: Materials are posted.*

C. Kelling: Look at the New Fee Request document?

1. **Chair Report**

*C. Kelling:* Meeting the Monday after Spring Break for facilities deliberations. Meeting Monday, Friday, and that Saturday. Information on social media.

1. **UPAC Chair Report**

*A. Clayton: UPAC $2.6M requested, allocated ~$2M.*

1. **Communications Intern Report**

*No report.*

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

*No comments.*

1. **Closing Roll Call**

*Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.*