



Student Fee Board

MEETING MINUTES

Date: 2/10/23

Topic: Public Meeting

Present:

- **Voting members:** Lawrence Miller, Xiaoru (Tony) Shi, Jada Quinland, Yidi Wang, Brian Johnson, Conor Kelly, Ava Philips, Najee Rodriguez, Sydney Gibbard, Dallas Zebrowski, Cierra Chandler, Zander Golden
- **Nonvoting members:** Alexa Clayton, Jolinda Wilson, Barry Bram

Absent:

- **Voting members:** Noah Robertson

Agenda:

I. Call to Order and Opening Roll Call

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

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Motioned, seconded.

III. Adoption of the Minutes (February 3rd, 2023)

Motioned, seconded.

IV. Public Comment

V. Old Business

VI. New Business

A. 8:15 - Gender Equity Center

Becca: Associate Director

Yvette: Director

Becca: Here to support all student relationships - platonic, romantic, working, academic. Our office is the historic women's center. Focus on body image, stereotyping, bystander intervention, power-based sexual violence (dating violence, stalking, sexual assault, sexual violence). We provide referrals, education, advocacy, crisis intervention, student support, and programs and events. All services are free and confidential.

A quick overview of how our funding has been used this year. In 2022-2023 academic year, majority went to five major events: Charlie Coleman, Clothesline Project, Ashe, Schuyler Bailar, and Lydia XZ Brown. Reached 4,500 students. Also spent funds on marketing (also used during tabling during NSO and Involvement Fair, Reproductive Rights Expo, Together We Are). Programming in Spring anchored by Sexual Assault and Awareness Month, Women's History Month, Stalking Awareness Month. Programs/speakers include Explore and Connect Trip to DC, Anna Nasset, Valarie Kaur, Peace Paper Project, Feminista Jones (chosen by UPUA).

2023-2024 funding request. We are requesting a flat/level funding \$117,119.13. Speaker: \$70,000.

Justification for funding: brought more prominent/influential speakers to Penn State. Enhance prevention education efforts. Student worker impact for 4 undergrad and 1 undergrad. Increase knowledge of services amongst all students. Annual collaborations with SPA and UPUA. Strong history of utilizing full allocated amount. Based on Penn State 2018 climate survey - 1 in 3 undergrad women, 1 in 10 undergrad men experience sexual assault.

Values include transparency, accessibility, accountability, sustainability, justice, fairness, and equity.

In summation, quality and capacity of our free services are enhanced by the SFB allocation. GEC provides vital services to Penn State community.

Sydney: Could you elaborate on any state or federal funding?

Becca: Currently, unable to apply to It's On Us funding because of transition of governor; they were not offering this year. Donor funds are for women's empowerment - self-defense. GEC staff will be trained in May to be able to offer those self-defense services.

Yvette: Also received small funds \$1,700 from It's On Us. Going towards training more peer educators and recognizing them for their work.

Alexa: You moved to a new office. Can you speak about how expanding to that new office increased visibility?

Yvette: One of easy ways of amplifying space is keeping our door open. Soft lights on, little Lion's Pantry. More outreach and marketing, and student workers. New lounge space.

Najee: What collaborations have you had in the past? And how does that translate to the future in choosing speakers?

Becca: SPA speaker for national stalker awareness month. Work with their lecture chair. Talking to them about who they want to see. Mutual and collaborative in choosing speakers. Historically, main partnership is with UPUA roundtable, work with chairs.

Sydney: Post pandemic, outreach efforts have changed, especially low engagement with speakers.

Yvette: Definitely has. Doesn't make sense in many ways, but everyone is struggling with that. Had Ashe come last fall, had 300 students come. Continue with collaborations, doing things more relevant. Continually trying to assess that.

Becca: See us having two populations of speakers - larger names and different types of event speakers (rock painting event with Anna Nasset).

Cierra: You mentioned Giardini funding, can you explain that?

Yvette: It was an endowment provided in the late 90's. Specifically targeted for self-defense for women. Over the years, able to define that broadly. Told recently that it had to be used for self-defense. Now Flip the Script programming - women should be confident to learn those skills and get empowerment within themselves.

Yidi: How do you choose your speakers?

Becca: In terms of topics, we're anchored by awareness months. In the fall, the Red Zone - first 8 weeks, students more likely to experience sexual assault. Programming for Sexual Violence Month. Also respond to current events, like response to reproductive justice rights.

Barry: Can you take out 13 cents from funding as well?

B. 8:45 - Campus Recreation

Steve Kampf: Senior Director of Campus Recreation

Campus recreation is a rather large program. More than IM building. Oversee Fitness Center in Rec Hall, IM Building, natatorium, Stone Valley, tennis center, and the White Building. Programming includes aquatics, over 50 club sports, fitness well-being area. 600 student employees annually. Student worker program started in 2016, rec hours expanded to 6 am to midnight.

History of Campus Recreation: student allocation starts in 2018 and \$1.6M in revenue. Beverage sales. Still affected by pandemic in revenue numbers. Many students hesitant to join fitness facility, other fitness facilities.

Student usage of facilities, measured unique students. Over 33,000 students have entered our facilities as of Jan. 30th. Believe will go up of 70% by the end of this year. Over a million students entered our facilities since last year. Close to 25,000 group fitness members, 8,600 in IM sports.

Ask for this year is increased. Reasons: cost of living increase for student workers, next year setting at \$12.50. Installing arena, and summer membership. Believe we can provide free services over the summer. Allocation helps offset high fee costs for students. Student employment. Students average between 10-20 hours a week. \$3M dollars a year for payroll.

Health and holistic well-being. Social aspect to club sports and IM sports. Sustainability - leave no trace concept. Offer meditation and yoga classes.

DEI, make sure all programs provide this. Students feel they are part of a community. Also, sneak peek into picture of e-sports room.

Cierra: What is the utilization fee during the summer? And where in the budget is the subsidy?

Steve: Anyone not enrolled in summer classes were charged \$57. We get revenues from students and student fee revenue. So under revenue.

Cierra: Where in your projected expense report, where would that go?

Steve: Operations

Cierra: For e-sports center, what's the estimated capacity?

Steven: 100. It's a little bigger than this room. Also retractable.

Tony: Is construction for e-sports included in budget?

Barry: For e-sports facility, pandemic messed with construction. It was covered.

Steve: Funding started in 2019. Additional funding is only for more student workers.

Alexa: What separates e-sports from gaming organization?

Steve: Provide equipment and technology, but don't fund other courts/rooms for example.

Conor: What opportunities does Campus Rec offer to students not on campus?

Steve: Cabins to rent, and kayaks. There's hiking, frisbee, golf. Problem with Stone Valley is that it's not always accessible to students due to the distance. Don't know utilization numbers for hiking.

Cierra: I was reading your proposal. Do you know how utilized equipment is? Since 33% increase in equipment, like wheelchair accessibility.

Steve: For accessibility purposes, most of our equipment is accessible to anyone. Most of our area is crowded, and interested in solving that too.

Najee: Comment on using a code for facilities.

C. 9:15 - University Park Allocation Committee

Cierra: Chair

Sam: Leadership team

Director of Communications

Director of Outreach

Chris: Committee member

Cierra: As UPAC, goal is to objectively allocate a portion of the SIF income. Fund travel experiences, equipment, and other items. Enhance student life.

Funding categories include programs, like TEDxPSU, Infusion, Lion's Pride. Equipment. Travel includes trip to CPAC (College Republicans), Curacao Trip (Penn State Hillel). Media includes Valley Magazine media expenses. Operational (up to \$50) include office supplies (e.g., for Sculpture Club).

Standing allocations include Movin' On - \$705,950. Other expenses include student workers, copier expenses and office supplies for UPAC, allocation nights room rentals, committee development (maintenance and purchase of equipment retreat expenses), and security for student organization programs.

Around \$2.5M allocated toward programs. For travel, flat. \$175,000 for equipment. \$7,500 for operational. \$67,000 for media. Increase in standing allocation to \$750,000. \$41,200 for UPAC operations. Brings to \$4,594,300.

Justification includes mandatory financial trainings for all student organizations so increased awareness, growing number of student groups, and increasing funding caps. 900 funded groups in fall 2022 moving toward 1,115+ funded groups spring 2023. Also increasing cost of honoraria, especially from international and standing allocation costs.

Values include accessibility (office hours), environmental sustainability (transition away from paper to online), and justice. Accountability and transparency (always publish our minutes monthly), and fairness, equity and inclusion (viewpoint neutrality, any fee paying student can submit a request for funding).

Cierra: What is the honoraria cap?

Alexa: \$20,000 now. Want to increase to \$30,000 for international. Often see more than flying costs, tax.

Sydney: Would you ever consider funding EMS in addition to security?

Alexa: It is part of security.

Sydney: UPAC makes decisions to have security. Is that true?

Alexa: More administrative. Understanding context of programming. Talk to administrative staff to give recommendation. Variety of staff members students work with, even after UPAC.

Najee: Full utilization for UPAC this year. Do you anticipate having any carry-forward?

Alexa: Probably very little. Previous years, we had more carry-forward. Probably pay for any outstanding things in the summer. Now allocated around \$2.7M in spending history document. Closer to utilizing funding.

VII. Topics of Discussion

A. Meeting with UHS and Sara Thorndike

This Sunday, February 12, from 3-5 p.m. on Zoom

VIII. Comments for Good of the Order

IX. Closing Roll Call

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.