



Services and Activities Fee Committee (SAFC)

February 28, 2025

3:30pm

GWP 320

Zoom Link: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/98089084773>

MEETING MINUTES 15

Attendance:

<p>Voting Members Norah Duncan – Present Madai Espinoza – Present Kailey Lawless – Present (Zoom) Samuel Pena-Rojas - Present Jaden Tobar – Absent Anchal Turna – Present (Zoom) Kaily White – Absent</p> <p>Administrative Staff Sean Schmidt - Present Hayden Busic - Present</p>	<p>Ex-Officio Members Bernard Anderson – Present Mike Russell – Present (Zoom) Alicia Whitten – Present (Zoom) Gordon Craig - Present</p> <p>Guests Conor</p>
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Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 3:33 pm by Sam.

Land Acknowledgement. A land acknowledgement was given by Sam.

Safety Briefing. A safety briefing was given by Sam.

Roll Call, Guest Introductions, Connection-Building Activity. Roll Call is documented above. Guests were introduced. Meeting participants took part in a connection-building activity.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes. Upon there being no objections from the committee, the Chair approved the agenda and minutes.

Open Public Forum

- None.

Reports & Updates

- Chair/Vice-Chair
 - Sam opened up the conversation and thanked everyone for their contributions to proposers and annual application reviewers for their dedication and hard work.
- Members
 - No updates.
- Committees
 - No updates.

Old Business

None.

New Business

- Student Legal Services

Kailey Lawless reached out; however, the person who asked for the proposal is currently out sick. The request is \$15,000 to bring Student Legal Services (SLS) to campus, ensuring students have access to legal consultations without traveling to Seattle. This initiative aims to support students facing legal issues such as landlord-tenant agreements, residency concerns, and personal matters by connecting them with professional legal staff and law students from UW Seattle. The funding will also help promote awareness of these services through key campus offices like OSAS, OISS, UAA, and PAWS, ensuring that students know where to seek assistance. Approved for first reading. Norah so moved. Madai seconded. 6-0-0.

- Hospitality Fund

With Anchal, the request of \$1,955 is to enhance student support services, particularly in response to academic gaps caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many students enter college needing additional help with quantitative skills, writing, and study habits, yet awareness and familiarity with TLC remain a challenge. The funding will support initiatives that make the center more welcoming, including hospitality efforts such as the Tea Station, pizza giveaways, and donuts for writing appointments to encourage student engagement. Approved for first reading and waived for second. Kailey so moved. Anchal seconded. 6-0-0.

- Peer Success Mentor Programs

With Anchal again, the request is \$12,880 for the support of the Peer Success Mentor (PSM) program and provide refreshments for events and study sessions. These mentors assist students with academic skills, time management, and study strategies, particularly benefiting First Gen Fellows and AAPI THRIVE cohorts. The funding will also address food insecurity by offering refreshments at academic support events, encouraging student engagement and retention. Norah asks about comparisons to the current PSMs and their recent utilizations. Approved to pass for first reading and Norah so moved. Kaily seconded. 6-0-0.

- **Student Publications**

Was tabled for next meeting. Norah so moved. Madai seconded. 6-0-0.

- **SAFC Operations**

No reductions as Sam states that this would be great to fully fund as it's been the same as 2022. Approved for first reading and waived for second. Norah so moved. Kailey seconded. 6-0-0.

- **Career Development**

The request of \$86,066 is to sustain and expand services that support students in preparing for internships, graduate school, and employer connections. The funding will help maintain Peer Career Coaches (PCCs). The request is higher than previous years as the amount is \$86,066. Recommendation is a 40% reduction and would still be \$3,000 more than the last request in the year 2023 for a program assistant/front desk assistant. Norah asked why their budget is high and Sam answered that the request is asking to fully fund their total planned hours previously requested, which was reduced from their request last year. Norah so moved to approved first reading. Madai seconded. 6-0-0.

- **Disability Resources for Students (DRS)**

Was tabled for next meeting. Norah so moved. Madai seconded. 6-0-0.

- **Student Advising Mentors**

The request is \$49,200 to fully fund the Student Advising Mentors (SAMs) program, covering salaries and ensuring drop-in advising remains available to students. The request is specifically for student wages and their benefits. Madai recommends either a 40% or a 50% deduction. Front desk tracking has tracked about 3,420 visits with new students, check-ins, drop-outs, and visits. When there is a lack of funding, student workers are only limited to a certain amount of hours, leaving the front desk unmanned and the advisors without assistants. \$500 is specifically for operation, and the rest is specifically for student pay. Norah so moved to approve for first reading. Madai seconded. 6-0-0.

- **Giving Garden**

The request of \$126,123 is to sustain and expand the Giving Garden, a program that provides fresh produce, green space access, and food education for students. The funding will support three student positions. Additionally, the request includes funds for tools, materials, and program improvements to expand food production and leadership opportunities. \$126,123 is the request for less cuts and more hours and additional on-staff student positions. Preferences for cuts were to be less workers instead of less hours. Total wages add up to \$120,000. The rest are supplies and the like for caring and other events. Sam is saying that if approved, to be given extra leeway from last year. 40% reduction would be a lot less than what was approved of last year. Norah so moved to approve for the first reading. Madia seconded. 6-0-0.

Discussion Items

- None.

Announcements

- Sean asked if there were any questions on the SAFC Spring Forum. Sam mentions finding a date to work towards for the forum. Gordon recommends being prepared to go with or without others from the committee. The second or third week of spring 2025 would be best for the Spring Form Sub-Committee.
- Sam mentions how the RSOs are recommended to check out the Spring Involvement Fair.
- Sam also talks about the possibility for others to work on a committee, specifically for the block party where RSOs can have fun and chill with each other – May 15th.

Adjournment

- Samuel Pena-Rojas adjourned the meeting at 4:14 pm.