



Services and Activities Fee Committee Meeting

January 17, 2025 | 1:00 PM | Husky Union Building 303

MINUTES

Call to Order

The Services and Activities Fee Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM on January 17, 2024.

Roll Call

- Present
 - ASUW: Annie Chen, Khushi Loomba, Jack Prichard, Aiden Reeder, Crystal Tran
 - GPSS: T Marzetta, Althea Rao, Alec Solemslie, Ryan Wicklund
 - Advisor: Lincoln Johnson, Kristian Wiles
- Absent
 - ASUW: Haley Chee (Absent Excused)

Approval of Agenda

The agenda for January 17, 2025 SAF meeting was approved. Motioned by Khushi Loomba, Seconded by Aiden Reeder; unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Public Comment [10 minutes]

Old Business

New Business

Discussion

1. Budget Presentations:

1. D Center

- a. Speakers: Carrie Moore, Trevor Hunt

The Deaf & Disability Center is almost completely funded by SAF. The D-Center is asking for the same amount as last year because of the Unit's high Reserves due to the absence of a manager position within the past few months.

Aiden – Based on the vacancy of the manager position, how concerned are you about wage increases over the next couple of years considering not asking for any more this year limits your request for next year?

- The manager position has been vacant long enough that the D Center feels confident their current funding is manageable, even with reflections over the next 5 years for wages and benefits increases. With a staff purely of students, the D-Center has managed to host 12 events just in Fall 2024.

Annie – What is the update on the manager position vacancy?

- The previous manager was hired in Fall 2022 and left in April. This position is very niche and needs someone with the right mindset, which is why the position is still vacant. The D Center has reposted the listing and advertised to disability-focused facilities and across the country to get an expert. The D Center wants to get a good candidate pool even if that might be small and to hire someone by spring quarter.
- **Khushi** – Is the wage for the manager position not full enough?
 - There are multiple factors to why the position hasn't been fulfilled, such as how niche the field is, and pay is always a factor. The D Center most likely won't see more than 10 candidates but they want a manager to further provide that special home environment on campus for people in those communities. UW has an accessibility problem so the more UW can provide these spaces, the better they can support inclusivity and the needs of the community.
- **Aiden** – What have you done during this manager vacancy? What will the new manager provide past what the student employees are already doing?
 - The manager position connects UW to the outside communities within the Pacific Northwest to expand the center's reach and impact. It's a

full-time role focused on enriching and expanding student life to the entire region.

Alec – Other operations have significant increases, could you tell us why there are such increases for FY26?

- In FY2024, the D-Center had a lot of events plans but the number of events hosted dwindled after the vacancy in FY2025. The D-Center has saved money from not hiring the manager position in combination with hosting smaller events. However, with the current plan of hiring a manager before spring quarter, the D-Center wants to have the funds readily available to start hosting larger events once that position is fulfilled right away.

Ryan – D center's effect is contingent on DRS being able to make campus accessible. Do you keep tabs on the forecast budget allocations for the DRS and do you foresee any potential externalities from that situation affecting the D center next year?

- D-Center maintains a good relationship with DRS and takes a holistic approach to that. The D-Center relies on the DRS to be the primary access point for educational programs and to have students on campus in an inclusive environment.

Jack – Does the D-Center collaborate with other programs?

- The D-Center participates in events with DawgDaze and the HUB Crawl. They often try to collaborate with the other centers and Units on the third floor of the HUB, in addition to working with First-Year Programs for publicity. The D-Center does have goals to potentially do tours for potential students, but that plan will be dependent on when the manager role is hired.

Aiden – Have you ever had issues with enough space in the room or at events?

- D-Center does struggle with capacity, like with open houses and such. However, they are a part of the HUB, so they don't have to pay to rent the place.
- **Annie** – Is there a long-term plan to expand the capacity of the D-Center, like in size or location of the room?
 - The previous manager had big plans but wasn't here long enough to execute them, but the D-Center has to be financially sustainable to fund the entire operations before expansion. However, they are always looking for more opportunities to be in a more accessible place than their current location on the third floor.

Aiden - How would you go about partnering the D Center and the HUB to shift the location of the D Center and working with SAF?

- There is some talk of a potential opening room that the D-Center could move into but the cost of reconfiguring the space will rely on SAF and capital budget requests.

Alec – What would you do if you received an increase in funding rather than no increase as request?

- The D Center would use the extra money to have more programs, furniture in the space, assisted technology, and expanding the library that students can check out within their room. The D-Center would eventually love to schedule tours, with campus tours or for incoming and prospective students, to help students navigate through the facilities and resources available to them.

Althea – How has student engagement been defined? Does this show how successful participation has been for the D Center?

- From a data collection perspective, the D-Center acknowledges they have not been up to date, but this is where having the permanent manager would help.

2. SVL

- a. Speakers: Sam Powers (Director), Jordan Houghton (Assistant Director)

For Winter quarter, we have 500 “veterans” on campus with ~2,000 “spouses and _”, with mostly graduate students and a 66% male population.

The biggest changes from last year include:

1. A better budget system to calculate event costs for SVL, especially as student demand for the Unit has grown. For example, DawgDaze and Veteran Appreciation Week has doubled due to inflation and financial constraints faced by some of the partner organizations and Units that SVL has collaborated with. SVL is still relying on good relationships with partners for discounts and sponsorships to help minimize these costs as much as possible.
2. “Calling Home” is one of the biggest events and has been revised to estimate a cost of around \$11,000. Within the SVL’s four largest events, “Calling Home” will take a majority of the operating costs of the budget.

If SVL doesn’t get the funding they are proposing for FY26, SVL will need to cut the number of student employees to maintain the number of events they can host. SVL will have to rely on student employees to have work study or GI benefit to help offset hiring costs.

Since SVL doesn’t have self-sustaining funds, they don’t envision capital investments being highly successful, but they are exploring external funding sources and sponsorships. SVL has made efforts to streamline the payment process for their events and vendors to save on costs and time. The biggest challenge SVL faces is the rising costs of events each year.

Questions & Answers

Aiden – What do these partnerships you mention with, for example, ASUW and GPSS look like?

- Event collaboration varies depending on the type of event. For example, for the “Calling Home” ceremony, SVL is partnering with the Intellectual House and several Native American organizations and clubs in Seattle. When collaborating with ASUW or GPSS, SVL holds more meetings to discuss

student needs and seek advice on areas outside their scope. For instance, there was even a time where SVL was able to get funding for a mental health therapist.

- **Aiden** – Is there specifically SVL would want to collaborate with ASUW?
 - SVL doesn't have anything prepared but they would love to talk with ASUW find some way to work with collaborating on some future events.

Annie – SAF can only increase its available based on student fees. If you're not able to receive the full costs, especially with the events becoming increasingly expensive each year, how would SVL manage their current funding?

- Once the costs of the larger events are calculated, SVL tries to find different avenues to reduce this total amount as much as possible either through scaling down events, finding partnerships with entities within the county or university for discounts, looking at grants, etc. SVL is committed to finding creative solutions to meet their goals and support their students.

Alec – Between the request for \$35,000 split amongst "Changes in Expenses" in the FY26 proposal, what does SVL plan to do with the \$5000 allocated for "Traveling"?

- Wage and benefit increases are based on set guidelines, with the majority allocated towards vendor costs. One key student need is for more opportunities to attend conferences which will offer professional development and network experience. Additionally, there are royalty fees associated with certain events and so the \$5,000 will help in the costs of traveling for conferences.

Y - Using student feedback as a representation for student need, is there a certain event or type of activity that you've seen the most student participation? Like is there a specific type of event that students are more interested in or any conferences?

- SVL sees higher participation in events such as Snow Day, which offers snowboarding as a new experience, and a Paint & Sip event that help build

community. SVL is open to trying new activities, even if they might not be successful. For example, two women veterans started a women-only event that gained traction to potentially become a more frequent event. Success of these events varies based largely on timing amongst other factors. The four large events are where SVL has the most control, while smaller events tend to reflect what students are most interested in. SVL is very open to supporting students in planning these smaller events. Student feedback is central to how SVL decides to host events, giving students the opportunity to plan their own experiences. The only limitation is if there is heavy risk management or potential injury factor will SVL deny an event.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes from the 11/22/24 SAF meeting were approved. Motioned by Aiden Reeder, Seconded by Khushi Loomba; unanimous approval.

Announcements

Adjournment

The SAF meeting was called to adjourn at 2:21PM. Motion to adjourn by Ryan Wicklund, seconded by Aiden Reeder; unanimous vote to adjourn.