



Services and Activities Fee Committee Meeting

January 24, 2025 | 1:00 PM | Husky Union Building 303

MINUTES

Call to Order

The Services and Activities Fee Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:06 PM on January 24, 2024.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

The agenda for January 24, 2025 SAF meeting was approved. Motioned by Aiden Reeder, Seconded by Khushi Loomba; unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Public Comment [10 minutes]

Old Business

New Business

Discussion

1. Budget Presentations:

1. Kelly ECC

Speakers: Magdalena Fonseca (Director), Cicero Delfin (Assistant Director), Nate Panelo (Assistant Director)

The ECC is requesting around 6% total increase for Salaries & Wages benefits for 9 full-time staff members, and a minimum wage increase for the 24 students employees. The ECC is hoping to hire a new student Program Assistant Position with the rollover funds and revenue from last year, alongside SAF's support, to keep up with programming needs.

Aiden – What would be the exact duties of the new student program assistant, and how would they ease the work on the other assistants?

- Currently, the ECC has 24 student positions funded by SAF but only 1 student assistant position that is funded annually. With increased student engagement and participation on campus, the new position will ease the workload. The new position will include some administrative tasks, analyzing trends to implement more popular events or ideas, and providing direct engagement and advising with students to support the cultural organizations with their large-scale events. To record participation in events, students are able to tap with their husky card, but the new student program assistant role will allow for more outreach to reach larger demographics of students the ECC hasn't seen in the center yet.

Annie – I'm seeing a decrease in the ECC's projected revenue, what is causing that? I understand that there's been a decrease in major revenue sources such as space rental, but has there been efforts to bring those revenue sources back?

- Since the pandemic, the ECC has lost a major client who would've used the space for summer events. During the 9 months of the school year, spaces such as the theaters (popular for outside companies to produce theatrical

production), conference rooms (capable of fitting 32 people), and unity suites are available to reserve and are even more highly profitable if rented out at full price to external organizations. As RSOs are growing more in members (50 – 80 students), there is an even greater demand for reservations for the unity suites for UW student usage, decreasing the number of events hosted and limiting other campus departments and outside organizations from reserving the unity suites for large scale events.

Aiden – With the current political climate, do you expect any changes (increases/decreases) to the Leadership Without Borders program?

- One of the ECC's targeted demographics are undocumented students and the ECC is working to expand the Leaders Without Borders program, more so with the increasing changes in immigration policy. To strengthen this effort, the ECC has partnered with the Office of Minority Affairs to hire a counselor specifically for undocumented students, with plans to potentially add a second position in the future to support this area.

Annie – Under Operations under "Other Contract Services," there's an almost 10-fold increase? Why is that?

- This is a typo and the ECC will send an updated version afterwards. The ~\$200k of the \$400k is for implementing a new audio-visual technology. There is partial funding for that \$~200k from the Reserves and STF funding. There is going to be a system upgrade in the theaters and improving all general technology at the ECC next year.

Aiden –Do you know why you were cut in FY18, and if you were to experience another similar such cut, how would that affect your future?

- The cut in FY18 was for all of SAF Units due to SAF receiving less funding then expected and resulted in the ECC, alongside other SAF Units, to greatly reduce its FY18 budget. If a large budget cut were to happen again, the ECC would struggle. The rollover process can be manageable and the process to hire someone takes months but also means there's a longer delay in paying

wages and benefits. Overall, the ECC could survive for 1-2 years, but in the long term would have to cut student positions before cutting full-time positions.

2. Q Center

Speakers: Brennon Ham (Director), Val Schweigert (Deputy Director)

The Q-Center is a multicultural center dedicated to celebrating the LGBTQ+ population. It currently employs 3 undergraduates, 3 graduate students, and 3 interns (pilot assisting programs). In FY25, the Q-Center increased its operating budget through grants and awards, which have helped support its operations. Most of the SAF funds are allocated toward employee salaries, such as increasing the hourly rates for graduate and undergraduate positions. For FY26, the Q-Center aims to secure additional funding to support positions and maintain competitive wages. Other funding sources are used for operational costs. A new administrative cost of \$33,000 was added, as the HUB previously provided free services that are no longer available. Part of the FY26 request includes a one-time \$11,000 capital expenditure for the Marsha P. Johnson Memorial Library, representing how SAF funding can be used to enhance resources and support the community.

The Q-Center is proactive in their demographic analysis and gathering feedback from students. Their FY24-FY25 survey reaffirmed lots of students are concerned about improving safety with a major theme emphasizing the need to enhance access to community, care, and social interactions. Other updates from the Q-Center include an increased efficacy of programs with more collaborations with on-campus organizations and even more with outside campus organizations. Over the past year, the Q-Center has doubled in partnerships. The community is expressing a growing demand for more services, and in response, the Q-Center has provided monetary training to ensure everyone is up to date with DEI standards.

Aiden – In the presentation, if you receive less than FY25, you said you would have to explore external funding. What do these external funding sources look like?

- The Q-Center is a nonprofit organization so outside sources would mean applying for grants from foundations or other institutions.

Alec – Are there certain plans the Q Center must expand certain partnerships to decrease funding pressures for programs or are there certain drawbacks to doing those partnerships?

- The Q-Center's goal is to deepen its relationships with its existing partnerships. If they don't receive their full funding request or a smaller amount than last year, the Q-Center plans to work synergistically with partners to make the most of available resources. In the past, the Q-Center offered film viewings, which were costly due to copyright fees. However, last year, they were able to secure free and discounted films at no cost to the center.

Y – The Q-Center mentioned being able to double in partnerships. Which part of your staff is responsible for this type of outreach? Like was it a collaborative effort amongst the entire center or more of the student staff?

- Students may bring partnerships to the Q-Center based on their own experiences and involvements with their RSOs. However, professional staff is responsible for fostering these partnerships and maintaining relationships to ensure a collaborative environment between students and staff.

Annie – How is the Q Center utilized by students and whether all the services they provide/support are being used to their full capacity?

- The utilization of the Q-Center is evolving. At the beginning of the year, the drop-in space was under-utilized but after the elections, more students began using the drop-in space for social interactions and community building. The reduction in engagement earlier in the year can be attributed to a lack of trust in the university, which may have led some students to feel disconnected. One of the Q-Center's ongoing commitments is to continuously engage with students.

Alec – Just a repeat on the \$33,000 number the Q Center stated they will seek from SAF in coming years. What will this be used for? Is it to cover a deficit or something else?

- It's not so much a deficit but more of the free service initially provided by the HUB for free to manage the total number of staff and their pay rates factors in the functional cost for the HUB. This amount represents the support for those costs, which will now be reincorporated into the Q-Center's budget.

2. Student Health

Haley has been working with Husky Health, Counseling Center, and LiveWell with potentially establishing a new student health fee and what that could look like. The new fee is proposed to be between \$30 and \$100 per student which will affect the additional capacity each of the 3 Units can provide:

- Husky Health – expand their program, hire more specialized staff, and decrease wait time between appointments
- Counseling Center – increase more diverse staff, with even more long-term options if the fee would be \$200/
- LiveWell – expand their Peer Health program

Haley wants to hear the Committee's thoughts and won't move forward with it if it's opposed. Ryan also notes that he's been involved in the planning process as a part of GPSS if this is something the Committee wants to move forward with.

Althea – What does \$73/quarter look like for all the possible health fee funded Units?

- Husky Health – offers one visit per quarter
- Counseling Center – offers 6 subsidized visits
- LiveWell – pays for student staffing

The current administration is looking at this from a legislative standpoint. The health fee is agreed to be managed by students if it passes since accountability will be important on how the rate is established and will increase each year. Similar to how the U-PASS fee was established, a student survey will be created and administered by ASUW and GPSS.

If the health fee passes, Haley would ideally want SAF as the group in charge of administering the fee because of SAF's ability to cap the limit increase every year. Without SAF managing the fee, the Units that were benefiting from the Health Fee could increase the fee to their discretion every year without a limit. The challenge will be how much of each of these Units will be funded by SAF versus by the health fee.

Some questions to consider includes:

Aiden – With more units expanded in getting more counseling services, how do we discern on what Units qualifies for this Student Health Fee?

Althea - How do we measure if this fee is successful?

Some notable inputs include:

Khushi – If a fee was initiated, SAF would still partially or fully fund the 3 Units in the beginning before partially funding or slowing not fund them at all.

Alec – There should be a stipend of what the health fee should go over, like that should cover some mainstay services.

Jack – Feels it's safe to keep partially funding. The biggest problem is if the current student population doesn't see a big difference with the addition of the fee.

Y – Keep in mind that many students don't know what they have access to so there should be some sort of stipend or requirement on the Units to better inform the student population of these fees.

Khushi – It'll be important for students to find out who's funding these resources and then know what access they have to these resources.

Ryan – Many graduate and professional students and especially international graduate and professional students have expressed concern over the implications of the fee, given that these students pay very much for health insurance as is, and want to know what the exact coverage of this fee would be before considering support.

3. Committee Bonding?

The Committee brainstormed some activities and ideas for the Committee bonding.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes from the 12/6/24 SAF meeting were approved. Motioned by Aiden Reeder, Seconded by Ryan Wicklund; unanimous approval.

Announcements

Adjournment

The SAF meeting was called to adjourn at 2:46PM. Motion to adjourn by Aiden Reeder, Seconded by Khushi Loomba; unanimous vote to adjourn.