



Services and Activities Fee Committee Meeting

February 20, 2026 | 1:00 PM | Husky Union Building 303

MINUTES

Call to Order

The SAF Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:03 PM on February 20, 2026.

Roll Call

No.	Name	Position	Attendance
1	Haley Chee	SAF Chair	Present
2	Aiden Reeder	SAF Vice Chair	Present
3	Grace Clarke	ASUW Representative	Present
4	Abraham Gibson	ASUW Representative	Excused absence
5	Moises Jacobo	ASUW Representative	Present
6	Tammy Pham	ASUW Representative	Excused absence
7	Riley Talamantes	GPSS VP of Finance	Excused absence
8	Gen Conley	GPSS Representative	Excused absence
9	Kayla Kenyon	GPSS Representative	Present
10	Helena Ochoa Morena	GPSS Representative	Present
11	Alec Solemslie	GPSS Representative	Present
12	Lincoln Johnson	SAF Advisor – Student Life	Present
13	Kristian Wiles	SAF Advisor – Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity	Present

Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the February 20, 2026, SAF Committee Meeting was approved.

Motioned by Grace Clarke, seconded by Aiden Reeder; unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes from the January 30, 2026, SAF Committee Meeting were approved. Motioned by Moises Jacobo, seconded by Aiden Reeder; unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

Public Comment

Nominations & Elections

Old Business

New Business

Discussion

1. Budget Presentations

Counseling Center

- Speakers:
 - **Natacha Foo Kune**, Director
 - **Jamie Welch**, Assistant Director for Training
 - **Marilyn Carruth**, Director Wellness Shared Services

Natacha gave an overview of the Counseling Center budget packet.

SAF Committee Questions To The Counseling Center

Aiden – Have you already cleared the ability to bring on a new staff member with admin?

- **Natacha** said they have hired someone on a temporary basis. They did get permission to hire for that position.

Moises – Do you have a higher demand you can meet or a lower demand you can provide?

- **Natacha** said they have noticed higher demand in the Fall and Winter quarters. It makes sense given the current political climate. They have students who come in with specified concerns and some who don't specify them. They're also seeing more students who are suicidal, psychotic, etc.

Kayla – On the Marketing & Communication position, you're noticing the utilization of your website is going down from 86% to 75%. Where are the other 25% coming from? How else are students finding out about services?

- **Natacha** said that they have social media accounts, Instagram and Facebook. This is data from the client satisfaction survey. Also, word of mouth is still present; students find out from each other, they can also be referred by a staff member, advisor, someone from residential life, or a friend.

Haley – About the Marketing position, are you requesting SAF funding for half of their pay?

- **Natacha** said that they will hire the person at 50%.
- **Haley** – If SAF did not grant the entire requested amount, would you still try to have a marketing position, through part-time, or as a graduate staff member?
- follows up
- **Natacha** said that right now they have some money to hire a temporary person. They would have to see if they like the person in order to continue. The difficulty in working with a graduate student is that they would graduate, and the Counseling Center would have to hire and train a new person every year.
- **Jamie** added that students have student responsibility. Sometimes, they can have tight deadlines, and the Counseling Center wants them to prioritize their health and well-being. That said, having someone dedicated to this position will help with, not to mention they can also assist with workshops and improve the general well-being of the campus.

Aiden – Is there any possibility of utilizing students from the psychology program to act as aids, intermediaries to connect the gap between licensed therapists and students?

- **Natacha** agreed. She shared that LiveWell does this with their student coaches. Have a collab called the Body Project. They have collaborated with them on the Body Project, which was facilitated by students. It has led to increased satisfaction with one's body and decreased eating disorder symptoms.

Alec – How would services to students be impacted by reduced counselor hours if the marketing position were not funded?

- **Natacha** answered that staff would be seeing fewer students per week. One less per week, over the course of a year, would be 45 - 50 students who would not get to experience the service.

Alec – How do you foresee the impacts of Medicare and GOF funding decreases being represented in your services?

- **Natacha** said that with Medicaid, they don't know. When they're anticipating students losing coverage, students will have to determine if they will pay for insurance or go without. She is worried that more students would be left with no insurance because they can't afford it. For students who do qualify, there are specific rules regarding their full-time or part-time. Right now, 1/3 of the students they serve are on Medicaid, and that number is likely to increase. To combat this, they are collaborating with students in the School of Public Health who are working to inform students about the upcoming changes in Medicaid. She said they are also worried about the state budget and what the University will decide.

Helena – Based on the budget package you mentioned: "We will continue serving all students regardless of insurance status, but it is likely that the insurance revenue from

Medicaid will decrease.” How are you going to serve all students if the SAF budget you requested is not met?

- **Natacha** explained that they have 2 types of services, one that they can bill insurance and one that they cannot (e.g., Let’s Talk in ECC, Q Center, MGH, CIRCLE, and Workshops). If there were a deductible to SAF allocations, they would have to direct counselors’ time from non-billable services to billable services so that they would be able to pay their staff. She noted that she would not like to do that because preventative services are important.

Kayla – Curious about insights that the Student Advisory Board brought up?

- **Natacha** said neurodegenerative students need, which they’re adding more information about to their website. Those services are not well known, so making students know about them is crucial.
- **Jaime** explained the importance of Tabletop.
- **Natacha** added that the job-search pressure also adds to students’ mental health. There is a service that STF pays for that teaches international students about H-1B visas. To add on, issues around loneliness, the political climate is also affecting students.
- **Jamie** shared that the marketing position came from the Advisory Board from last year. They learned that they’re not making the advertising materials digestible to the student body, and they learned that they need someone with that specific expertise.

Alec – Can you all provide an update on the pay gap between counselors at the counseling center and private practices?

- **Natacha** said that right now they don’t have the capacity to raise salaries, which is the same as last year. They did not request because they didn’t think it would go anywhere. Their counselors are doing this work because they love working with students, but that will only take them so far. Once people have families, they have to deal with more expenses, Counseling Center has to figure something else out.
- **Jamie** added that the majority of counselors have a private practice in addition to their job, which is stressful to many of them.

Kayla – What is the current wait time for counselling services?

- **Natacha** answered that they allow students to schedule 2 weeks out. Beyond that, they have a high rate of no-show. They also offer students the option to be added to the cancellation list. The bottom line is that it is harder to get an appointment.
- **Kayla** – How are you balancing the marketing with the capacity? Do you have the capacity to meet the demand with the marketing bringing in?
- **Natacha** said that the new position is not going to be doing only marketing, but also mental health prevention. She hopes that they would counterbalance each other.
- **Jamie** added that they would also be able to increase attendance at their workshops.

Haley – Has there been talk about shifting resources from workshop (non-billable service) to individual counseling?

- **Natacha** answered that they had to cut a workshop series this Winter quarter. It is something that they are already doing.

Campus Sustainability Fund (CSF)

- Speakers:
 - **Danny Arguetty**, Program Director
 - **Maddy Laoprasert**, Associate Program Director
 - **Sofia Berkowitz**, Co-Chair of CSF Student Committee

Maddy and **Danny** presented slides about the CSF budget packet.

SAF Committee Questions To CSF

Kayla – Wanted clarification on the \$35,000 on the presentation vs. \$38,000 on the budget request.

- **Maddy** apologized and clarified that it is \$38,000.

Aiden – Do you foresee a move of your office in the future years?

- **Maddy** said no because they're in Condon Hall, the space with Earth Lab, Project Indoor Farm, and other sustainability-centered projects and groups.
- **Danny** shared that they have had a conversation about having a place in the HUB.

Alec – What is the impact if the \$21,000 is not awarded to the unit?

- **Maddy** answered that it would impact grant funding. If 4 mini-grants ask for almost full funding, they would not get it.
- **Danny** added that they would have a lot less money to work with, and they would have less impact on the projects they're funding.

Moises – Due to the loss of a couple of funding sources in the past, have you looked at other areas to find funding, maybe outside of the University?

- **Danny** said that they talked to Advancement. Also, because their efforts are behind the larger University, it would be harder to raise money. They are thinking about reaching out to other organizations.
- **Maddy** echoed that it is hard to find outside funding options.
- **Sofia** shared that they are back in contact with STF to get part of a STF Bloc Grant back. As a committee, they are trying to find corporate funding. However, it is hard with sustainability being their core value. There are not a lot of corporations with money to give that are in line with their value, and they also don't want to compromise it.

Kayla – What's the average amount that goes toward each of the student grants?

- **Maddy** said that they have different grant cycles. Large grants (over \$5,000) and mini grants (\$5,000 or under). For mini grants, a lot of projects ask for the full amount.
- **Sofia** added that large grants are across the board. There is not a cap on it. On average, \$15,000, but it can vary.
- **Danny** shared that the amount for these large grants from this cycle varies from \$5,000 to \$20,000.
- **Maddy** noted that this number comes after months of working with the team to make sure each dollar counts as much as possible.
- **Danny** said that the majority of them got a 10% reduction from their final ask.

Aiden – What is the difference in students you choose not to reward? Is it because of insufficient funding on your part or an incomplete ask on their part?

- **Sofia** said that they have strong funding restrictions. There are no projects that they haven't been able to give a little bit of funding to or to find other funding sources. They either work with the students to work down the budget, help them find other sources of funding, and/or because the projects do not align with the criteria (25%).
- **Aiden** – What tools or resources do you utilize to work with them on their budget?
- **Maddy** answered that they have a student position, a Grant Project Coordinator that work with that.
- **Sofia** said that the Committee gives a lot of suggestions when they meet. They hope to get a larger workshop to help students improve their grant writing and budget-making skills, so they don't have to meet too often.
- **Danny** said that for funding reductions, they offer the students the opportunity to come back with a different budget.

Grace – Elaborate more on the grant writing workshops you want to start hosting?

- **Sofia** said that they are thinking of hosting a workshop. They are also working on refining the wording on the website and the budget template to make it easily understandable.

Aiden – Why was the STF Bloc Funding lost for this cycle?

- **Sofia** explained that STF was worried about students getting double funding through the STF Bloc Grant to CSF and through STF directly. She noted that this has never happened. Additionally, the definition of sustainability has expanded beyond the environment that STF is comfortable funding.
- **Maddy** added that their Bloc Funding from STF in the past was \$200,000 a year. Now, STF encourages them to ask for \$25,000. Even if they were to get it in the future, it would be a lot less.
- **Danny** added that they haven't seen many projects asking for tech items.
- **Aiden** – What are the applicants of these grants doing to receive funding from CSF rather than just going to STF?

- **Sofia** answered that they can help fund more than at STF. They can pay for students' time, which STF cannot. They also give them a lot of support, help them refine their budget, and offer coordination efforts.
- **Maddy** added that after a project is funded, the project teams can still receive support from CSF.

2. MEDEX

Haley said that the STF Committee has not talked to MEDEX at all. Nick has not introduced it to the STF Committee. Additionally, Ryan from GPSS has not responded to her email.

3. Student Health Fee

Results:

- Graduate students – resounding No
- Undergraduate students – resounding Yes

The Committee discussed the results of the Student Health Fee survey.

Lincoln said this data has been shared with GPSS. Next, both sides need to talk together and decide. He encourages everyone to talk to their colleagues, especially Board leadership, to decide on how this will move forward. He added that if only one organization supported this, it would probably not move forward.

Aiden wanted to know the sentiment from the ASUW Board of Directors.

- **Grace** said that ASUW has been dealing with many things, such as the SAF budget, the Know Your Rights workshop, etc. They have also had someone come in and present the survey results. That said, she will make sure to bring this issue to the Board
- **Lincoln** said that the Board's impression of the data was not negative. He doesn't know if they'd move forward with the resolution.
- **Grace** said she will learn more from the Director of Campus Partnerships. She will encourage the conversation from the Board.

Kristian said he thinks it's important for there to be a discussion from both ASUW and GPSS. The impression from the document is that there is support, but not sure what it's supported by. We also don't know what a Maybe is.

- **Haley** added that Maybe is being viewed as an Abstention
- **Kayla** said that she would like to see the reasoning behind the Maybe vote.
- **Haley** added she would like to see the statistical analysis.
- **Kayla** seconded this.
- **Kristian** and **Lincoln** agreed and said that Haley should reach out to Josh (who made the data).

Announcements

Adjournment

The SAF Committee Meeting was called to adjourn at 2:24 PM.

Motioned to adjourn by Aiden Reeder, seconded by Kayla Kenyon; unanimous vote to adjourn.