



Services and Activities Fee Committee Meeting

February 27, 2026 | 1:00 PM | Husky Union Building 303

MINUTES

Call to Order

The SAF Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM on February 27, 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	Excused absence
4	Abraham Gibson	ASUW Representative	Present
5	Moises Jacobo	ASUW Representative	Present
6	Tammy Pham	ASUW Representative	Present
7	Riley Talamantes	GPSS VP of Finance	Present
8	Gen Conley	GPSS Representative	Present
9	Kayla Kenyon	GPSS Representative	Excused absence
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	Excused absence

Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the February 27, 2026, SAF Committee Meeting was approved.

Motioned by Tammy Pham, seconded by Riley Talamantes; unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Public Comment

Nominations & Elections

Old Business

New Business

Discussion

1. Budget Presentation

UW Recreation

- Speakers:
 - **Shelbi Long**, Director
 - **Gregory Reinhardt**, Associate Director for Programs
 - **Marilyn Carruth**, Wellness Shared Services Director

Shelbi gave a summary of UW Recreation.

SAF Committee Questions To Recreation

Tammy – What do you mean by “deferred capital maintenance”?

- **Shelbi** explained that there are things (e.g., redoing the wood floor, lighting projects) that they don’t have a budget for in their operations budget, and they are looking for a funding source to support that.

Moises – You mentioned you need to rely on facilities to generate revenue from non-student memberships and facility rental. Have you started to see that impact? If so, how far in the future?

- **Shelbi** answered 8 months. She’s getting more feedback from meetings with staff members. There are things that they’re not able to do, which can impact people’s experience in the facility.
- **Gregory** added that when people cancel their memberships, they fill out a survey that lets Recreation know what to improve on. Some of the things that were mentioned are on the deferred maintenance list.

Aiden – Is your IMA membership fee constrained to any percentage cap increase or is it just according to what members are willing to pay, and have you found a sweet spot for the latter?

- **Shelbi** said no.
- **Aiden** – Have you observed a sweet spot for what you’re able to do to keep up with the increase in cost while ensuring people don’t drop their membership?

- **Gregory** said that they tried to do this with a rec class Pass. They identify what they pay out in student wages to staff the amenities and increase the pass by that amount. He said that it does seem that they have reached a sweet spot, which is why they're requesting 4% this year, less than in previous years.
- **Marilyn** added that it feels like they're trying to catch up from COVID. They didn't have a lot of justification for the increased prices (10% increase). Although people understand that the cost will go up every year, Recreation will start to spread that increase out more. That is also why they project a 2% increase this upcoming year.

Tammy – What percentage of students fill out the survey relative to those who are asked to fill it out?

- **Gregory** said that 6,000 people filled in the most recent survey. 1,200 of them were students. Because the survey is anonymous, they don't have ways to identify the students. The survey focuses on which machines are used by the recipient.

Gen – I know you all prioritize inclusivity and a safe space. I would like to know more about how you are trying to implement more accessibility to the IMA, especially around the extra cost of classes and feeling welcome in the space, or using the facilities.

- **Shelbi** said that she has met with the ADA person on campus. She is looking at initiatives to make sure their equipment is accessible to all members. She said they also have different programs for the marginalized community. Additionally, the Recreation fund allows students to get financial assistance so that the cost is not a barrier.

Helena – For graduate students paying the same fee, how are you marketing Recreation to everyone?

- **Shelbi** agreed with Helena. Currently, they have one person doing marketing, but that person also has other responsibilities. She agreed that they need to expand their presence on social media, even with limited staffing.
- **Marilyn** adds that they would welcome any suggestions, especially ones that would help with graduate students.
- **Gregory** said that a lot of the student population who is underrepresented at the university is overrepresented in their data. Although they are not reaching everyone perfectly, they do have a database to compare. He also shared that they have partnerships with the ECC to table at their Autumn fair, RSOs, and trips with CIRCLE.

Aiden – Do you have or have you considered focus groups for students that have minimal experience or knowledge regarding working out or recreational activity?

- **Shelbi** agreed. She shared that they do have a personal training program. She talked about how they can have personal trainers to highlight different machines to new users at workshops and small group discussions to improve people's experience at Recreation.

- **Aiden** added that perhaps not the focus of instructions, but more like having people on the same level, small groups of four to five people working on the same thing.

Tammy – Have you considered expanding on the archery Friday night shoot’s strategy to ensure students are prepared to participate safely?

Tammy – How to get students to get more knowledge of Recreation?

- **Shelbi** said that having a personal trainer can help.
- **Gregory** added that rec clubs can be a great resource. They are student-led, which can make it easier for students to find community.
- **Shelbi** said that she is cautious about having the clubs take over spaces because it can prevent other students from being there.
- **Tammy** commented that she liked the idea of having a personal trainer whom students can ask questions to. She also recommended having open workshops, in which a personal trainer can show people how to use different equipment.

wəʔəbʔaltx^w – Intellectual House

- Speakers:
 - **Chenoa Henry**, Director
 - **Delia Gomez**, Assistant Director
 - **Michael Yates**, Administrative Supervisor

SAF Committee Questions To Intellectual House

Aiden – Do you have an ASUW Senator on your Student Advisory Board? If not, would you be interested in having one?

- **Delia** said no, but added that it would be impactful.
- **Chenoa** added that they are interested in the idea.

Riley – Can you describe student-paid positions? How many student-paid staff do you have?

- **Delia** answered that they have student assistants who manage day-to-day operations (front desk, tour groups). Each of them is responsible for hosting a SAF event throughout the year. Student Leads serve as liaisons between students, clients, and staff.
- **Michael** said they have 15 student staff in total, and one of them is paid under Intellectual House’s Revenue.

Aiden – Have you noticed that increasing the number of Student Assistants allows them to be less stressed or not as overworked?

- **Chenoa** agreed. In the past, students had to step back / step away from the role during the year. They reduced the hours so students can be more flexible. This is feedback that the student workers are bringing to them.
- **Delia** seconded Chenoa.
- **Michael** said that having more of them allows the schedule to be better scheduled.

Tammy – Has the Intellectual House had to recently adapt to developments in the political climate?

- **Chenoa** said that it is not directly related to the political climate. However, they have talked about safety as a whole. It has never come up as a problem, but they wanted to make sure the student employee knows what to do if non-UWPD shows up at their space. They have done emergency training, as well.

Gen – Could you share more about the current peer mentorship program and what that program might look like in the next few years?

- **Chenoa** said that they learned students want more mentorship opportunities, and graduate students are being left behind in some respects. They developed their mentorship program in response to that. Next, they are working to have the mentees be in the same space as the mentors. As of right now, they have more mentors than mentees. At the end of the year, they will be doing a survey to learn how the mentor program can be improved so that it better suits students' schedules and preferences.

Alec – You have said that if you don't receive the full request, you would rent out the facility more. How many hours do students currently have access to the facility? How many hours do they not have access right now on average, with 3 events per week, and how would that look like with 4 of them per week?

- **Michael** answered that students have access to the space. The conference room is available as a study space for 20 people. The larger spaces, like the gathering hall and the kitchen, are rentable. Generally, that is about 6 to 8 hours for one event. Furthermore, this means that they would be hosting fewer demands that meet their mission, which is to create a community space for Alaskan and native American students on campus.

Tammy – How do you approach events for non-native students?

- **Delia** answered that while a lot of their events have a cultural focus, they are not just for native people. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Aiden – Is your assistant director position fully covered (with the current requested increase) by SAF, or is it supplemented by other revenue?

- **Chenoa** said that at this time, they are supplementing it with their revenue.

Alec – Looking at 2 and 3 years into the future, facing construction and Phase 2, curious about SAF role if the financial restriction continues.

- **Chenoa** said that the first role is to increase the number of student employees and professional staff. They will be transparent with SAF if more information comes up later on.

Tammy – Is the Intellectual House considering increasing the rental price for facilities?

- **Michael** answered that they are considering bringing the rental rate up in October, although they have not fully finalized the number. They have discussed that in order to keep up with the cost increase around campus. They are looking at the South Ballroom in the HUB for reference due to its similar size. Compared to HUB, they don't ask for extra cost to pay for the salary of the student assistant, the tech person at the event. The student does their job by being there.

GPSS

- Speakers:
 - **Ryan Wicklund**, GPSS President
 - **Riley Talamantes**, GPSS Vice President of Finance

Riley gave a brief introduction to the GPSS mission and budget packet.

SAF Committee Questions To GPSS

Tammy – Do Senate meetings not fall under the free 2 hours for meetings each week?

- **Riley** said that it is due to the size of the room and setup of the room. The HUB charges \$1.00 per chair and for a tech per room. Last year, they had 9 meetings, and they have 15 meetings now. Among the graduate students, there is a concern about hosting in the HUB because of how expensive it is.

Aiden - What was the position added in 2022, and what was the reasoning at the time to add it despite advice otherwise?

- **Riley** said that the new position was VP of Equity and Inclusion. It seemed that it was needed at the time. She can't speak to why the administration decided to add the position.
- **Ryan** said that at the time, people thought they would be able to diversify the funding and get the money to cover it.
- **Riley** added that she will be dealing with hiring in the summer to absorb the removal of the VP of Internal Affairs. She also said that removing that position would save \$100,000 in yearly costs.

Tammy – Do current GPSS staff feel as if they consistently need to work over their allocated hours? With the removal of the VP of Internal Affairs, do you see this balancing of hours being impacted at all for any of the roles?

- **Riley** said that she is confident everyone can still balance it. GPSS is also looking to host fewer events but bigger events each quarter, which the current staff can sustain.

Aiden – Is there a concern that the focus of the VP of Equity and Inclusion may be diluted with the position merging, and eventually revert back to the primary duties of the VP of Internal Affairs?

- **Riley** shared that it was one of the concerns. However, they do have 5 members in the GPSS office. They will have 2 members dedicated to doing all the events.

Alec – What happens when you do not receive the Provost and/or STF funding?

- **Riley** said that they will do an assessment of their programming to make sure they're spending responsibly. They would also be looking at the need to attend conferences, Washington Grad Day on the Hill (D.C.) and the Washington State Student Association General Conference. Their last resort would be to consider eliminating another staff position, although that would need to be discussed with the whole team. Additionally, they also have an Endowment Distribution (potential \$5000 / year) that they can use to supplement their budget.

Gen – What kind of engagement have you all seen with the travel fund?

- **Riley** shared that the travel grants have a 40% acceptance rate (\$400 domestic and \$500 international). Over 100 students applied for travel grants, and 40 – 50 students were accepted as of this Spring quarter. They prioritize students in their last year of graduate school who haven't been to a conference before.
- **Ryan** added that they spent every penny of the grant. In terms of programming, they have social events (e.g., Puppy Love and Winter Ball) and opportunity events (e.g., Husky on The Hill and Interdisciplinary Research Symposium).

Alec – Does GPSS have a strategic plan to diversify and grow a now balanced budget, given that the unit has a lot of turnover in leadership?

- **Riley** said that it is a project that their GPSS Finance & Budget Committee would do. They're thinking of implementing a legislative fee (\$1 - \$5), opt-in/opt-out option, before a student pays their tuition. This was successful at UW Tacoma, so they're working on a plan with the ASUWT President to move forward with that here at ASUW Seattle. They're also working more with ASUW about Huskies on the Hill and the Legislative Reception, looking at funding the events.

Aiden – GPSS chose not to attend that US Student Association Conference. Do you feel that you missed out on anything? Are you re-focusing on Washington conferences?

- **Ryan** shared that with his peer, he realized that the association was headed in a different direction. It seems less like a federal lobbying arm and more about advocacy. It was not the most advantageous place to be.
- **Riley** thought that the fund would be better used at Husky on The Hill and at Washington conferences.
- **Aiden** – Do you think it was worth it?
- **Riley** said that don't know if she can speak to that. However, she does agree with the VP of External's judgement that it was worth it.
- **Ryan** vouched for the VP of External's work and opinion.

Tammy – How confident are you that if I were to go up and ask a graduate or professional student if they knew what GPSS was, they would be able to provide an informed answer?

- **Riley** said yes. They went to 50 student orientations. She thought that they got a lot of participation in the Student Senate, Committees, and Student Liaisons.
- **Ryan** added that he also sent all emails to graduate students.
- **Riley** remarked that they have a full Senate this year.
- **Ryan** shared that he got recognized in public for this email.

Lincoln shared that the GPSS 50th Anniversary is this year and said that they would celebrate it.

Announcements

- **Tammy** shared about an event:
 - Panel with Assistance Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion from the College of Arts and Sciences
 - Port Commissioner of the Port of Seattle will be doing a panel on Leadership
 - Date: March 5, 2026
 - Time: 3:30 – 5:00 pm
 - Location: Women’s Center
- **Haley** shared that the Committee might be taking a group picture on March 13.
- **Haley** also shared that next week’s meeting will include the last budget presentations from ASUW, LiveWell, and Hall Health.

Adjournment

The SAF Committee Meeting was called to adjourn at 2:38 PM.

Motioned to adjourn by Aiden Reeder, seconded by Tammy Pham; unanimous vote to adjourn.