

FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

February 3, 2005

Members Present:

Jason Spencer, Co-Chair
Annette Powell
Chris Fadeff
Jessica Jones
Nadir Vissanjy
Melanie Dreisbach
Gregory Roberts
Cheryl Moore

Associated Students President
Associated Students Senator of Bus. & Econ.
Associated Students Vice-President of Finance
Associated Students Representative At-Large
Student Union Representative
Chair of Academic Senate
Senate Student Affairs Comm. Representative
Staff Representative

Staff Present:

Katie Pierce, Co-Chair

Committee Staff, AVP for Academic Resources

Staff Absent:

Larry Furukawa-Schlereth

Committee Staff, VP for Administration & Finance

Guests:

Brad Mumaw

Associated Students Executive Vice President

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

Electronically Prior to the Meeting:

Minutes of December 9, 2004

Agenda

At the Meeting:

Agenda (hard copy)

Memorandum 12/15/2004 – Extended Education Fee Authorization & Approval

Timeline for AY 2004-05 IRA Funding Cycle Activities

E-mail Stafford to Pierce – IRA Funds for OCBL Civic Engagement Project

IRA funding recommendations for 2004-2005 as revised 10/04

MEETING AGENDA

- I. Approval of 12/9/04 Minutes
- II. Report from Group A
- III. Review of Extended Education Fees for Intersession & Spring 2005
- IV. IRA Program – Review plans for Spring 2005
- V. Reports
- VI. Adjourn

Katie Pierce, Co-Chair, convened the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

I. **Approve minutes of December 9, 2004**

By consensus minutes of December 9 2004 were approved as presented.

II. **Report From Group A Regarding Associated Students Fee Increase Proposal**

Nadir Vissanjy took the lead for Group A and he reported on activities since the December 9 FAC meeting. He distributed notes from Group A's January 14, 2005 meeting (included in these minutes by reference). The notes explained that Larry Schlereth, Vice President for Administration and Finance, would review systemwide figures to ascertain whether a mandatory fee increase could be implemented under the terms of Executive Order (E.O.) 740. The E.O. requires that mandatory fees for each campus not exceed one-third of the system-wide cost of education. Vissanjy explained that, subsequent to the January 14th meeting, Schlereth had completed the analysis and discovered that even without an increase SSU's mandatory fees would exceed the allowable one-third. This change is a result of the Trustees' decision to increase the State University Fee. Thus, implementation of the proposed fee increase would move SSU further out of compliance. He reported that Schlereth is in communication with Chancellor's Office (C.O.) representatives to confirm the figures he used and to seek their advice on a possible solution. Group A has not had a second meeting, or developed a recommendation to the President, pending news from Schlereth. Chris Fadeff suggested that these circumstances make a good case for requesting the C.O. revise the "one-third rule". Jason Spencer echoed Fadeff's view and called the "one-third rule" obsolete in view of the Trustees' stated intention to increase State University Fees to equal one-third of the cost of education. Fadeff told the committee that February 17 is the date materials would be due to the STAR in the event it becomes possible to take the proposal to referendum. In order to preserve the possibility of meeting the tight deadline in the event that a referendum is recommended (by Group A) and approved (by the University President), Group B decided to meet soon and lay the groundwork for quick action. Group B members are Melanie Dreisbach, Jessica Jones and Katie Pierce.

Action Planned:

Vissanjy will stay in close touch with Schlereth and Pierce to learn the outcome of discussions with C.O. Group B will set a meeting time within the next several days.

III. **Review of Extended Education Fees for Intersession and Spring 2005**

Pierce drew attention to pages 1-5 of the agenda packet containing information about Extended Education fees. The Committee noted that the base rates for Summer Session, Special Session and Open University Science Lab and Nursing Courses had increased \$5 per WTU. The listing of individual courses and fees raised members' curiosity about materials fees as a portion of total course fee. Also members wondered how much individual course fees may have increased as a result of both per-unit fees and materials fees.

Action Planned:

Pierce will schedule a representative from Extended Administration to attend the next FAC meeting to provide additional information and respond to questions.

IV. **IRA Program – Review Plans for Spring 2005**

a) The Committee reviewed the timeline for IRA activities and found things to be on schedule for the 2004-2005 funding proposal cycle. Responding to Melanie Driesbach's inquiry, members who participated in the hearings last year described the process. The weekend of April 16-17 was confirmed for the application hearings. It was agreed to keep the schedule to the two days, which should be possible since six programs will not need to apply this year (having been funded for 2005-2006 in last year's process). Progress reports will be requested from those programs. The Committee considered Pierce's suggestion that the four permanent programs not be required to present at the budget hearings. Members agreed with that idea, provided that the

programs did not choose to request an allocation greater than they would receive under the percentage formula.

- b) Pierce led the group in a review of last year's application form and invited suggestions for revision. Spencer suggested adding a phrase asking programs to report on their program effectiveness and assessment of program outcomes. That language echoes what was used in applications for eligibility and supports University-wide efforts to address those issues in all academic programs. His suggestion was endorsed by the Committee. Regarding the budget forms, Fadeff remembered from last year that sometimes it was difficult to tell exactly what expenses or specific items IRA funds would be used to support. Others commented that IRA provided general support for programs rather than funding for specific items. The budget detail is for the Committee to get an understanding of program expenses and assess whether they seem reasonable. The Committee debated possible changes to the budget format and decided to leave it as-is with the addition of a category "Other" in the Fund Uses area.
- c) Amra Stafford's request to carry-forward funding for the pilot project on Civic Engagement was approved. Pierce will let her know.

V. Reports

Regarding the Zaum/Volt activities, Pierce reported that she has communicated with the Dean of Arts and Humanities and confirmed his commitment to apply for annual funding. She had intended the Dean's assurance to address the concerns the Committee expressed early in the year regarding the terms of Dr. Connelly's gifting the programs to the University. The terms of the gift called for the ownership of the VOLT publication to revert to her if the University failed, through lack of funding, to continue publication in the future. Fadeff reminded the Committee that concern centered on that stipulation of the gift. He did not feel that the Dean's stated intention to apply for annual funding addressed the Committee's concern. Pierce will seek a more satisfactory assurance that the ownership will not slip away from the University.

Regarding IRA funding for Club Sports, Pierce reported that she has polled four other CSUs and found that none of them fund Club Sports through the IRA program. The Committee agreed that she should continue to research practices on other campuses, and schedule the issue for discussion as soon as possible. There are Club Sports teams at SSU that would like to know if IRA funding might be a possibility for them.

The subject of the Video Production Equipment project came up informally. Spencer said he'd heard that IRA program groups were experiencing difficulty scheduling use of the equipment. It was acknowledged that the VPE program is new, both to the user groups and to IT, who is administering the program. It is hoped that the processes will smooth out soon. Pierce offered to look into the matter and report at the next meeting. Others are welcome to learn what they can as well since there are several points of view regarding this program.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:05

Respectfully Submitted,
Katie Pierce