

Services and Activities Fee Committee Meeting

Jan. 29, 2025

PUB 207J

1. Call to order: 4:05 PM

2. Roll Call:

- a. Wade Romine, Chair
- b. Logan Hamilton, Student-At-Large
- c. Kayla Miller, Student-At-Large
- d. Bethany Morgan, Student-At-Large
- e. Cameron Grout, Student-At-Large
- f. Leigha Wilson, Student-At-Large
- g. Paul Weed, Academic Affairs **[ABSENT]**
- h. Carolyn Jameson, Business and Auxillary **[ABSENT]**
- i. Frank Villareal, Student Life & Student Affairs
- j. Brock Sieb, Student Affairs **[ABSENT]**
- k. Ashton McKean, ASEWU President, **Ex-officio [ABSENT]**
- l. Lea Jarnagin, Vice President for Student Affairs, **Ex-officio [ABSENT]**
- m. Nick Whitesell, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Student Affairs, **Ex-officio**
- n. Judy Miller, Student Accounting, **Ex-officio**

3. Approval of meeting minutes for the meeting held on 1/15/25

- a. Leigha moves to approve the meeting minutes from Jan. 15, 2025. Cameron seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

4. Meeting Schedule

- a. Training Finale (Nick Whitesell)
 - Nick goes over what impacts Eastern's Budget Planning as a whole. S&A is a small part of the money the university gets.
 - S&A fees are included as part of the comprehensive tuition rate for students.
 - S&A fees encompass support to departments, clubs, and organizations, as well as PUB and URC fees. These are not included in the S&A fees: Health and wellness fees, New Student Enrollment Fees, Housing & Dining Fees, and Transportation fees.
 - S&A fee revenue is 100% dependent on student enrollment. Eastern has experienced a significant shift in enrollment patterns over the previous 10 years. There was a 37% decrease in enrollment from Fall 2015 to Fall 2024.
 - The S&A committee should review and understand S&A Funding committee guidelines, spend time reviewing each funding request before the meeting, know where the potential conflicts of interest are and make appropriate notifications, and engage actively in discussion about funding proposals during committee meetings.
- b. Fee Discussion (Nick Whitesell)
 - In the last 6 fiscal years, the S&A funding has decreased from 5.387 million in FY20 to 3.7 million in FY25.

- Buildings (PUB & URC) are paid for using education bonds. Bond payments are determined based on how long of a repayment period, coupled with interest rates; all taking into consideration enrollment projections.
 - Historically, the PUB and URC fees have not experienced annual raises consistently. When bonds were issued, enrollment was high, so there was no need to raise fees.
 - The necessary fee revenue for the PUB is approximately 2.5 million dollars annually. FY25 revenue from the PUB is estimated at 1.8 million to 2.0 million. The necessary fee revenue for the URC is approximately 2 million annually, FY25 fee revenue from the URC is estimated at 1.55 to 1.65.
 - The governing board law RCW 28B.15.069 (2), says we may increase a fee annually, but not increasing more than 4%.
 - If we only increase by 4% for PUB 2037 from projected numbers. URC 2038 @ 4% increase for the URC.
 - HB1486 was proposed that instead of a 4% maximum to 6%, and is working its way through the legislature.
 - For FY26, we should expect steady undergraduate enrollment figures. We don't know the outcome of HB1486, and we are momentarily struggling to offer departments, clubs, and organizations everything they request. We are also struggling to keep up with bond payments for the PUB and URC, as the intended process is either not possible or will soon be impossible. Providing ongoing repairs and renovations in the PUB and URC is becoming more challenging with the current structure.
 - Fee Projections FY26 - 4% 5.661 million, or at 6% at 5.732 million with a 71,000 dollar difference. FY35 fee projections: 8.056 million dollars at a 4% increase, 9.684 million at a 6% increase, with a difference of 1.628 million.
 - The funding priorities are pre-existing contractual obligations, debts, debt service, legal obligations, contracted agreements, stability for programs affecting students, maintaining current staff, providing opportunities for student employment, and continuing to enhance and provide services and support for students.
 - A 4% increase for the PUB fee, would increase each student's fee by 10 dollars. Right now, that would mean students would pay around a total of \$260. The URC fee would change by 8 dollars at a 4% increase.
- c. S&A Allocation Goal Setting**
- Wade introduces the idea of thinking about what are our priorities as a group, as well as personally.
 - Frank states that there are clubs that are requesting money for student employment including work-study, and Nick includes that student employment may be grouped into other groups, so it may be not visible.
 - Wade asks us to think about what we want to prioritize personally and bring back those answers next meeting.
- d. Initial Request Review (Student Accounting)**

- Nick says that in the guidelines, conflict of interests must be disclosed before discussions or actions. Community members who work for or under a club or organization must abstain from voting. Leigha Wilson works in Student Accounting, so she will abstain from voting on Student Accounting when that time comes.
- Judy recommends looking thoroughly at both the narrative and the budget.
- Wade clarifies that the shared spreadsheet that we are to edit is under requests, Judy brings up the differences from last, and Wade clarifies that he will share those with everyone to provide editing capabilities.
- Wade goes over what the expectations of reviewing a request should be both in the meetings and before.

5. *Proposal Discussion*

a. Student Accounting

- Due to time conflicts, a proposal discussion of Student Accounting and two other departments will be held at the next meeting.

6. *Adjournment:*

- a.** Logan moves to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 PM. Leigha seconds. The motion passes unanimously. The meeting is adjourned.