

## DRAC Meeting 2/14/2024

### Attendees:

Allissa Flood, Amy Lazzell, Anne Melo, Christa Schulz, Cynthia Horne, Darren McCroom, Erin Casey, Erin Emry, Evan Wren, Gwen Pederson, Jeanne Gaffney Malachi Phillips, Megan Ellis, Megan McGinnis, Nicole Larson, Rax Organa, Rebecca McLean, Sebastian Mayotte, Tim Fitzpatrick, Travis Cram, Vanessa Blackburn

1. DRAC Chair Vanessa Blackburn called the meeting to order.
2. February 7, 2024 Minutes  
Minutes were approved with one abstention after addition of ADEI discussion item. Chris Carthum moved, second by Tim Fitzgerald.
3. Presentation: WWU Music
  - a. Student Representative Chris Carthum presented for WWU Music.
  - b. The Dept of Music supports ongoing musical experiences as part of a comprehensive Liberal Arts education. Approximately 450 students are enrolled in music ensembles, 63% of whom are non-Music majors. Students also provide service to campus and community during special events, sports events, commencement ceremonies and community outreach and collaborations.
  - c. In support of Western's ADEI values there is an intentional selection of underrepresented composers and performers. Programming offered to students exhibits elements of cultural representation that supports those under-represented in media and the public such as BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ communities.
  - d. DRAC funding for the Music Department supports student employment, public music performances and other music events, music purchases, performance licensing, software licensing, and livestream recording. DRAC funds make it possible for all students, whether music major or non-major, to access department resources and allows the department to reach out to audiences from Western's community and the larger Bellingham community.
  - e. Discussion and questions:
    1. Recommendation to include a pie chart or other representation of academic areas (non-music majors) to showcase university-wide reach.
4. Presentation: WWU Racing
  - a. Student Representatives Evan Wren, Business Director, and Megan Ellis, Project Manager presented for WWU Racing.
  - b. WWU Racing is a collegiate engineering and design club with a focus on developing industry ready engineering and business professionals. The club designs, builds and tests a formula style race car each year from scratch. Recent years have seen a commitment to develop fully electric vehicles which are more expensive to develop and require additional attention to mitigate safety concerns.
  - c. Every year over 20 members, representing one-third to one-half of club membership, attend an international collegiate Formula SAE competition in Michigan designed to challenge students technical knowledge and business acumen. Costs are paid by WWU Racing so there is no financial barrier for students to attend.
  - d. WWU Racing is not fully funded by DRAC but uses DRAC funds to accelerate the team's engineering resources and safety equipment. DRAC monies are spent on supplies such as

- motor controller, tube bender, suspension setup pads, high-voltage safety equipment, fire resistant clothing, data analysis laptops and suspension shocks.
- e. WWU Racing has built a large network of companies who employ alumni and support the club in various ways (donations, safety training, machining support, e.g.)
  - f. WWU Racing is open to all students, no experience is required. Club members include undergraduates at all levels and many non-engineering majors. Professional development includes technical workshops, code of conduct documentation and advising from an ADEI advisor outside the Engineering & Design department.
  - g. Discussion and questions:
    1. What support do industry partners provide? Provide some financial support and donate parts, it costs close to \$100,000 to build the car and DRAC funding does not provide full support. Substantial time and effort put into fundraising.
    2. Recommendation to provide pie chart of total budget and what percentage is covered by student fee money.
    3. Add a slide of the company network and highlight the benefit for student club members.
5. S&A Committee Update & Budget Preparation Discussion
- a. Vanessa shared that she and Tim met with other S&A Committee member organizations.
  - b. The S&A Fee Committee will be meeting Wednesdays at 5:30pm beginning spring quarter. First week will be orientations, then student roles, reviewing constituents and budget overviews.
  - c. Discussion of when to develop DRAC budget presentations for the S&A Committee. Rebecca advised members to begin planning their budget now while being mindful of where cuts could be made. Enrollment risks due to FAFSA delays and lack of clarity from S&A make cuts likely.
6. Next meeting: February 21, 2024, IAA Who We Are presentation