

DRAC 1/31/24

Attendees:

Vanessa Blackburn, Travis Cram, Cynthia Horne, Julia Hawkins, Malachi Phillips, Gwen Pederson, Jeanne Gaffney, Darren McCroom, Megan Ellis, Nicole Larson, Christa Schulz, Tim Fitzpatrick, Megan McGinnis, Amy Lazzell, Anne Melo, Erica Steele, Evan Wren, Rax Organa, Rebecca McLean, Erin Emry, Chris Carthum, and Mica Della Sala.

1. Approve minutes: Minutes approved unanimously
2. Presentations: Julia Hawkins presented overview of Student Publications.
 - 50 student jobs, typically 10-20 per quarter
 - Occam's Razor, Klipsun, The Planet, Jeopardy Magazine, Western Front
 - Budget \$433,941, primarily student pay which is 54% of budget
 - 14% of budget to print costs (Jeopardy Magazine, The Planet, Klipsun and Occam's Razor)
 - 27% Admin pay.
 - 46 majors represented: campus wide.
 - Hired 216 students in the last three years. Any student can apply.
 - AEDI articles in publications with a commitment to focus on diversity related issues. The student staff make sure all voices get heard.

3. Budget Process:

The Services and Activities committee usually meets in the Winter, but there has been scheduling challenges this year. Looking like S & A will meet in the Spring, with longer meetings. Vanessa is concerned that this will be rushing things and does not give students enough time to fully understand what they were deciding on.

Western Washington University is looking to see how AEDI is included in all the funds that are spent. Micheal Sledge is looking to work with all program leaders to help them clearly articulate their AEDI efforts.

Rebecca is updating constituent spreadsheets based on Board of Trustees estimate, not what we requested last year. BOT expects DRAC to receive 5% less than we asked for last year, based on enrollment estimates. When the S&A fee is collected, money goes to scholarships and housing & dining right off the top. Rather than looking at a 4% increase, we should be looking at a 3.5% increase.

Megan suggested to wait to hear the directions for S & A before we make changes. Rebecca said DRAC has had to change things in the past by not using the BOT estimate. Doing this on the front end will mean less changes later in the process. She wants to start with a conservative request, because it is easier to add stuff in later.

The minimum wage increases make the small percentage increase to our DRAC requests a challenge. DRAC hires approximately 200 students and the Bellingham \$1 increase over minimum wage is going to influence our requests.

Rebecca is willing to meet in person to go over the spreadsheets and maximum increase to budget requests with each individual constituent.

4. Schedule of presentations

Next week Forensics will give their presentation first, then Theatre and Dance. Racing and Music will go on 2/14. IAA will go on 2/21.