

DRAC Meeting

4/17/24

Attendance: Amy Lazzell, Anne Melo, Chris Carthum, Cynthia Horne, Darren McCroom, Erica Steele, Erin Casey, Erin Emry, Jack Herring, Malachi Phillips, Megan Ellis, Megan McGinnis, Mica Della Sala, Michael Soran, Nicole Larson, Rax Organa, Rebecca McLean, Rich Brown, Tim Fitzpatrick, Travis Cram, Vanessa Blackburn, Julia Hawkins, Allissa Flood

1. Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the April 10, 2024, meeting were presented and amended to clarify a comment and correct an academic year. Motion to approve by Travis Cram. Second by Darren McCroom. Unanimously approved as amended.

2. Old Business

- a. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions about IAA's budget presentation last week.
- b. Nicole Larson stated that WWU Racing met with Risk Management, and they were pleased with the proposed student position. Racing also plans to share the position with the newly hired Environmental Health and Safety lab position.

3. Budget Presentation: Music Department

- a. Mica Della Sala and Chris Carthum presented for Music
- b. 2024-25 Budget overview
 - i. Overview of payroll, other expenses and additional revenue
 - ii. Most DRAC funding goes toward student employees who are integral to the functioning of the Music Department
 1. Requesting increase to account for increase in minimum wage, additional student employee wage increases, NTT 4.5% increase and potential graduate TA stipend
 2. Large ensemble ticket sales implemented to increase revenue
 - iii. Provided an overview of anticipated student travel for 2024-2025
 1. DRAC funds contribute to student travel in addition to donations and direct payment by students
 - iv. Provided an overview of student participation in music ensembles
 1. 1,982 students participate
 2. Open to all students (auditions required for some ensembles); 58% of participants are non-Music majors
 - v. Shared an overview of ADEI-centered programming
- c. Questions and comments
 - i. Vanessa asked for clarification of YOY changes. Anne Melo responded that their request is the same as last year: \$254,493
 1. Costs have increased for things like paper, posters, equipment and instrument repairs
 2. Large ensemble ticket sales will supplement budget to cover increased expenses

4. Budget Presentation: Theatre and Dance
 - a. Alissa Flood presented for Theatre and Dance
 - b. Budget overview
 - i. 2023-24 DRAC request: \$256,000
 - ii. 2024-25 DRAC request: \$231,076
 - iii. Presented a pie chart with distribution of wages/benefits, contracts, supplies, services and fees, and travel expenses
 - iv. Expense details include wages for student and staff employees, goods & services, contracts & royalties, travel, mandatory performance-related fees
 1. Ticket fees increasing 10%
 2. CFPA hourly staff increasing from \$22.25/hour to \$25/hour
 - v. Earmark reserves request
 1. Anticipate a \$13,000 balance at end of FY 2024 due to salary/benefits savings associated with staff turnover
 2. Earmark for student salary increases and programming needs
 - vi. Summer budget
 1. Opportunity for a new collaboration with Seattle Children's Theatre to workshop two new plays on the SCT mainstage in November 2024
 2. Total budget: \$24,000
 - a. Asking for \$15,000 from DRAC
 - b. Using \$9,000 carry forward from last summer
 - c. Questions and comments
 - i. Rich Brown mentioned that they have lost revenue due to offering free tickets for students in the balcony for all mainstage productions.
 - ii. Vanessa asked for clarification of the summer budget ask compared with last year
 1. Asking for \$15,000 this year, was \$33,500 last summer.
 - iii. Nicole Larson asked about YOY comparisons
 1. \$6,000 increase due to student employees.
 2. Costs are rising but trying to keep DRAC request consistent with prior years.
5. S&A Fee Committee Update
 - a. Congratulations to Chris Carthum, the new S&A Fee Committee president
 - b. DRAC's "who we are" presentation was bumped from last week to this week.
 - i. Will be adding ADEI slides to the presentation as this is an area of emphasis along with retention.
 - ii. Vanessa invited folks to review the presentation if interested. ADEI slides have been formatted for consistency.
 - c. Rebecca McLean stated that the S&A meeting is in Old Main 340 today at 4pm, all are welcome and Teams link can be requested from Rebecca. Vanessa encouraged students to attend.

6. Outback Farm Update

- a. Vanessa shared that the Outback is actively looking for bridge funding for near future.
 - i. Student representatives from the Outback Farm will come to next week's DRAC meeting to give their 15-minute oral presentation followed by 15 minutes for questions.
 - ii. Vanessa will send the rubric for DRAC members to judge their application; will review together next week prior to their presentation.
 - iii. Plan on overall DRAC budget conversation the following week.
 - 1. Rebecca will present overall budget with information from constituent presentations
 - 2. Vote on May 1
 - 3. Rebecca suggested that Music present their summer budget in May