Senate Finance Committee Meeting
October 18th, 2019 1:00 PM
Student Union EG 80, 2200 E Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee WI, 53211.

I. Call to Order at 1:06 PM.

II. Roll Call
   a. Michael Kirsanov - Excused
   b. Dylan Schneider - Present
   c. Zen Johnston - Present
   d. Daniel Dyer - Present
   e. Silbi Isein - Present
   f. Dick Marcus - Present
   g. Nicole Oswald - Excused
   h. Joel Bushman - Present
   i. Stefan Rudel – Present
   j. Binquing He - Present

III. Reports
No members of the committee have a report.

IV. Open Forum

There are no members of the public wishing to speak.

V. Approval of Agenda
   a. Motion by Dick Marcus to approve the Agenda. Seconded. Motion to approve agenda passes unanimously.

VI. Special Orders
   a. There are no special orders

I. Old Business
   i. Motion to table the minutes until Stefan is able to send minutes to the committee by Silbi. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

II. New Business
a. Centers for Advocacy and Student Engagement Eligibility Presentation by Becky Grandone, Interim Director of Advocacy and Student Engagement
   i. For a copy of the presentation referenced in these minutes, please see 10-18-2019 SFC Minutes Addendum A.
   ii. These centers include LGBTRC, WRC, MAVRC, IEC
   iii. Becky’s role is to help these resource centers collaborate and unify, as they have previously been somewhat nebulous centers in the division of student affairs. The centers have decided they would like to maintain their separate physical office spaces in order to maintain the sense of community and safety for students who use these centers.
   iv. Center services
      1. Inclusive Excellence Center
         a. Lawton Scholars
         b. U1.0 Programs and Serves [sic]
         c. DREAMERS
         d. Identity Coffee Hour (collaboration with Sociocultural Programming)
         e. Hours Against Hate (collaboration with Jewish Federation of Wisconsin)
         f. UndocuAlly Traning (workshop)
         g. Diversity and inclusion workshops tailor [sic] to the need of individual groups/offices
         h. U1.0 Textbook scholarship
      2. LGBT+ Resource Center
         a. Reflect the diverse communities within and beyond [UWM’s] campus through the work [they] do.
         b. Support and challenge all students on their personal journeys to understand and celebrate their identities
         c. Connect, retain, and sustain students and alumni in equity-and-justice-based work.
      3. Military and Veteran’s Resource Center
         a. Serve as the first stop for all military (Active, Reserves, and Guard service members), Veteran students, dependents, alumni, and transitioning service members.
         b. Educate the UWM campus and Milwaukee community about military service, transitions issues, stigma, stereotypes, support and awareness programs.
         c. Establish and offer a safe space on campus for those who have served, empowering them to connect with the University and with one another.
         d. Cultivate community partnerships that provide opportunities for Veterans to build bridges into the
Milwaukee community for future employment, as well as civic and cultural engagement.

4. Women’s Resource Center
   a. Educational and social programming that focuses on gender, feminism, and social justice
   b. Lending Library
   c. Lactation Room Access
   d. Community
   e. Referrals to On and Of Campus Resources [sic]
   f. Communal Lounge/Space to Hang Out
   g. Free Menstrual Hygiene Products
   h. Free Safer Sex Supplies

v. All centers use student employees, advisory committees, and many have advocacy senators as sources of student input.

vi. The campus administration is having difficulty sustaining these offices due to declining enrollment. The consolidation of these segregated fees will allow staffing costs to be consolidated into one budget. These will not increase existing costs, but will allow savings from a particular center to be used to cover costs in another.

vii. Questions
   1. Dick Marcus asks if there is a possibility of staff covering multiple roles. Becky Grandone states that this is already an ongoing plan being investigated as a cost-saving measure but is not likely to provide enough savings to be sustainable in the long-term.
   2. Silbi Isein asks who the proponent is for this proposed allocation as the re-allocation appears to be a sudden change. Becky Grandone states that the centers had a similar budget structure 3-4 years ago, but this budget was not specifically designated to the identity centers alone. The identity centers then created a proposal that they would be collaborative yet distinct entities, but this plan has shown to not be sustainable in long-term.
   3. Silbi Isein also asks what the overall benefit is to merging the center budgets. Becky Grandone states that this will create a larger overall budget to act as a safety net for the centers in case of funding emergencies.
   4. Silbi Isein also asks that if the unified budget will be allocated to the resource centers for specific purposes. Becky Grandone states that this will be the case.
   5. Silbi Isein asks if the resource centers will retain their reserves. Becky Grandone states this is the case, though reserves may be partially re-allocated. Sarah Edmondson also reports that the smaller units are required to maintain 6% reserves in their budgets. Because there is not a budget increase in this proposal, reserves should not be affected.

b. Food Pantry Eligibility Presentation by Quincy Kissack, Assistant Director of the Student Association Professional Staff. Quincy Kissack states she is not here in an advisory capacity.

i. For a copy of this presentation, please see 10-18-2019 SFC Minutes Addendum B.

ii. History
1. The Food Center and Pantry began with a survey in Fall 2016 that showed that 50% of students of UWM experience food insecurity, which is defined as a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life; per the US department of agriculture.

2. Food insecurity will also impact physical health and nutrition, college retention rates, co-curricular engagement, financial and housing security, or mental health and wellness.

3. Critical services of UWM Food Center and Pantry
   a. On campus resource for UWM students
   b. Student Health
   c. Activities outside the classroom
   d. The only place on campus that can offer emergency food assistance.

   iii. Key points to note
       1. Open twice a week Mondays 11:00AM-1:00PM and Thursdays 9:00AM-4:30PM.
       2. Staffed entirely by volunteers except for one student employee and the assistant director of the Student Association Professional Staff.
       3. Reliant entirely on donations.
          a. The center uses food drives, a foundation account, and round-up donations at food registers in the union.
          b. State funds may not be used for food purchases.

4. Open shopping concept
   a. No proof of need is required, and patrons are not given a limit or required to have the food they take approved.
   b. Patrons are limited to one visit per week.

5. Organizational structure
   a. Staff
      i. SAPS and a single student employee oversee the day-to-day operations.
   b. Advisory Board
      i. A variety of students and staff from resource centers
   c. Executive Team
   d. Volunteers

6. Usage rates
   a. Since December 2018, of 966 patrons, 89% were students. This data is missing information from May 2019.

7. Current finances
   a. Marketing has been minimal and focused on open hours and has primarily come from the Student Association budget.
   b. Student Employment
      i. Funded entirely by the UWM union but has a fixed end date to align with the end of FY20.
      ii. Dick Marcus asks why the union will be discontinuing the fund. Sarah Edmondson states that the union funding was intended as an interim
measure while the food center and pantry explored options for a sustainable funding source.

c. Food
   i. 100% of food is funded through donations from our foundation account and round-up funds.

iv. Achievements
   1. The founding group was recognized with a STAR award from Student Affairs for advocacy.
   2. Diversity award from board of regents that granted $5,000 that may not be used to purchase food
      a. This $5,000 has not been spent.
   3. Pantry staff is now ServSafe certified, allowing for assurance of high-quality and safe food.
   4. Freezer donation from the UWM union so the food pantry may offer healthy frozen options.
   5. The food pantry now has a partnership with Feeding America, allowing for discounted or free food for the pantry.

v. Future directions
   1. Providing programming such as SNAP/Foodshare education for students
   2. Expand partnership to have more service learners to have supervision during their services, which would be provided by the student employee.
   3. With a budget for marketing, the food center and pantry could reach more students and develop more community partnerships.
   4. If determined eligible, the segregated fee will be spent mostly on a student employee, with additional money going to marketing and overhead. None of the segregated fee can be or will be used to purchase food, but will indirectly increase the amount of available food via opportunities for increased partnership and donation.

vi. Student Employee
   1. Gains relevant skills including management, organization, and diversity and inclusion.

vii. Goal with proposing a segregated fee is increased sustainability.
   1. Segregated fee would allow
      a. Purchase of necessary equipment
      b. SAPS to spend more time focused on work such as outreach, securing donors, and partnerships
      c. More volunteer engagement and ability for more service-learners, as service learners must be supervised.

viii. Questions
   1. Silbi Isein asks if the service-learners are fulfilling a requirement. Quincy states that they may be using service-learning as a requirement for a class.
   2. Silbi Isein asks how SAPS is tracking the usage of the pantry. Quincy Kissack states that there will be a weekly event in presence and people who are already swiped in are turned away and referred to external resources.
   3. Silbi Isein asks who the staff advisors are for the executive team of the food center and pantry. Quincy Kissack states the food center
and pantry has been seeking people with specialized knowledge for various areas of the food center and pantry. These staff advisors are volunteering their time.

4. Silbi Isein asks if it would be possible to have an event where students are able to donate unexpired food as a term for admission for an event. Quincy Kissack states that this is already implemented but is limited due to a lack of time and resources.

5. Zen Johnston asks how often people are turned away. Quincy Kissack states that it happens rarely but is difficult to track. Anecdotally, she has heard of only one person being turned away.

6. Dylan Schnieder asks if it is necessary to have a job to qualify for Foodshare/SNAP. Quincy Kissack states that the answer to this question is somewhat outside the scope of her position. She states it is her understanding that students working 20 hours per week or more in work study are eligible for foodshare/SNAP.

7. Quincy Kissack will be sending a statement regarding Foodshare/SNAP from Renee Scampini. To view this, please see 10-18-2019 SFC Minutes Addendum C.

c. Deliberations
   i. CASE

      1. Motion to approve CASE as eligible by Zen. Seconded.
         a. Discussion

         i. Zen Johnston states that as the entities have been previously deemed eligible, it makes sense that the re-allocated fund should also be eligible.
         ii. Sarah Edmondson states that the original entities will still present and there will be an additional presentation for the administrative fee. Roll call vote.

            1. Dylan Schneider – Aye
            2. Zen Johnston – Aye
            3. Daniel Dyer – Aye
            4. Silbi Isein – Aye
            5. Joel Bushman – Aye
            6. Stefan Rudel – Aye
            7. Binquing He – Aye

      ii. Food Center and Pantry

         1. Motion to approve CASE as eligible by Daniel. Seconded.
         a. Discussion

         i. There is consensus that the Food Center and Pantry the following eligibility requirements laid out in the bylaws of the Senate Finance Committee, Article V:

            1. Section 5.01(a)
            2. Section 5.01(c)(i)1)a
            3. Section 5.01(e)(i) through (iv)
4. Section 5.01(h)
   b. Roll-call vote
      i. Dylan Schneider - Aye
      ii. Zen Johnston - Aye
      iii. Daniel Dyer - Aye
      iv. Silbi Isein - Aye
      v. Joel Bushman - Aye
      vi. Stefan Rudel – Aye
      vii. Binqing He – Aye

d. Tours of entities
   i. Stefan Rudel does not feel the need to take tours of the entities.
   ii. Sarah Edmondson reports that the entities have offered to provide
       tours of their facilities in order to reduce time spent focusing on
       services provided and more time on budgetary matters during their
       funding hearing.
   iii. Stefan Rudel states that the tours would be happening in a quick
        timeframe.
        1. Sarah Edmondson reports that larger entities would not be
           touring until January.
   iv. Daniel Dyer states it would be beneficial to have the opportunity.

III. Questions and Concerns
     There are no questions or concerns.

IV. Adjournment
    Meeting adjourned at 2:32 PM by chair Rudel