

MINUTES
Student Activity Fee Board Meeting
Friday, March 27, 2009
404 Old Main

Attendance:

Board Members:

Jack Rayman, Senior Director, Career Services; Chair, Student Activity Fee Board
Kendra Carr, UPAC Chair
Ralph Crivello, UPUA Representative
Mary Edgington, Senior Director, Union & Student Activities
Roger Egolf, Faculty Senate Committee on Student Life, Penn State Lehigh Valley
Gavin Keirans, UPUA President
Erin Kennedy, CCSG Representative, Penn State Erie (Behrend)
George Khoury, CCSG President
Alfonso Mendoza, GSA President
Chris Rizzo, Director of Student Affairs, Penn State Beaver Representative

Present via PolyCom:

Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek, Director of Student & Enrollment, Penn State Wilkes-Barre

Substitutes:

Nick Borsuk for Christopher Cycak
Ed Newell for Ben Gilson

Staff:

Jay Arcuri, Assistant Director, Central Office for Commonwealth Student Activities
Heide Port, Administrative Support Assistant, Union & Student Activities

Welcome and Roll Call

Roll call taken.

Adoption of the Agenda

A motion to accept the agenda was made by Mary Edgington and a 2nd by Nick Borsuk.
All were in favor.

Adoption of the Minutes

A motion to accept the minutes was made by George Khoury and a 2nd by Nick Borsuk.
All were in favor.

Announcements by the Chair

Jack Rayman made a statement that this group needs to get through the discussion and vote on the items on the agenda today and that we only have the room until 6 p.m. and we need to honor this time as this was a special arrangement made with Old Main.

Public Comments (10 – 15 minutes)

Valerie wanted to know why there were so many empty seats at the table. At this time there were several people late to the meeting. Erin had alerted us that she was in traffic and would be late. Gavin and Ralph were not at the table at this time.

Discussion Items

Item 1 – Jack Rayman stated that Jay Arcuri put a lot of time into putting attachment 1 together and this was put together based on feedback he had received from the Subcommittee and Damon Sims.

Kendra Carr referred to line 1 in reference to ALL GOVERNMENTS and reminds the group that all government groups are not recognized by the University. She recommends that this be changed to reflect the three groups that are recognized.

Kendra Carr referred to bullet 5 and asked what will happen if the funds are not used. Kendra wants to know if this will be taken into account the next year with allocation reduction. Gavin Keirans stated that he did not want to set the precedent that organizations are forced to spend any leftover money to avoid losing their allocation amounts. The Board can make that decision. Kendra Carr expressed her concern that with 7 members on the Board UPUA, GSA and CCSG members and they would vote on this.

Roger Egolf stated that he is not comfortable making a change to the current wording.

Alfonso Mendoza asked Kendra Carr what happens to UPAC funded groups if they do not use their allocated funds. How does that affect them? Kendra Carr stated that this is something that UPAC is looking into as this has been something that has been happening but they have no guidelines set up.

Nick Borsuk stated that a provision could be added to this policy.

Kendra Carr stated that this Board should be able to trust the governments and the Board to watch this. Jay Arcuri stated that these organizations will try to spend the extra money to avoid losing their current allocation. Kendra Carr referred to a statement from Damon Sims that states that departments at the University have to show a show-cause budget and that extra monies are recycled by the University.

Jack Rayman stated that overages will go back to the Student Activity Fee Allocation. He stated that these groups must be fiscally responsible. If they don't use the money they requested this year, then they should request less for the following year.

A motion to make the minor changes to attachment 1 and accept was made by Gavin Keirans and a 2nd from Mary Edgington.

Vote?

Item 2 – Attachment 2 – George Khoury talked about Attachment 2 and his budget and gave a history. He stated that the Harrisburg and Behrend campuses are opposed to this. All concerns that have been brought to George Khoury have been addressed and they have moved forward.

Chris Rizzo stated that this information was sent last night and that Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek had forwarded it to their colleagues. This isn't enough time to get feedback. Chris Rizzo stated that he does not have a problem with this except for a couple of things. 1. He does not want this funding to replace current funds that are being paid by the departments. 2. He wants the campus funding to stay at the campuses.

Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek stated that the DSA's are not supportive of this. They refer to the principle on page 2 that states that campus money stays at the campuses. Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek is very concerned that the show-cause budget is three times the amount in Jay's budget and that it is absorbing those costs from his budget.

George Khoury stated that this will help money to go to other campuses. George suggests some verbiage change on attachment 2. This change is reflective of the concerns brought up. Everyone agrees there should be funding but how is this to be done?

Nick Borsuk stated that they have an equal stake in CCSG instead of a disproportional amount from the campuses. If the students think this is a good thing for CCSG to receive funding then we should be accepting of it.

Kendra Carr stated that this Board is to create consistency among all the campuses and if UPUA and GSA are funded and CCSG is not then that is not supporting this purpose.

Jack Rayman asked why Jay Arcuri's budget was not going to be responsible for the past funding. Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek stated that this budget has money listed in it that previously was covered by administration and they should still be responsible for this funding.

Ralph Crivello referred to the previous discussions about this and that the board should look at this as an anomaly. This group cannot function without funding.

Chris Rizzo supported the new verbiage.

Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek stated that ideally this should be at the SAF Committees at the campuses should be making this decision.

George Khoury disagreed because the SGA's from the campuses have agreed to this funding and that the SGA's were to take back to their respective campuses for feedback.

Jack Rayman requested a vote on this topic.

A motion was made by Kendra Carr to approve CCSG funding (attachment 2) with the changes and to suspend the rules on substituting general funds. A 2nd was made by Roger Egolf.

Kendra Carr	___Y___	Ed Newell	___Y___	Mary Edgington	___Y___
Roger Egolf	___Y___	Alfonso Mendoza	___Y___	Ralph Crivello	___Y___
Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek	___N___	Gavin Keirans	___Y___	Erin Kennedy	abstain
George Khoury	___Y___	Chris Rizzo	___N___	Nick Borsuk	___Y___

In favor 9 – 2 with 1 abstention

Item 4 - Kendra Carr requested that attachment 4 be discussed before item 3.

Kendra Carr stated that this attachment was created based on Damon Sims' words. The bottom line is that we do not want a salaried position that the administration wants to be paid by Student Activity Funds. Students can request this but administration cannot.

Chris Rizzo wanted to see a change on line 5 to add campus Student Activity Fee Committee. One person cannot request this of the Board. The committee can make a recommendation to the SGA who sits on the Board to bring it before the Board for approval. Kendra Carr confirmed that yes, only students can bring this request to the Board.

George Khoury stated that CCSG should not be bringing up these things for the campuses but that the campuses need to bring this up to the Board.

Ralph Crivello stated that this is clarifying that this Board is giving permission to bring up an exception.

George Khoury felt that we need to give the campuses more flexibility to come with exceptions.

Chris Rizzo stated that this Board needs to protect the Student Activity Fees Funds. Budgets are going to get cut and staff will get cut and potentially at the campus levels, administration may go to the students and request that a position is needed and ask that a proposal for a salary be made.

Ralph Crivello suggested adding that this is for a NEW position only and adding a 3 year clause.

A motion was made by Nick Borsuk to approve with only UPUA or GSA and explain that the campuses are against the salary positions. Nick Borsuk stated that he does not support this but that he wants to move forward with this Board and this will pull that one opposed section from the current topic.

Gavin Keirans objects to this.

Chris Rizzo stated that he does not want to stop the movement at University Park.

Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek agrees with Chris Rizzo but she can see the campuses using this when they get in a financial crunch.

A motion was again made by Nick Borsuk to remove CCSG from this attachment and a 2nd was made by Kendra Carr.

Kendra Carr ___Y___ Ed Newell ___N___ Mary Edgington ___Y___
Roger Egolf ___Y___ Alfonso Mendoza ___Y___ Ralph Crivello ___Y___
Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek ___N___ Gavin Keirans ___Y___ Erin Kennedy ___N___
George Khoury ___N___ Chris Rizzo ___Y___ Nick Borsuk ___N___

In favor 7 – 4

Item 3 – Attachment 3 – Gavin Keirans stated that at the SAFB meeting brought forth the compromise in item 7. This stated that there would be a 3 year trial period and raising the SA Fee by \$2 for 2009.

Nick Borsuk supports this trial period but not the \$2 increase. He stated that this Board needs to be fiscally responsible to the students.

Kendra Carr questioned item 6 on the document asking what happens if the lawyer wants more money? Roger Egolf joked, get a new lawyer.

Discussion ensued. Amendments to the document were made.

A motion was made by Kendra Carr to vote on the document as amended and a 2nd was made by Ralph Crivello.

Kendra Carr ___Y___ Ed Newell ___abstain___ Mary Edgington ___Y___
Roger Egolf ___Y___ Alfonso Mendoza ___Y___ Ralph Crivello ___Y___
Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek ___Y___ Gavin Keirans ___Y___ Erin Kennedy abstain
George Khoury ___abstain___ Chris Rizzo ___Y___ Nick Borsuk ___N___

In favor 8 - 1 with 3 abstentions.

NEW ITEM

Ralph Crivello would like to bring up a new topic for discussion. This was not added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting as he was not present at the time of adoption of the agenda. Attachment 5 was read for the Board. The document asks that in the event that the VP of Student Affairs does not chair the SAF Board, that recommendations will be forwarded for his review and suggestions from him will be brought back to the Board and the Chair of the SAF Board will send the recommendations directly to the President. This was a document submitted by Ralph Crivello, George Khoury, Kendra Carr, Edward Newell, Gavin Keirans, Erin Kennedy, Nicholas Borsuk and Alfonso Mendoza.

A motion was made by Nick Borsuk to vote.

A motion was made by Mary Edgington to table the topic until more discussion ensues.

Kendra Carr stated that this needs to be done before presenting the recommendations to the Vice President of Student Affairs. Kendra Carr stated that this group does not like the extra veto power that is bestowed on the Board at the present time.

George Khoury stated that this does not show dissatisfaction for the job that the current chair is doing but they want this designee to have the power and not the Vice President. This group wants its decisions to go directly to the President and not have the veto in between the Board and the President.

Ralph Crivello stated that in the past there were not these layers.

A motion was made by Kendra Carr to vote and a 2nd was made by Alfonso Mendoza.

Kendra Carr ___Y___ Ed Newell ___Y___ Mary Edgington ___abstain___
Roger Egolf ___Y___ Alfonso Mendoza ___Y___ Ralph Crivello ___Y___
Kathie Flanagan-Hertsek ___abstain___ Gavin Keirans ___Y___ Erin Kennedy abstain
George Khoury ___Y___ Chris Rizzo ___abstain___ Nick Borsuk ___Y___

In favor 9 with 3 abstentions.

Jack Rayman will draft the recommendations and will run them past the Board members.

Gavin Keirans stated that this took a year but that this group is moving in the right direction.

Ralph brought up the changes to the handbook and where are they in the process.

Jay Arcuri stated that the campuses have recommended no change to their Activity Fees and UP requests a \$2 increase.

A motion was made by Nick Borsuk to adjourn at 6:11 p.m. and seconded by Ed Newell.
Minutes respectfully submitted by Heide Port.