



**Western Washington University Associated Students  
Sustainability, Equity, & Justice Fund Meeting  
Minutes**

May 12, 2025 | 4:00 PM | Room

**Attendees:**

**Committee Members:** Amy Salinas Westmoreland, Director for the Office of Multicultural Student Services; Bren Anderson, SGA; Lindsey MacDonald, Associate Director SEI; Morgan Whitt, VP for Diversity; Noah Williams, Student-at-Large; Jack Hueso, Student-at-Large; Julianna Visnakova-Hamilton, Student-at-Large; Teddie Schmitt, Student-at-Large; Zinta Lucans, SEJF Program Manager and Co-Chair; Kira Davis, VP for Sustainability and Co-Chair; Megan Neufeld, VP for CENV; Meli Bernal, SEJF Ambassador

**Guests/Presenters:** MJ Dizon, Stu Montgomery, Alia Khan, Caitlyn Wilson, Ijomi Houstin, Aryam Tamene

**Motions:**

Motion Title	Motion Description	Status
SEJF-25-S-06	Approve 5/7/25 Meeting Minutes	Passed

*Kira Davis, Committee Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.*

**I. CONSENT ITEMS**

a.

SEJF-25-S-6	<b>Motion:</b> Approve 5/7/25 Meeting Minutes	
<b>Motion Made By:</b> Schmitt		<b>Motion Seconded By:</b> Hamilton
<b>Vote Count:</b> 6 Aye, 0 Nay (Westmoreland, Joseph, and Hueso absent)		<b>Action Result:</b> Passed

**II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

a.

**III. PUBLIC FORUM**

a.

**IV. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- a. Soleil Magazine
  - i. Student club acting as publication
  - ii. Magazine highlighting BIPOC students, focusing on fashion/beauty/art/lifestyle through a variety of media types
  - iii. Created as response to lack of BIPOC representation in WWU media as well as 2025 election results
  - iv. Main goal: create and foster a lasting community of inspired creatives
  - v. Not closed membership—all students can join, though there is a focus on students who have been racially marginalized
  - vi. Recruitment focused on affinity housing by meeting with ACG Hall leaders and through social media
    - 1. Currently around 200 Instagram followers since account creation in mid-March
  - vii. Corner Store Cover
    - 1. First edition/cover
    - 2. Photos were shot at a local corner store (JJs), which are traditionally hubs of community particularly in BIPOC communities
    - 3. Owner and staff team was very welcoming and location was near campus, often being frequented by WWU students
  - viii. (GR)Attitudes
    - 1. Photo shoot inspired by Bratz dolls
      - a. Many BIPOC children found Bratz dolls super inspiring in the mid-2000s and 2010s
      - b. Felt reflected by both skin colors/facial features and makeup/fashion
    - 2. Larger photoshoot than expected
    - 3. Props and supplies based around what is already available
  - ix. Fundraiser
    - 1. Redbull Italian Soda fundraiser, selling out in under 2 hours and making a profit of \$260
    - 2. Done with support of individuals from community spaces, both in seed money funding and in donations even after selling out
    - 3. Planning to do more fundraisers and events in the future—plans in progress
  - x. Costs
    - 1. \$2,500 for costing 150 copies of a 30 page magazine
  - xi. Sustainability
    - 1. All clothing for shoots were sourced from local thrift stores and clothing swaps or were pre-owned by models and members, with alterations made by members
    - 2. Hoping to sell magazine copies online to cut paper printing costs and waste, decreasing printing costs and environmental impact and increasing accessibility
  - xii. Promotion of Student Livelihood
    - 1. Student-run businesses donate supplies for photoshoots and are promoted in the magazine
  - xiii. Q&A

1. Online copies would be sold on WIN
  2. Website design is in progress
  3. Magazine price is planned to be around \$10
    - a. Some free community copies and a sliding scale would be available
- b. Gear Lending Library
- i. CENV students needing gear for fieldwork: gear costs are lowering access to classes
    1. Roughly 500 students per year need outdoor gear for class
    2. Students have tried to find workarounds that can put health and safety at risk, ie not having properly insulative/waterproof coldwear clothing
  - ii. Partnership between CENV and Outdoor Center
  - iii. How
    1. Outdoor Center storage area
      - a. Using 20-25% discount at Liberty Mountain through the Outdoor Center for gear
    2. Outreach
      - a. Professors, word of mouth, open house events
  - iv. Paid for
    1. Paid for by a \$5 course fee for all CENV courses
  - v. Nature Gap
    1. Marginalized groups, particularly racially/ethnically marginalized groups, are less likely to spend time outdoors due to access issues and generational poverty
  - vi. Equitable access
    1. Removes financial barriers
    2. Increases student retention
  - vii. Outdoor Safety
  - viii. Pilot program for centralized gear library across departments
    1. MACS program, bio departments, Fairhaven courses, geology department, recreation studies, etc.
    2. Reduce redundancy or gear purchases
  - ix. Would create a centralized area and program for managing currently existing donated gear lending that is already happening on a small scale
  - x. Questions
    1. How is gear distributed to students who need it the most?
      - a. Course fee—needs to be accessible to all students
      - b. Self-selection; easier for students who already have gear to use that, not rent
      - c. Don't want to create limits on who can access gear
    2. Ask faculty to add resource into syllabi
    3. Budget questions
      - a. Gear open-house \$3,000
        - i. 3 events, 1 each quarter next year
        - ii. Food, drinks, space rental costs
        - iii. Also a recruiting event for the college at the same time
      - b. Incidentals \$2,500

- i. Taxes, accounting for inflation, shipping, tariffs—cost estimate on the high side so as to not go over budget
      - ii. Some uncertainty
    - 4. Demand
      - a. Pilot project—will hopefully increase library catalogue over time
      - b. Is not expected to be in incredibly high demand
      - c. Purchases will be based on noticed demand for gear and class requirements
    - 5. Suggestion: cross-checking borrowers against Pell Grant eligible students
    - 6. Department input and assistance would hopefully increase overtime
  - c. The Gaysian Theatre Festival
    - i. Planned for late May/early June of next year
    - ii. Perceived lack of diversity in theatre program and WWU in general
      - 1. Qualitative data pulled from WWU Reddit, even pushing prospective students to other schools
      - 2. Quantitative data disagrees both for WWU and Bellingham as a goal
      - 3. Not an existence issue, but a visibility issue—need more of a platform
    - iii. Students who do not return cite a lack of community, resources, and sense of belonging
    - iv. Bellingham queer community is super supportive and welcoming; people feel like there is widespread LGBT+ diversity and acceptance
    - v. Mobilizing queer community to help uplift voices of color
    - vi. Theatre is an existing intentional, interdisciplinary integrating framework
      - 1. Stories can reflect student experiences, such as housing insecurity or discrimination
      - 2. Huge
      - 3. Roughly 20% of stakeholders are non-students (community members, staff, alumni) and have many different majors involved, not just theatre students
        - a. English, Theatre, STEM, Engineering, Journalism, Business
      - 4. All current stakeholders are queer, people of color, or both
      - 5. Expected 1,600 audience members over 2 weekends, with opportunity for other events
    - vii. Local groups, clubs and businesses have been reached out to for partnerships
    - viii. Q&A
      - 1. Expected number of participants involved in the production is 70 (including cast, crew, and festival teams)
      - 2. On campus venues

## **V. ACTION ITEMS**

- a. None

## **VI. REPORTS**

- a. None

## **VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Kira Davis, Committee Co-Chair, adjourned the meeting at 4:53 PM.*