



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

May 19, 2025 | 4:00 PM | VU567

Attendees:

Committee Members: Bren Anderson, SGA; Lindsey MacDonald, Associate Director SEI; Morgan Whitt, VP for Diversity; Noah Williams, Student-at-Large; Jack Hueso, 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: Koen Tynes, Beau Jay, Gabby Lund, Amelia Lee, Grey Webster, Marlee Maloy, Terri Kempton, Jessica Bee, Steve Hollenhorst

Motions:

Motion Title	Motion Description	Status
SEJF-25-S-07	Approve 5-12-25 Meeting Minutes	Passed

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

I. CONSENT ITEMS

- a. Previous Meeting Minutes

SEJF-25-S-	Motion: Approve 5-12-25 Meeting Minutes	
Motion Made By: Schmitt		Motion Seconded By: Williams
Vote Count: 6 Aye, 0 Nay		Action Result: Passed

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. None

III. PUBLIC FORUM

- a. None

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Mini-Forest Trail Continuation Project
 - i. LEAD—Environmental restoration program

- ii. Primarily works with CENV students but also with others across campus, educating about native species, restoring environments, and removing invasive species while also creating community
 - iii. Miyawaki Mini-Forest: planting very densely to speed up restoration—from 200-300 years to 75-100 years
 - iv. Started with an SEJF grant from 2 years ago
 - v. Trail Extension Project
 - 1. Improving and expanding trails that lead to the mini-forest
 - 2. Improve accessibility, increase outreach, increase availability for volunteers and classes, increase green spaces
 - 3. Volunteers want to return to the established forest to do more work, but capacity is limited
 - vi. Budget
 - 1. Materials for trail itself (mulch, gravel)
 - 2. Tools (current tools are for restoration work parties, poorly suited for trailbuilding)
 - 3. Stabilization materials to address erosion and preserve the site for the future
 - 4. Event supplies (tents, tables, safety materials, etc.)
 - vii. Anticipated attendance of 200 attendees
 - viii. Debris removal will begin fall 2025, trailbuilding will begin Spring 2026
 - ix. Q&A
 - 1. Continuing team members: current 1st year CENV graduate student (future 2nd year CENV student), faculty advisor, interns
 - 2. Outreach and volunteer recruitment: classroom visitations (mostly 100 and 300 level CENV classes; many faculty members offer extra credit), social media, community partners, fliers, work parties are open to all
 - a. Attendees often return and invite others
 - 3. Supplies bought for this project will open new work party opportunities—current projects are planned and designed around limitations of tools, which are used and maintained for several years
- b. Preservation Station
- i. NASU and Outback Farm partnership
 - 1. Indigikitchen, Forest Garden Restoration, Land-based education events, workshops, community meals, Camas bed replanting, harvests, Native speaker events
 - ii. Majority of Outback farm harvests is during summer/fall when students are not on campus
 - iii. Vision
 - 1. Promote wellbeing through access to high quality + culturally relevant foods
 - 2. Engage students through educational community buildings
 - 3. Preserve Outback harvest for students
 - 4. Area for House of Healing staff to process harvest in a designated space that will allow for more processing
 - a. Formerly taking place in a community member's home kitchen
 - iv. Specific goals

1. Purchase/test equipment, train volunteers/employees, harvest + preserve + distribute harvest, promotion and engagement with community events, explore further collaborations and expansions
- v. Budget
 1. Equipment (food processors, freeze driers, dehydrators)
 2. Education and outreach
 3. Maintainance
 4. Food Handler's Training (50 staff/volunteers)
- vi. Education and outreach
 1. Pop-up tasting and teaching stations, how to use dehydrated foods in instant ramen, photo booth, stickers
- vii. Goals and metrics
 1. 100% increase in students accessing summer harvested food, based on difference in typical access season to season (from 110 unique students in summer/fall to 220 unique students winter/spring)
 2. Interacting with 800 students through events and outreach
- viii. Q&A
 1. Ongoing costs: Outback and NASU project that they will have a structure to continue volunteers
 - a. Funding promise from Longhouse staff for future years
 2. Food processor is a safety measure recommendation from Washington Health and Safety Board
- c. Grant Discussion
 - i. Mini-Forest
 1. Budget is super solid
 2. Would love more diversification of outreach—class visitations to other colleges and departments
 3. Technically, same project already has come through SEJF, but in a more limited form—larger project than had been done in the past, testing interest, purposefully limited scope that was completed and used all of the requested funding
 - ii. Preservation Station
 1. Budget is super solid
 2. Outback team *has* already gotten funding this year
 - iii. Gaysian Theater
 1. MJ Dizon is leading the project but has done a lot of outreach for people helping her with it for the pilot program next year as well as following year(s)
 2. Confirm if the event is planned to be ongoing or just this year
 - iv. Gear Lending Library
 1. Access to gear will be super helpful
 2. Partnership with Outdoor Center is great—will provide great structure for future expansion and accessibility
 3. Confirm if gear would only be available to CENV students or if other people would be able to check out gear, or what constraints would exist
 4. CENV Dean has provided some financial support and would plan to support more if the project is successful

5. What does success look like with regards to who can access the gear
6. First year/quarter as pilot information gathering
7. Would like CENV pitch in for gear—will GLL have to come back to SEJF for funding?
8. Preference for course fee or checkout fee?
 - a. Generally in favor of checkout fees—course fees would decrease accessibility for general CENV students
 - b. Course fees are already \$200-300 for a CENV fieldwork course without gear costs
- v. Soleil
 1. Some questions about printing amounts—different numbers in presentation and proposal
 - a. Relatively new idea—would have to be tested for a sure quote on costs and amounts
 - b. Need seed costs to expand beyond the already considerable amount they've accomplished
 2. Equipment storage would be in ESC space, held by a faculty/staff member
 3. Outreach with photography classes
- vi. Food Coalition
 1. How were clubs and affinity groups that were highlighted in the proposal chosen? No answer yet, deadline by June 2

V. ACTION ITEMS

- a. None

VI. REPORTS

- a. None

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Kira Davis, Committee Co-Chair, adjourned the meeting at 4:55 PM.