

Student Fee Advisory Committee

Minutes

Winter Quarter Week 8

Friday, March 3, 2023

SSB 300

Fridays, 3:00-5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

a. 3:05

2. Roll Call

a. Present: Chris, Monet, Jose, Advait, Gina, Vasvi, Lanchi, Will, Bryan, Steven, Annie, Ben, Chase

b. Excused:

c. Unexcused: Divianshi, Yongqi

d. * = voting members, voting members present =

3. Approval of Week 5 Minutes

a. Motion: Gina

b. Second: Chris

c. Results

i. Yay: 8

ii. Nay: 0

iii. Abstain: 2

4. New Business

a. Chase: Had two subcommittees meet, who'd like to present first?

Lanchi: Presentation put on Slack and Google drive

Jose: Quick overview: CASP. Used as a study space primarily for CASP scholars. In new office. Average of 119 students/week. Unable to know if it was unique or individual visits. Place for printing, computers, kitchen area. Open to all UCSD students. Essentially extra study space.

Lanchi: next are questions. Consequences: limit number of students who could use the space.

How does it fill gaps in student experience: Build community with other first gen students, place to study when others are full, post graduation readiness. Help students with grad school admissions, help pay for entrance exams.

Motivation behind unit: Serve as support for students, especially those close to academic dismissal.

Steven: ratings. Breadth: 4. Open to all students, but not in an area you would ever pass by.

Equity: 7. Mostly used by first gen or low income students. Give them a place to study.

Value: 6. 1,200 scholars in the program. 50,000/12,000. Not sure how many actually use space.

Depth: 4. Does make an impact, but it's just a space to study.

Chase: Couch?

Lanchi: Couch does exist, but has sentimental value. It is not leaving.

Chase: Anything that stuck out about presentation?

Monet: Even though it's still written in value that it's 1,200 scholars, but it is open to rest of the school. Saw a difference in.

Chase: Break down on CASP vs non CASP student users?

Steven: They did not, but it is top floor of center, so probably not used by folks not in CASP. No one was up there when they went.

Jose: Some of the numbers seemed iffy. Polls from 2019, seem like a tight knit group, very connected to their students. Wouldn't assume non students would go.

Chase: Hands up if you've gone to top of center hall. 3 people have been. Best to assume majority of people who have access to it are just CASP.

Jose: Anecdotally, it's really hard to find. Misleading sign to CASP office that doesn't lead to CASP office. No one wanders in and thinks this is a cool study space.

Chase: Does this change your breadth rating knowing it's only CASP?

Will: Mostly just CASP, but also tight knit, so breadth is lower but maybe depth is higher?

Chase: Number would be Number of CASP students who use it/number of CASP students total. All will have a chance to rate it through form sent through Slack and Google drive.

Advaith: Value should be lower, not much is getting used out of 50k

Chase: Money is for furniture, does this really effect student experience. Personally, putting money towards counselor is a better use of 50k.

Ben: Couches and furniture last a long time.

Jose: It was brought up that the way they spoke was this money would be helpful, but they were going to do it regardless.

Steven: They were going to do it, but take it out of their program budget.

Chase: I'd recommend following up on that. Would sway his opinion, we are not funding furnishing, we are funding programming. Will send form out at end of meeting, score it. Give 2 or 3 minutes to jot down notes. Jump into next one. 14 of these, 20 minutes a piece, presentation followed by scoring.

b. Chase: Next is CASP retention and readmission

Jose: This is CASP's retention and readmission program. Work alongside scholars with these topics, deal with college study strategies, shame and guilt, imposter syndrome. Looking to hire an additional staff member. Walked 83 students through academic probation.

Academic probation: you have to have your next quarter be above a 2.0 GPA, after 2 quarters you flunk out. You can appeal but it's an arduous process that CASP helps with. Helped appeal 147 SAP appeals where students can still receive financial aid if their GPA falls or they're not taking enough classes.

Lanchi: Some of the consequences: Lot of difficulties with SAP appeal. Deadlines are short and have to get lots of paperwork in. Also emphasize emotional support, spend three weeks asking students what brought them to this point.

Student experience: again emphasize strong tight knit community. For students who live far away or go to community college.

Does something like this already exist: Kind of. Similar program, but not for students with scholarships.

Chase: Clarify on community college?

Jose: School offers program where they take certain number of units at community college, then go back to UCSD. CASP helps through that process.

Chase: Do they let you back into same major?

Jose: Not sure.

Lanchi: Asked if they would help regular students if they came for help in those circumstances and CASP said no. Would direct students to other programs to help them.

Chase: Does UCSD have those programs for students?

LAnchi: didn't have any specifics

Jose: Mention most of UCSD stuff is geared toward retention, did mention they wanted additional member to work specifically with readmission, set precedent for other campus groups to do the same. But pretty much only for CASP students.

Steven: ratings. Breadth: 2. Only open to CASP scholars, less than 200 SAP appeals. Equity: 7.5. It is helping people from marginalized communities stay in school where they might not have the support.

Value: 3. Asked for 30k.

Chase: These students don't go to UCSD. Do they still receive scholarship money? Or student fees. Do you guys know? Totally ok if not.

Jose: Would be hesitant to answer, but would say yes. Person looking to hire would be a general counselor. Wanted to help people with readmission. But they don't continue to get scholarship.

Steven: depth: 9. Very individual support, helps people stay in school and graduate, especially from marginalized communities.

Ben: Seems like the first time any organization in our school has done something like this already. Pretty innovative. New thing for underrepresented group. Other units on campus would follow its lead.

Chase: this process and aid has already existed, CASP just wants to expand that.

Jose: Also want to expand hours as some students couldn't make the hours.

Chase: How many people did they have helping them?

Steven: Around 3.

Chase: Say there's around 200 people and 4 counselors. Each would help 50 people through SAP appeal. Each student is about a grand or so. Would be roughly their entire year of student fees for the program. Would give high depth rating, high expense per person so low value. Only available for a small number of people. Not asking for answer, just floating.

Gina: Question is do they have advocacy work, do they reach out to particular students because they serve such a small number of students?

Steven: Reach out to CASP scholars if they're falling behind or grades are falling, will not reach out to non CASPs.

Lanchi: Asked about marketing, they do send out a newsletter, make an effort to get out there and be known.

Chase: Do they have a purely reactive process, or do they have preemptive care?

Steven: Kind of seems like they helped them from the get go, help with study habits, etc.

Ben: Also have all CASP scholars do a course on how to help in program.

Jose: Have events geared toward college readiness and issues that are common among first gen students.

Chase: two big concerns: 1. Price, how much it costs per person. 2. Concern from fiduciary responsibility to use student fees to benefit those paying student fees. Is this responsible? Students at community college aren't paying student fees. Coming from students currently paying student fees, goes to students who will be paying fees next year. Ask your councils and bodies you represent. Personally for it, has to consider this possibility.

Gina: Agree that if we are funding something with a large sum, it should be geared toward general student population. Would love to see CASP program implemented, but not from SFAC. If it is implemented, do they have permanent source of income for future years?

Chase: good question: is this a one off thing, or will it be sustained in the future? Or will it shrink in the future? What happens next? Do they come back next year and ask for more money?

Jose: From last slide directly, assume they'd need a grant every year.

Chase: A lot of proposals seem like they want grant for pilot program.

Lanchi: seems like it's a program they really want to invest time and money in and grow. If they want to grow it, they can't keep requesting sums from SFAC.

Jose: No intent to grow beyond CASP students.

Chase: 50k can be put to a lot better use helping more students.

Chris: Might have missed this but did they say how many students who were on probation got off, and how many got readmitted?

Jose: Don't have data, but information they presented seemed a little sketchy, possibly from 2019.

Lanchi: 2019-2021 were the Covid years, perhaps data is higher because of the pandemic.

Chase: Academic probation during pandemic was a little sketchy. Reach out and ask how effective they were. How successful are CASP students vs non CASP students? Does it work in a statistically meaningful way.

Jose: They emphasized how they did therapy, just listened to students. Couch is an emotional thing. CAPS is also an important service.

Chase: Are these people trained in this field? Or is it more I'll listen to your struggles, lend an ear?

Lanchi: More of a personal thing, no training

c. iTable presentation

Gina: No powerpoint, uploaded document on the drive. Interviewed them on Wednesday, piloting program for a position. Position is admin. Assessing applications, student visas, one on one meetings with students. No funding or partial funding would create gaps in students needs, wouldn't be able to help. iTable gives 50 to 200 dollars a month to international students who apply, undergrad and grad, two quarter max but will refer to basic needs if still needed. All current positions are contributing more work due to inflation and pandemic. It's hard to get resources to students who need them.

What was 1,600 for? Just for onboarding. Next year they'll pilot the program, figure out what they need going forward, coordinate with basic needs. For now asking for assistance from SFAC to pilot the program. How would they not abuse program? Trusting students because it's a lengthy application process. From student council, a lot of people were in the middle because they think it's very helpful but broad. Students use calfresh, but don't have access to cultural foods. So Visa gift cards could be helpful. Would partial funding be ok? Don't think it's a good recommendation because there will be a gap need. Just like CAPS, not given immediate care. Not able to get values.

Chase: Will say that 1. International students are not eligible for calfresh. Basic needs is allowed, but if you're not a citizen or resident of California you can't get subsidized food. Cast majority of talking to people there, a lot of the users are graduate students.

Gina: If they get the position, they're going to work on marketing because workload will be decreased for everyone. In summer, they basically refer everyone to basic needs. But international students are referred to iTable.

Chase: The way it was described is that it's not for long term, it's a band aid, not a full solution. Help with small problems along the way. Funding for this is not for those band aids, right now they're concerned with overworking their staff by 5-10% each. Students have to come back repeatedly, meeting different people having to explain repeatedly. With this funding, makes student experience smoother. Request is not to expand, but rather to smooth turbulent process.

Lanchi: Does that mean they're not looking to expand program to a larger degree?

Chase: They are, but a lot of the funding comes from AS, other sources, not SFAC. Not much talk about expansion.

Gina: We need immediate resolution to the workload, had an understanding it would happen next quarter but it would actually happen next year. Hope they would market better to undergrad. Right now it's geared to immediate care and attention. Position would be a part time position. Would work 20 hours a week. Warranted another question: part time and only 20 hours a week? Seems low given number of students applying. 32k.

Jose: Doesn't see how marketing is going to work if it's already so saturated, if already a lot of students applying. How does it work if it's grad students using it?

Chase: It's more that it's graduate students know about it and use it, undergrads get sent to dean, sent to more specific programs. Send them to HDH, food pantry rather than iTable. One question is why haven't they asked GPSA for funding.

Steven: Thinks they already get funding from GPSA, they don't get money from AS.

Chase: Then maybe they should go to AS for funding as well. Likes the program because grad students are people now. Those are our three presentations for the week. Let's talk about general approach. Thoughts? Show of hands who liked having powerpoint?

5 hands.

Chase: Generally, bring a powerpoint next time, and also type notes. Will make final paper easier. Just copy paste.

Gina: Do you guys prefer if we have scores down, does that make it easier?

Chase: Ideally it would be good. Why you rank it that high or low. Get an average score from your subcommittee. Also note if one thought it was really high/ low, while others were all average. Also run presentations by councils as well. Analytics help a lot. Each council will be seeing probably 10 of these presentations.

Gina: Was wondering for student council responses, lots of people want references and budget proposals. Is it ok to share them?

Chase: yes share them, don't get hung up on money specifics. Vibe check only. Don't give partial funding option. Stray away from partially funding. Other schools do it and it's a mess.

John: Agrees that split funding causes problems, ask yourself will it still be effective if they get less than what they ask for. Anything less than 50% it'll probably be a failure.

Chase: From councils, just want a yes or no. For partial funding, talk about in SFAC. Lastly, everyone will get a form to put your score on. Some proposals have been great, but doesn't mean it should be funded. Will be box at the end to mark whether or not it should be.

Jose: Do shadows do it as well?

Chase: Yes, for initial round.

Lanchi: Do you want to get opinions from council first?

Chase: No. Get council opinions first, then come to the meeting.

Jose: Does form have 4 different scores?

Chase: yes.

Chase: Typical week Monday, Tuesday, has meetings with heads. Get opinions from subcommittee. Thursday, get opinions from council. Friday, SFAC and fill out form. Form shouldn't take longer than 5 minutes.

5. Announcements

- a. Chase: Sometime by end of this quarter, will send out a poll about a merch order. Putting it out there now so he is responsible for it.

6. Adjournment

- a. 4:23

