



Request for 2022-23 Funding Services and Activities Fee Committee

BUDGET PROPOSAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Department Name: Office of Global Affairs

Create Date: 01/17/2023

Due Date: 02/17/2023

Submitter Name: Cindy Schaarschmidt

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Department Head Approval:

Department Head: Cindy Schaarschmidt

Requested Amount: **\$23,677**

Departmental Information

STUDENT UTILIZATION

Like previous years, applying for two separated programs:

Global Ambassadors: The program brings together domestic and globally connected students for themed weekly cohort meetings, during which we discuss global and local social justice issues. Topics include access to resources, ableism, indigenous issues, religious oppression, environmental harms, and more. The program is grounded in cultural humility, and participants engage with local experts and local community groups, have peer-to-peer discussions and participate in guided reflection activities that challenge their understanding of power, privilege, and justice.

Our participants benefit from the opportunity to engage in-depth with these topics outside of the classroom, with guidance by our program coordinator. These serious discussions are balanced with social activities that allow participants to become comfortable with each other. This atmosphere of trust leads to rich conversations that connect our meetings to participants' everyday lives. Global Ambassadors also provide cultural enhancement to the lives of domestic students and to international students who want to experience Tacoma.

Language lessons: Utilizing the language and cultural expertise of our students, we also hope to continue informal language lessons that are open and free to UW-Tacoma students. The informal language lessons are an opportunity for students to practice foreign languages that are not offered for credit at UW-Tacoma. Because UW-Tacoma only offers courses in Spanish and Mandarin, this initiative significantly expands opportunities for informal language learning; it also celebrates our students' linguistic, cultural diversity, promotes intercultural learning and exchange among our students.

CORE VALUES/MISSION ALIGNMENT

Our programs are intended to reduce disparities in achievement, experience and opportunity across diverse groups of students and create opportunities for students to learn about our diverse communities, in alignment with the strategic plan:

1: Advance student success academically, professionally, and personally.

- We know that 84% of study abroad alumni felt their studies abroad helped them build valuable skills for the job market (AIFS Study Abroad Outcomes Study), but we also know that typically only about 3% of UW-Tacoma students study abroad. Our programs bring together international, domestic and multilingual students and engage them in global learning right here on campus. According to research, participation in these extracurricular activities positively correlates with students' academic, personal development and contributes to their success in college.

1D: Ensure every student has opportunities to engage in high impact practices (HIPs).

- Participants range from first year to graduate-level students, and the program enables meaningful and sustained interaction: Students develop international perspectives, gain cultural humility and learn a foreign language. An explicit goal of the program is to challenge students' ways of thinking and to facilitate interactions with individuals who have life experiences different from their own.

3A: Enhance, incentivize and recognize collaborative community engagement.

- Each week our cohort gathers to discuss local social justice issues but through a global lens. During these meetings students also learn how to get involved in the local community, and some of the activities in-between cohort meetings take place in collaboration with community partners in the South Sound.

Create a sense of belonging:

- Although not explicitly mentioned in the strategic plan, UW Tacoma has been emphasizing to our students that "You Belong Here". Our programs help build community among students and help create that sense of belonging. Based on studies at UW Tacoma (conducted by Dr. Hyoung Lee), international students often feel isolated from their non-international peers. We provide an opportunity for students to develop relationships with those they might not otherwise meet, which can lead to a broader social and professional network for all participants.

SAF-FUNDED PROGRAM OR SERVICES GOALS AND OUTCOMES

Global Ambassadors: The Global Ambassadors Program provides an opportunity for global learning without the need to travel; it introduces students to

the concept of cultural humility and connects our local and global communities. The program reflects UWT's urban-serving mission by developing participants' interest in and understanding of social justice issues while providing real ways for participants to be involved on our campus and in our community. Our guided discussions are rooted in cultural humility and, after meetings, members are able to use this framework in everyday lives. They are able to identify examples of power, privilege, and/or oppression in their local and global communities. Through our invigorating discussions they learn to build meaningful relationships with people from diverse backgrounds and learn to feel more comfortable having important conversations with people of differing opinions. Members leave knowing how to reflect on their biases, privileges, and the general intersectionality of their identities. As members stated: "I never knew I was considered a First Generation Student", "I did not realize that height itself could be a boundary in the workplace or everyday life" and "how different cultural backgrounds would result in vastly different or somewhat similar beliefs, paradigms, moral considerations."

Language lessons: This year we offer Japanese lessons twice per week - we have offered those lessons both in-person and via Zoom. Lessons are facilitated by student workers who are native speakers - and who are trained and supervised by staff in the Office of Global Affairs. For the Japanese lessons, we collaborate with the TLC, which has offered their space and is helping to promote these opportunities to students.

Informal language lessons goals are:

- Create opportunities for informal language learning for students (in languages that are not offered for credit).
- Celebrate the linguistic diversity of our student body.
- Promote intercultural learning and exchange among students.

STUDENT UTILIZATION (COMPARISON OVER PAST 2 YEARS)

Global Ambassadors:

During the 2020-21 academic year we had approximately 7-12 students participate in our events regularly. We had to adapt our in-person model to a virtual Zoom model and had a consistent group of students participate. In 2021-22, we had record consistent turn-out, with at least 12-15 students at each weekly meeting. In 2022-23, we are offering the same weekly meetings with added activities and incorporated three bonding trips (one trip per month of the quarter). The attendance of these weekly meetings range from 10-15 people consistently.

As in previous years, students were not required to apply to the program, and we forwent asking demographic questions (age, race, gender, etc.) beyond asking students their academic year and if they were a domestic or international student on our initial entrance reflection. We wanted it to be as easy as possible for participants to attend our first meeting.

This year, we have also been able to host off-campus events again, like a trip to the Tacoma Night Market (15 participants), a Thanksgiving Dinner at our local pizza place, the Rock, (28 participants) and Bellevue Snowflake Lane to celebrate the holidays (35 participants). We even managed to host a volunteer event to the Giving Garden (10 participants). A lot of our events were collaborative efforts with; Student Activities Board, the Giving Garden, First Generation Initiatives, and the Center of Equity and Inclusion. This collaboration with other organizations both helps to introduce our students to these other offices and helps the Global Ambassadors program reach a broader audience on campus - one that is reflective of our student demographics. We have a wide a range of majors including: Psychology, Politics, Philosophy, and Economics, Accounting, Business, Criminal Justice, Bio-Med, and Nursing majors, and had class standings of sophomore, junior, senior, graduate students and sometimes even alumni.

Language Lessons

The informal language lessons began in 2017 and have been offered to students for free, initially with support from the Strategic Initiative Fund and since 2020 with support from SAFC. During the 2021-22 academic year, 35 students and alumni participated in Japanese and Korean lessons. Some of the participants only attended one or two sessions, but many attended regularly over the course of a quarter or even the entire academic year. Last academic year (2021-22), 15 students regularly participated in Japanese lessons. In the current academic year (2022-23), 20 students have regularly been participating in Japanese lessons.

Based on student interest and feedback, we also tried to offer Korean lessons this academic year. Unfortunately, while interest in the lessons remains high, we only have a few Korean students at UW Tacoma at the moment, and we have yet to find a facilitator for Korean lessons. We hope to resume Korean lessons next academic year.

COLLECTION OF FEEDBACK & IMPROVEMENTS

Global Ambassadors: At the end of every meeting we reflect on the day's topic, and students provide either verbal or written feedback. Our coordinator takes detailed notes and reviews the notes after every meeting to assure progress is being made. Participants are sometimes asked to fill out post-discussion surveys, where we ask them to share topics they'd like to discuss at future meetings. We often also ask students to participate in "What stuck with you?" reflection activities, examples of which are provided in the supplemental documentation section of the proposal. We track attendance using sign-in sheets when we meet in person, and via Zoom as we meet virtually. We use data to choose monthly themes, make changes to activities and delivery of content, plan social events and market our program.

For language lessons: When we meet in person, students sign in or swipe in with their Husky cards at the beginning of each language lesson. When lessons are taught remotely, we use Zoom registrant lists to keep track of participation. We also administer language lesson evaluations at the end of each quarter. The evaluations ask a series of closed-ended and open-ended questions modeled after the teaching evaluations used by academic units. Students typically provide detailed feedback, including what they liked most, what they liked least, and what change(s) they would like to see implemented. The staff member responsible for supervising language lesson facilitators also observes at least two lessons per quarter and provides feedback to the facilitator throughout the quarter.

SERVICE BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

Global Ambassadors: Global Ambassadors aims to provide a safe space for meaningful discourse and open discussion on relevant world issues from the standpoint of cultural humility. Verbal feedback from participants indicates that these meetings have introduced them to unfamiliar topics and perspectives. Students have also shared the ways in which these meetings have connected to their classes and daily lives. For example, after discussing indigenous issues in the month of November, students decided to try out the Native American-focused menu items at Alma Mater. After learning about religious oppression, students independently researched local religious and ethnic minority groups and stumbled upon the Pacific Bonsai

Museum in Federal Way. Students joined and utilized the First Generation Fellows Initiative program after attending a presentation from the Assistant Director of First Gen. Our volunteer visit to the Giving Garden made the students aware of the garden itself, and students learned that it provides fresh vegetables to the UWT Pantry and Court 17.

But most importantly we have been able to provide a space for community as we are re-learning in-person social interaction. Participants have asked for our weekly meetings to be longer and for us to host additional events on- and off-campus. Because of the trust and intimacy we've built with our participants, we are able to read the vibe in the room and do a quick pivot to meet the needs of our students. If this means veering away from our planned program to allow students to vent about something that is bothering them, then that's what we'll do to help our students get through these challenging times. Our members feel they are part of a community during a time when many people are feeling lonely and left behind.

Informal language lessons: In the end-of-quarter teaching evaluations, students consistently share their excitement and gratitude for being able to learn a new language from one of their peers (the language lesson facilitators are trained bilingual student workers). Students also report developing a better understanding of the cultures and countries, in which the languages are spoken and often express a desire to engage with the language more frequently. And finally, during the global pandemic which has meant social isolation for many of our students, we heard from many participants that creating community over a shared interest in language learning has been an important benefit for them as well. This continues to be the case as we resume in-person lessons.

Staff Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
Student Staff ³	Language lesson facilitator #1 \$2,500 E001	
	Student Staff Wages:	\$2,500
	Fringe @ 21.5%:	\$538
Student Staff ³	Language lesson facilitator #2 \$2,500 E002	
	Student Staff Wages:	\$2,500
	Fringe @ 21.5%:	\$538
Student Staff ³	Global Ambassadors Coordinator \$8,800 \$16 per hour for 12 months (10 hours per week) E003	
	Student Staff Wages:	\$8,800
	Fringe @ 21.5%:	\$1,892
PERSONNEL TOTAL:		\$16,767

Other Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
Contracted Services	Contracted services: \$750 (speaker honoraria) S001	\$750
Other Services	Other services \$2410 HRPM Workday fee for three (3) student workers S002	\$2,410
Travel	Transportation: \$750 (transportation to off-site events) S003	\$750
Non-Food Supplies & Materials	Non-food supplies: \$1,000 (social events) fees to cover social activities such as bowling, escape room, games, etc. S004	\$1,000
Food	S005	\$2,000
SUPPLEMENTAL TOTAL:		\$6,910

PERSONNEL TOTAL:	\$16,767
SUPPLEMENTAL TOTAL:	\$6,910
COMPLETE PROPOSAL TOTAL:	\$23,677

Supplemental Documents

