



Request for 2022-23 Funding Services and Activities Fee Committee

BUDGET PROPOSAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Department Name:

Create Date:

Due Date:

Submitter Name:

UW Email Address:

Phone Number:

Department Head Approval:

Department Head:

Requested Amount:

Departmental Information

STUDENT UTILIZATION

The funds to assist in paying seven (7) students to participate as active members of the UW Tacoma Library Student Advisory Board will directly benefit students, as they are compensated at \$200/quarter for circa 8 hours of work. This is significantly above student minimum wage and reflects the value we place on student labor. This project enacts our values of equity and inclusion by compensating students fairly and collectively building new processes rooted in anti-oppression and anti-hierarchical practices. The entire student body benefits from the UW Tacoma Library Student Advisory Board as meaningful decisions around change – from space use, to access, to collections, to equipment – will be informed by concrete, student-driven initiatives. This program creates a direct avenue for students to have on-the-ground impact on the services that support their education and pathways to success.

CORE VALUES/MISSION ALIGNMENT

The paid UW Tacoma Library Student Advisory Board aligns with at least three success indicators around student services and equity, diversity, and inclusion. First: by working closely with a group of students to deeply understand library services, this “increases student awareness of and satisfaction with the availability and accessibility of UW Tacoma resources, support and infrastructure.” We anticipate student board members to become ambassadors to their peers about the library and its resources, services, and spaces as well. Secondly: the maintenance of a sustainable Library Advisory Board adds to the “financial aid, scholarships, fellowships and work study opportunities” on campus for students – while the time commitment is low, the stipend of \$200 translates to over \$25/hour. Third: students participating in the Student Advisory Board are able to “understand and embrace the assets of our diverse communities through local ... learning and engagement experiences.” Through peer-to-peer mentorship with a carefully selected, demographically representative cohort model advisory board that meets with library staff to discuss and implement issues relevant to our campus, this group learns from and through each other about issues affecting our communities. This peer learning will contribute to creative, user-centered solutions that will improve library spaces and services for all UW Tacoma students.

SAF-FUNDED PROGRAM OR SERVICES GOALS AND OUTCOMES

The Library believes that students should be at the table where decisions about the Library are made – what books it buys, how its spaces are used, and what services are grown and developed. Our initial Student Advisory Board, formed in Winter 2023, invites five students to guide the Library’s strategic planning and decision making, meeting bi-weekly to engage in facilitated discussion and activities drawn from participatory design and related frameworks. Our primary goals for the Winter-Spring 2023 pilot program are that student board members, with guidance from library staff facilitators: 1) develop a charge, mission statement, scope of work, and governing principles around board membership, roles, terms, etc.; and 2) identify one or more initiatives or projects to work on in Spring. These may include, but are not limited to, the advocacy for purchasing technology or print materials, creating accessible spaces in the library, and building community through library programming. Currently, we are in the very early stages of coming together as a group to identify next steps. Moving forward into the 2023-2024 academic year, we hope the Student Advisory Board will, with input from the larger student community, launch one to three initiatives per year, incorporating a comprehensive, formative evaluation process in order to assess the impact of these projects. The Library also has a demonstrated track record of collaborating with other campus offices to create and sustain student-centered programming. One notable example is Real Lit[erature], a social justice-oriented book club developed in collaboration with the Center for Equity and Inclusion and active since 2018. The joint team was recognized for their outstanding contributions to UW Tacoma with the Staff Association’s Team of the Year Award in 2020. Ideally, the Student Advisory Board will pursue similarly meaningful collaborations with campus departments and other student-led organizations in order to meet their established goals.

STUDENT UTILIZATION (COMPARISON OVER PAST 2 YEARS)

Currently, the Library Student Advisory Board is a pilot project in its early stages, with five initial student members representing different UWT programs, educational backgrounds, identities, and lived experiences. To understand the potential impact of this Board long-term and across the larger UWT student community, we are drawing on data below around the use of the UW Tacoma Library in general. To be clear: the number of students who utilize our space and access our materials are the number of students who would be impacted by changes brought about by the Student Advisory Board.

Gate counts, which measure how many people enter our two buildings – Tioga Library Building (TLB) and Snoqualmie Building (SNO) – show 226,650 visits to our spaces in 2018-2019, 154,588 in 2019-March 2020, and 77,905 in 2021-2022 as we worked to return to campus post-COVID. More in-depth work is demonstrated by the number of times that the UW Tacoma Library staff have interacted 1:1 with students. Over 2022, students accessed the library’s circulation, technology, and research help services 5,911 times. This does not include the number of prescheduled 1:1 consultations with librarians.

COLLECTION OF FEEDBACK & IMPROVEMENTS

In 2021, the UW Tacoma raised funding to hire Archway Consulting, a Black-owned Tacoma consulting group, to assess our work in terms of antiracism, equity, diversity, and inclusion and to cultivate a sense of belonging for library staff. This work included many conversations about the need to do the same for our students, and the Student Advisory Board is a response to this assessment. Similarly, the UW Libraries Assessment Librarians Jackie Belanger and Maggie Faber are currently working with the UW Tacoma Library to assess student services and spaces, and are planning on doing qualitative interviews with the current Student Advisory Board to gain input on student needs around the use of the library’s spaces and services. We plan to draw on these efforts, as well as reflective work done with the current Student Advisory Board, to determine the impact of the pilot program. We are also hiring a new Business and User Experience Librarian, with whom we will collaborate to gather more assessment data on the impact of our efforts.

SERVICE BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

The UW Tacoma Library has a demonstrated record of success in meeting students’ diverse academic and extracurricular needs. The most meaningful and significant initiatives include the textbook program, launched six years ago in response to increasing textbook prices and its negative impact on low-income students. The Library purchases all required textbooks over \$75 and places them on course reserve, enabling students to borrow these materials short-term at no cost to them. Between 2019-2022, we spent approximately \$95,000 on books for this program which were loaned out a cumulative 2700 times. The Makerspace is another impactful program launched in 2022. An initiative led by Library IT, it provides UW Tacoma students with the tools, resources, and support to build and prototype a variety of hands-on projects. This collaborative, social, and multidisciplinary space includes innovative technology such as a 3D printer, Raspberry Pi kits, laser cutter, and more, as well as hosting a variety of regular community events such as knitting and crochet circles.

Staff Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
Student Staff ³	7 students, each paid a stipend of \$200/quarter per student (approximately \$26/hour), for a total of \$4200 for three quarters (Fall 2023, Winter 2024, Spring 2024). We are requesting \$3150 funding from SAFC, with \$1050 in matching funds anticipated to come from the Library. Note: as students will be compensated via stipend, fringe benefits are not applicable.	E001
	Student Staff Wages:	\$3,150
	Fringe @ 21.5%:	\$677
PERSONNEL TOTAL:		\$3,827

Other Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
SUPPLEMENTAL TOTAL:		\$0

PERSONNEL TOTAL:	\$3,827
SUPPLEMENTAL TOTAL:	\$0
COMPLETE PROPOSAL TOTAL:	\$3,827

Supplemental Documents
