

Werner University Center (WUC) Advisory Committee Meeting

April 11, 2022

Zoom

Attendance: Chelsea Blatner, Albert Worotikian, Jennifer Hansen, Katrina Hovey, Chelsey Mei Barayuga, Blanca Miranda Aguilar, Viviana Romero, Marci Miller, Kristen Perry, Chloe Furlong, Alyssa Rollins, Jane Cameron, Abigail Cisneros-Loera, Sarah Crockett, Blanca Jimenez, Rian Gayle

I. Reports

a. WUC

i. Projects

1. Heating and Cooling upgrade in Abby' House to bring it in line with campus temp range of 68-72. We haven't been able to do that in decades.
2. Carpet projects coming soon
3. Upgrading the Information desk in order to have a unit that has at least part of the counter ADA height.

b. WolfStore

- i. Chip readers for cash registers that can also do Apple pay are done
- ii. A platform for creating a website that Faculty use for books and materials is under way. The hope is it will roll out when class registration begins.
- iii. Easter Egg hunt
- iv. 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month flip sale

c. Campus Dining

- i. It is a challenge to hire staff. As of last week, about ¾ of the professional staff positions have been filled
- ii. Caffe Allegro is not making money. Valsetz is having to cover the deficit with that or with the Press.
- iii. Valsetz needs a renovation and is the only venue making money.
- iv. Summit RFP is coming out soon. This will put out an all call for food vendors to bid to use the Wolf Grill and Western Deli locations.

II. Old Business

- i. Review January 21st minutes. No edits and approved.
- ii. Bylaws edits vote. Few additional edits. Voted and approved.

III. New Business

a. MEChA mural proposal and recommendation.

- i. Proposal from MEChA is at the bottom of the minutes. Blanca Jimenez and Rian Gayle were in attendance to talk more about the proposal, locations and answer any questions from the committee
  1. Lots of great conversation about the 4 location options of the proposal. Each location was selected to be the most accessible for student and community to interact with. Additionally, MEChA understands that the mural maintenance and upkeep is the club's responsibility and to work with Facilities Services and Risk Management for when the mural goes up.
  2. Albert asked about possible options of having something in Valsetz food court. Blanca and Rian are taking that back to the committee.
  3. The voting members voted and approved the mural. Their 2 location recommendations are outside the WUC between the east main entry doors and the Wolfstore windows in the inset area and inside the WUC within the inset area between Caffe Allegro and the Freedom Center.
  4. Once the mural design is finalized, Blanca and Rian will share that with the committee.

- b. IFC Process
  - i. The IFC committee finished their budget process in Winter term. Every area within IFC received cuts due to decreased enrollment. For Student Engagement Operations which supports the WUC, that budget cut was almost \$200,000 for next year (July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to June 30, 2023). With that large of a cut, changes in operations will be reviewed and implemented over the summer and in Fall Term.
- IV. Announcements
  - a. April 27<sup>th</sup> is Denim Day. Part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month
  - b. May 14<sup>th</sup> is RHA prom in the Grove
  - c. April 30<sup>th</sup> is the Pow Wow
  - d. May 20<sup>th</sup> is Nuestra Fiesta Latina
  - e. April 21<sup>st</sup> is World after WOU at WOU:Salem campus.
- V. Adjournment
  - a. Campus

## **MEChA Mural Location Proposal**

### **Summary**

The MEChA organization is seeking permission to use 2 walls, either in the area of table 1, 2, or 3 or outside of WUC beside the Wolf Store, to be used for a mural to display images of diversity groups and messages to further support WOU's goals for making WOU a diversity-friendly place.

### **Introduction**

Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán (MEChA) De Western Oregon University a student organization that promotes higher education, cultura (culture), and historia (history). MEChA was founded on the principles of self-determination for the liberation of our people. We believe that political involvement and education is the avenue for change in our society.

At Western Oregon University (WOU), Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility are integral to individual and institutional success. WOU believes that it's important to continually transform itself to honor and respect a wide range of backgrounds, identities, and perspectives. One of WOU's goal in that area is to cultivate an inclusive campus climate that supports and celebrates the culture of a wide range of backgrounds, ethnicities, abilities, and identities. To achieve this, it was suggested to add murals around campus that can be an inspiration to people of diverse backgrounds.

The murals would display messages and images that students can access to feel a sense of belonging. There are already some murals on campus but they are often small and are hidden away from high traffic areas. MEChA is leading the effort to make 1 more possible. With the support of the president Jay, MEChA have identified a few locations that would be suitable and all of them are located in or outside of WUC. Please see the photos below.

### **Plans**

The MEChA Mural Committee has already made significant progress to ensure this mural is created. As a committee, they conducted a survey to collect responses from students of themes, images, symbols, and representation they would like to see on the mural. Responses were collected over a 2-week period and the survey received a total of 80 responses. These responses were then analyzed and reported back to the muralist. The muralist is now working on a draft of the mural artwork to be presented to the committee. After the draft has been approved by the committee and the location has been cleared, the committee will assist with prep work on the designated wall. They as well will ensure safety protocols are in place before and while the mural is being completed.

### **Timeline**

We anticipate for the mural(s) to be completed by May 13, 2022.