



SEATTLE CENTRAL COLLEGE

COLLEGE COUNCIL

December 11th, 2024, | 2pm- 4pm | BE4180A/Zoom

Minutes

Committee Members Present: Jenni Branstad, Diane Coleman, Chisa O'Quinn, Adrianna Martinez, Seth Taylor Naila Farah, Chantae Recasner, Chris Sullivan, Rachel Kolman, Mary, Rahail Alem, Tyler Saunders, Dino Kladouris, James Robinson

Committee Members Absent: Olivia Riggs, Evan Franulovich, Regina King, Monica MBaire

Agenda Items:

Meeting called at 2:10pm.

I. Canoe Way Video – Land Acknowledgement
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEENkIHMiYw>

II. Ice breaker: If you could pick any activity, practice, or interaction to replace, supplement or support the Land Acknowledgement what would you choose?

Seth starts the discussion on land acknowledgements. A lot of our acknowledgements are one dimensional and it is Seth's hope that College Council this year can begin earnest, robust, action-oriented education on the original stewards of this land (Especially near the College's Location of Capitol Hill), the Coast Salish people. This video about the Canoe Paddle is of particular interest to Seth and he will present it later.

III. Let's turn over to the rest of the responses from the council. What do you think about how we engage with the land acknowledgement?

IV. Some ideas from College Council

- V. One way to engage would be through Learning Communities, formulating knowledge epistemology and ways of thinking, uplifting those. -Adrianna
- VI. Student organizations can create events centering this work, collaborating with Clubs and Activities board. – Rahail
- VII. Appreciated contextualizing the stories, highlighting prominent folx from the community. Getting the human connection. Acknowledgement through story. - Rachel
- VIII. This work is difficult when we have hybrid meetings, too easy to disconnect– Ed

- IX. Struck by taking drums out of museums and out of boxes, associating with the past. It's important to center the voices of people today. I love Poetry and
- X. I saw some read at the Hugo House who shared their heritage, I especially resonate with celebrating art. Having current representation also works to disrupt those false ideas that Native history is only in the past. - Dino
- XI. Important to her to present this information in visuals; especially appreciated the drumming, music and art.- Chisa
- XII. Comes at it from a Strategic Planning perspective. Our major outcomes being teaching and Learning as our core mission. So how do we integrate this work into that? What historical forces impact what we teach? How are we teaching these topics? – Jenni
- XIII. I noticed that at New Student Orientation we talk about the history of the college, it would be interesting to learn how we occupied (justly or unjustly) the land the college is on and acknowledged that during those welcome events. We are atoning for our role in it and when we talk about our history we take steps to address that specifically as it shows that we care. - Chantae
- XIV. How would we atone? – Mary
Folx that have been directly impacted should also be involved when we work to atone. -Seth
- XV. Ways to atone could be taking responsibility, championing these underrepresented or marginalized voices. Partnering with these organizations already doing the work. – Rahail
Naila – Participated in a training where we talked about the land where they're from, used a website to look up those groups. Was also asked to use the names of the original inhabitants. There were original inhabitants and still are, powerful to hear those original names. Naila to share this link with the group.
- XVI. Chris – We need to humanize it more, we talk about land and people as almost inhuman objects.
- XVII. Dr. Pat went to the Muckleshoot led Health Event to look at approaching community health from their perspective, and how to incorporate it into the curriculum. How do we give back and acknowledge cultures. We also meet with Seattle Indian Health board to work more closely with them.
- XVIII. Chisa- Would like to comment on Chris' comment earlier, The Land is the Center; I appreciate your comment on the desire to humanize it but it can be culturally significant to center the land instead of specific people.
- Now Seth as Co-Chair will present 4 ideas/ examples.
- XIX. Begin engaging face to face with the Coast Salish people
1. They have an oral tradition with regards to history, we could bring these oral historians to the college to give the history from first nations that allow us to engage directly.
 2. Produce a series of narrated videos to use in place of land acknowledgement where appropriate.
 3. Would like to see history classes as taught by local indg, educators so they can bring that history to students who want to learn about it.
 4. Working with the community to find people who might donate to local Coast Salish Projects.

- i. Plan to work alongside D'andre/EDIC's
 - ii. Plan to review the various partnerships at the other colleges.
- b. What now?
 - i. Charge to Central EDIC to think about our relationships with tribal communities
- c. Research and Timelining Needed, will report back
 - i. Chisa would like to get more specific information about what orgs, partners we already have at the other colleges and will bring it back to this council to know what's already happening.

Chantae: This is a good example of how all of our work on College Council should be. We get a topic or concern presented then the council comes together to all thought-partner through it.

When we think through it we bring our experiences and ideas but drive the "charge" to the specific partners to get it done.

That way the person who brings up the issues don't have to do all the work, can partner on efforts.

This is also true for work done by the person or division "charged" with tackling an issue. They can and should also partner with other people to do their job but they can be the point of contact to bring the report out back to Council for a final review and closing the loop.

Rahail and Chantae have had great conversations these last few weeks. Good example of how we elevate this group as a true shared governance group.

When done well, College Council lets everyone get equal output so everyone is heard in their contribution at this table.

Rahail: It is also our perspective that this can be a place to share a concern while connect with those who have the reach and can move forward.

I would like to continue to move this type of manner. We as students also struggle to communicate with different points of contact. Nice to see how this played out. It's the ideal situation to share a concern and discuss solutions that best serves students and serves our mission.

XX. Approval of meeting minutes
 Motion to approve the minutes: Rahail makes a motion and MBaire seconds;
 Unanimous approval.

XXI. **ASC Report Out**

- Honoring ASC's role on Council, Responding to last meeting
 - Inviting ASC to take part in the monthly council agenda setting meeting
 - Acknowledging the way this body was introduced at the start of the term.
- *We, the chair and vice chair, would like to acknowledge that topics of concern were tabled by the ASC in the October meeting and apologize for*

not being adequately prepared to address your concerns. Regarding those topics we need to acknowledge that prior to the publication of the Collegian article many of us were unaware of the issues surrounding Student Leadership. We feel that as an advisory board to the president the College Council is the correct place to address these concerns, and that ASC has a right to transparency regarding the impact of recent events on Student Leadership while taking into account the need to abide by privacy and HIPPA laws.

- *We acknowledge that the ASC is asking for accountability and greater transparency, and we would like ASC to use this council to address the president and their cabinet with the understanding that action beyond that is out of the scope of the council. Accountability for individual actions and addressing them cannot be done here. We understand if there is tension or frustration that may arise from the opacity of the leadership's decision-making process. We hope that through our discourse leadership gains insight into the impacts of their decision-making process and can adequately address ASC's needs.*
- *Ultimately, the reason for the College Council is to address the unseen needs of Seattle Central, whether those needs are obscured by obfuscation or ignorance. We would encourage ASC to use the ASC report out to address these and future concerns so that the council may decide where the best place to affect action may be whether that is within the body as a whole or a subcommittee where concerns can be documented for guidance, continuity, and accountability. To that point we hope that ASC knows that the Council is a body comprised of their voices, and we will continue to be a place that supports your effort to uplift the needs of students and the ASC.*
- Chantae: the way we started the meeting is the point of the council.
 - Would like to carry that energy to every topic, there is nothing that is unwelcome here.
 - Will reiterate: The folx who are proximal to the issues will take marching orders from this group
 - There should be space held for everyone to feel heard
 - Roles clarified but not limited
 - Really big on recognizing we have to move beyond title we are people we are all trying to advance this community
 - Key role of the shared space on College Council
 - That's the beauty of this council, appreciate that the space did not feel safe.
 - I apologize because I was not here but leadership is leadership.
 - If there was an adversarial nature not OK for any meeting on our campus.
 - Conversations get difficult but the people aren't difficult, we will always work to center the people.
 - Important to all feel respected and heard. Center issue focused keep the main thing the main thing. We honor our mission in

support of our students and our student should never feel unheard.

- ASC Updates and Events
 - Hiring Update
 - New hires
 - Final stages of HR onboarding the Executive of Legislative Affairs and ASC just finished interviews for the three vacancies of Executive of Student Success and the Associates of Communication and Administration.
 - Finalized Goals
 - Improving shared spaces on campus
 - BE Building and SAM study spots
 - Will work to make them more functional and more accessible
 - Improving Communication and Making it more accessible to all students
 - Publishing the organizational chart and chain of command points of contact for key services that students will interact with such as Advising
 - Sharing Information in Canvas banners for broad appeal
 - Welcome Week for Winter Quarter
 - We had a record low for Fall Quarter
 - Yuka already sent out a sign-up sheet to sign up for an hour and be a friendly face to help students direct to their classes
 - Mbaire S&A Fee Committee Dec 17-18 Training
 - Next Quarter Issues and Concerns and Communication Committee Student Advocacy Committee
 - Leg Day – Advocacy Day, getting it set up and started. Will connect with IE and the Library to get research and create scripts
 - Will also be outreaching to satellite centers
 - Would like to hold some of their Monday meetings at these alternative locations.
 - Info Boxes
 - Trying to get past surveys will also accept templates
 - Will start in Jan to walk around campus to locate all of the Info boxes
 - Do we want to use what we have?
 - Fresh coat of paint?
 - Or do we want to purchase something new?
 - Want to have both physical suggestions but also a digital side that we can display around and publicize
 - Goal is to have this done by the end of Winter Quarter
 - Seth and Adrianna also inviting the ASC representative at the next agenda setting meeting to emphasize the importance of the role of ASC.

XXII. **Service Project – Woodcarvers** – Seth Taylor to introduce

- Background

- The reason behind the video that started our College Council today was the canoes, and their specific cultural role.
 - The canoe is a focal point for the Coast Salish culture.
 - Canoes are what are used for their yearly paddle, which is more than just a cultural exercise, it allows this community to stay connected and celebrate their heritage.
- What could it mean for Seattle Central?
 - It struck Seth that we can begin education and buy in to find a way to work with local communities to build a canoe that could participate in the paddle as a donation. Especially those who may not have the funding or option to produce one themselves.
- What would the outcome be?
 - Would also like to work with EDIC contact and Tribal Liaison to put into practice our intention beyond simple land acknowledgement statements.
 - The goal is to research the capacity to find money and partner with Wood tech and their boat building program.
 - Develop a Docu Series from the point of contact (PIO connection) to show a journey end. Put it up on the WTC website and our main website and show how we're starting to build community and education in lieu of a land agreement. I believe this would be beneficial for a variety of reasons
- Other examples in WA State
 - There is a canoe carving center proposed on the shores of Lake Washington that we can bring light to and cultivate donations for.
- Why should we do this?
 - It's important to Seattle and SCC history and community.
 - Provides an opportunity to put EDIC into action
 - Gives BOT a tangible project related to their Indigenous Initiatives
 - Put it as an action of resistance
 - Allows us to partner with underserved communities, Coast Salish people.
- Truce recommends contacting Alumni the most advanced and adept at that work.
- Chantae acknowledges that this work is multifaceted and can go a variety of way
 - Ways to engage curriculum, outreach etc.
 - You've given us a nugget of a focused thing the entire community can rise and support but navigating that is taking some time to digest.
- What are the next steps for the Council?
 - Seth will give Council some time to think about this idea.
 - Seth will write up a short summary and email it out.
 - Chantae proposes adding a timeline.
 - In June of 2025 what would you like to have accomplished?
 - After next meeting in Jan, Seth may solicit a team and brainstorm further action.

3:18pm 5 minute break will return at 3:23pm

XXIII. Sub-Committee Re-Introductions

- Focus on these topics:

- What are your functions?
 - How do you function?
 - Ask to Sub Committees: Document your function and process to submit to Council. Please post in the SharePoint.
- Critical Issues: Chisa O'Quinn
 - I. A quick summary of the sub committees
 - I. SP: Vision planning, RAC: resources and stability, CI: the heart of the matter. What's working or what's not, what's the function of the college and how do we bring that to the council?
 - II. What is the Critical Issues Goal this year?
 - I. We took the charge to think about Modality in an actionable way.
 - II. How do we balance access and accessibility?
 - I. Also considering equity, BSTT.
 - III. Emergency preparedness is also a concern.
 - III. Next Meeting:
 - I. We have a meeting this Friday we can send the invite out and we are starting fresh.
 - Resource Allocation: Dr. Johnny Woods, Jr – Chantae
 - I. Definition:
 - I. Is the subcommittee that focuses on budget and how we allocate.
 - II. Logistics:
 - I. Documentation from the meeting will be dropped into the Shared Drive.
 - III. Moving Into a Comment on Budget
 - I. For this moment, Chantae wants to talk about the affairs of the college.
 - IV. Background:
 - I. You're potentially aware that there are budget challenges facing us. Specific value unknown but we are expecting a deficit.
 - II. We also have State challenges that we're facing with regards to budget cuts and freezes. You may have read about travel bans or spending limits. We might see something like that here but we have not confirmed any actions at this time.
 - V. Chantae shares a document around shared values.
 - I. It starts the evaluation of budget as first clearing a compliance level
 - I. When we think about our budget we are beholden to certain areas first.
 - I. We have some compliance concerns, such as legal obligations as well as our Strategic Plan as something we are compliant to as well.
 - II. We also uphold ourselves to the Black Solidarity Framework as a compliance standard.
 - VI. After those Compliance Screening
 - I. We are left with our Values.
 - II. Right off the bat we acknowledge that everyone may not be happy but we can't have no one happy.
 - I. It has to align somehow.
 - VII. Starting with Timeliness, which is twofold:

- I. How long will it take to execute?
 - I. Can't take too long we have such a shortfall
- II. Is it permanent or short term?
- VIII. How much will it save?
 - I. How much to implement? Sometimes you have to spend money to save money.
 - II. How much will it save?
- IX. What else?
 - I. Please send all Values suggestions to Chantae.
- X. What does it look like to apply these principles? Values?
 - I. When we think about travel restrictions, how we define how and when we restrict travel?
 - II. It's not a significant amount but it doesn't hurt us in anyway.
 - III. But it's still a strategy that must be considerate of these values here.
- XI. What is the Role of Council in this process?
 - I. This is an opportunity to get your perspective. For a value to hold sacred.
- XII. When are changes due?
 - I. By the close of June 30 2025 we should have a balanced budget.
 - II. Feels like a heavy lift because we are already in Dec.
 - III. Crunch time strategizing will come.
- XIII. It's not only this Budget Year
 - I. There is still work for us to do operationally in 2026 and 2027.
- XIV. Acknowledging Recent Budget Pains
 - I. I know Seattle Colleges has experienced moments like this in the not-too-distant past.
 - II. Trying to solve *why* some of the financial issues have occurred. Maybe move this out of repetitive history. Wouldn't want to be back in this position in 4 years.
 - I. Going slow to go fast later.
 - II. Important to be diligent about what needs to be done right now to avoid these kinds of issues in the future.
- XV. Dino: How might this feel for students? How do we bring everyone along with us? How do we communicate so everyone can still feel empowered?
- XVI. Chantae:
 - I. The students should be the least impacted. But we're in a community so even those not directly impacted feel it by proximity.
 - II. If things get challenging or difficult such as sections cut, then we'll pair it with support.
 - I. May not be financial.
 - II. What can we do locally?
 - III. These are all the kinds of considerations to make. Not one strategy that applies to all colleges.
- XVII. What might this workflow look like?
 - I. How things get sent out: State says no travel, at SCC that may be applied differently.
- XVIII. Who is part of the decision making?

- I. About strategy? Our Shared Governance will advise and budget managers will work with the business office to make some final determinations.
- XIX. What is the timeline?
 - I. There will be decisions we have to make right away. I'm previewing something about travelling. What are the values that are informing our travel practices? How do we make it fit for our institution. Can't tell you the value of our deficit.
 - II. There is work being done to get a precise picture. We're in a multi-million-dollar realm but it's hard to have a firm picture until that amount clears.
- XX. What will the Communication Plan Entail?
 - I. We're holding there will be a series of conversations. Localized conversation with various groups.
 - II. Structuring time for various groups to talk about the implications and answer questions. In person.
 - III. Multiple Sessions
 - I. If you missed one session you can go to another one.
- XXI. Other Ways To Contribute
 - I. If you're not present physically you can contribute to the values. You are our advisory board, not voting on specific topics.
- XXII. How can we make this process more accessible?
 - I. Visual for the assessment process.
 - I. After the impact comes from this process.
 - II. Make something visible to the public to show the thinking process.
 - III. Rubric style how this aligns with this this and this. But also accepting there needs to be grace with that process.
 - I. Visualize this information not just word it out.
- Strategic Planning: Dr. Jenni Branstad and Dr. Chantae Recasner
 - I. Meeting Minutes and PowerPoint are in the Sub Committee folder.
 - II. Come Jan the SP group will start working on the Operational Planning process.

XXIV. Good of the Order

XXV. Parting Message from Chantae:

XXVI. Good luck wrapping up the year. I hope you get a moment of rest. I hope you enjoy time away. Thank you for being here at this time in the academic year.

XXVII. Meeting adjourned at 4:02pm.