



WPIRG Members Meeting July 18, 2016 – 12-3pm Multi-Purpose Room - SLC

Minutes

Agenda Item	Description
12-1pm WPIRG Open House	Meet our board, staff, volunteers, and other members at our Spring 2016 open house! We're introducing an interactive setup to share our updates and hear your feedback on everything from strategy to coffee house topics.
1-1:10pm Introductions and Land Recognition	Go around introductions and reading of WPIRG's land recognition statement.
1:10-1:15 Approval of the Agenda	Agenda approved.
1:15-2pm Solidarity Funding Committee Report and Ratification	<p>The Solidarity Funding Committee (SFC) will present its funding decisions to the members and members will have the opportunity to review, amend and ratify the Committee's decisions.</p> <p>Applications will be available for members to review prior to this portion of the meeting.</p> <p>SFC recommendations:</p> <p>1.Application: World Social Forum Recommendation: Funding \$1000 of \$1500 request. Decision: Funding denied.</p> <p>2. Application: Exiled in Paradise: Oil, Racism, and Reconciliation on Turtle Island Recommendation: Funding denied. Decision: Funding denied.</p>

	<p>3. Application: Water Gathering and Toxic Tour Recommendation: Full funding \$2700 Decision: \$1250 granted.</p> <p>4. Application: Grassy Narrows Youth Media Workshops Recommendation: Full funding \$700 Decision: \$350 granted.</p> <p>5. Application: Homelessness Awareness Week Recommendation: Full Funding \$537 Decision: \$537 granted.</p> <p>6. Application: Sing Hey Documentary Recommendation: Full funding \$600 Decision: \$600 granted.</p> <p>7. Application: Run for Palestine Requested: \$2000 Decision: \$2000 granted.</p>
<p>2-3pm</p> <p>Open Discussion: Mental Health on Campus</p>	<p>What weighs us down? What makes this campus feel toxic at times?</p> <p>An open discussion on campus mental health to provide feedback and guidance to what campus issues are of most concern to students this year.</p> <p>-mass cheating as a phenomenon of the culture of competition; tests not an assesment of where we are in our learning but as a ranking system that distributes current and future awards (jobs, coop, scholarships, grad school applications); stakes of winning at school are much higher; pointing the finger at students for trying to survive in a hypercompetitive system the UW admin has created/encouraged; stigmatizing students as cheaters, putting all the burden on student moral character rather than the root causes of cheating</p> <p>-student advisory group at Counseling Services or Accessibility Services</p> <p>-stigma; how to offer services in an affirming way not in a way that stigmazises</p>

-UW has caps on how many times you can access counselling services

-aim of counselling is to get us good enough to get back to school work not to heal us/about productivity not health

-never bothering to get diagnosed because the adaptation is inadequate or too many and uncomfortable hoops

-MIT getting rid of grades

-correlation between rise in campus policing of students via integrity/cheating control and defunding of PSE, larger class sizes, precarious academic work etc.

-a system for profs to in same department to coordinate due dates so they don't all fall at the same time

-a student overwork action group based on department committees to work with profs to negotiate due dates management, abolishment of hell week, negotiates other accommodations; trigger warnings from profs; participation grades as ablist; also a base for self/collective care

-students not knowing about official recourses for dealing with schoolwork

-ablism on campus; stigma around getting differently enabled

-profs as easier target; middle management; but also potential allies

-nightly meals/free food/sharing/working out- coping strategies (Move Your Mind with accessibility services and athletic services) - but more informal, easily accessible coping tools all over campus; an easy win demand; university will put something on campus based on whether it makes money or not and will not put things on campus that doesn't make money or takes away from their campus businesses

-student run pop up mental health stations - punching bag stations?

-racialized persons experience on campus - need to look at the specifics of this as it relates to mental health; same for transgendered people; face a choice between ignoring oppression or educating someone - both options leave you drained and with less energy for school work

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-engineering ranks students in individual classes - remove these!!!!-2-3 pilot programs in individual departments; Renison piloted “wellness workshops”; accessibility services as a possible resource-danger of coping mechanisms/supports feeding into a logic of allowing the uni to push hypercompetitiveness even harder with students better equipt to deal with it-worsening faculty and staff working conditions are connected to less healthy learning conditions-petty fines for missing coucilling appointments-idea that graduate students should be working all the time; normalized overwork and causes a lot of mental health problems
<p>3pm</p> <p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned.</p>