

Three Pillar Plan FAQs: **FAST**

Q: Can individual students receive funding from FAST?

A: YES, absolutely. Any individual student, even if they aren't affiliated with an RSO, can receive funding, and the funding facilitators will help them write their budgets. They do not have to complete any additional treasurer training, and request funds from the at-large sector.

Q: Is it easier to get funding approved?

A: One of the most common complaints about the FinCom funding process was that the rules were hard to understand and many budgets were denied simply because the requestor didn't understand the rules or how to write a budget. Under the new system, funding facilitators are available to help students write budgets which should eliminate this problem. In addition, no budget may be denied without requesting an amendment first, and it takes 4 out of 5 votes to deny funding.

Q: How are funding facilitators different than the former treasurers and FinCom?

A: Funding facilitators main function is to *help* students and RSOs find as much funding on campus as possible, even if it doesn't come from the Student Activities Fund. Facilitators help students write budgets, understand funding rules, find money in other places around campus, and with all other administrative work required to access various funding sources. Their goal is to reduce the burden on RSO treasurers and individual students.

Q: How will this funding process be easier and more transparent than FinCom?

A: All RSOs, students, and funding facilitators will follow the same rules that are listed in the Constitution and bylaws. All budgets that are rejected or approved must have a public posting of the reasoning of the funding body. All budgets will be made publicly available so that all students know how their money is being spent. In addition, the community funding standards are much shorter and simpler than the previous FinCom bylaws and follow simple rules and language for funding requests.

Q: What is the Advisor Panel and what does it do?

A: The advisory panel serves two functions. First, the advisor areas were chosen because they intimately understand the other large sources of funding on campus. Second, they serve as an independent reviewer for rejected requests under \$2500. This gives RSOs and students one additional opportunity to access funding in the rare case where their funding was denied. The advisors are from the following offices: Davis Center, Student Life, and Dean's office.

Q: Are funding facilitators compensated for their labor? How much?

A: Funding Facilitators will receive a stipend in the amount of \$800 each of the two semesters they serve. This amount is less than some other positions on campus such as TAs but is enough to cover required work-study and lower the barrier to serve as a funding facilitator for students who also have a need to earn income.

Q: How were sector allocations determined?

A: The Task Force determined sector allocations based on the budgets from the last two years, with the assumption that every budget could be funded. We were able to do this because of the \$225,000 of "found" money and the College now funding Spring Break Out trips. We ensured

that funding for At-Large groups and students and MinCo Supplemental Funding were increased due to the expected increase in funding requests once the process is made more equitable and accessible. Every sector actually received an increase in the total available funds compared to what they spent in previous years.

Q: Can groups from other sectors request money from my sector?

A: RSOs and students at-large can only request funding from their respective sectors. Each sector is protected from all other sectors, so the money in a sector is guaranteed.

Q: What about Pub Night, Hot Sauce Club, and ACE?

A: As part of the Three Pillars Plan, Pub Night and Hot Sauce Club will fall under the ACE umbrella. Because of the unique spending these organizations have in common, and their community-entertainment focus, the merger allows for a more reliable and sensible funding source for large campus-entertainment events. This will allow ACE, Hot Sauce Club, and Pub Night the autonomy they need to continue hosting great events for the Williams community. As part of the merger, Hot Sauce Club and Pub Night will be granted board seats on ACE. ACE will submit a single annual budget that lists the funding among its constituent organizations and then operate independently to host events following its own mission and constitution. The leadership teams of Hot Sauce Club, Pub Night, and ACE have agreed in principle to this plan and will convene under one umbrella as part of their normal spring leadership elections if the referendum passes.

Q: Can I go abroad and serve as a funding facilitator?

A: Funding facilitators serve the entire academic year, and must remain on campus through both semesters. Split or Joint tickets for the same position are not allowed. This ensures that students will have a consistent group of funding facilitators who are responsible for the fiscal year budget they were elected to facilitate from the annual budgeting process until the annual audit.

Three Pillar Plan FAQs: TABLE

Q Why is it called TABLE?

A: Because that's where the chairs are!

Q: Who exactly is TABLE, which students and committees make up this body?

A: TABLE is made up of the democratically elected chairs of the Committee on Student Life (CSL); Committee on Diversity and Community (CDC); Committee on Educational Affairs (CEA); Committee on Priorities and Resources (CPR); and Campus Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC). These committees have broad charges and reach into almost every facet of campus life.

Q: Can first year students serve on committees?

A: Yes! First year elections will happen in the fall. First year students are specifically reserved two seats on the Honor & Discipline Committee which are directly elected by the first year class. In addition, five other committees have reserved positions for first years, as well as any remaining positions from the spring self-nomination process.

Q: How can students interact with TABLE?

A: TABLE must host a monthly forum, preferably in Baxter Hall. Students on TABLE, along with the chairs of the other Student-Faculty committees will host this forum, presenting their work in their respective committees and listening to student concerns.

Q: Can I go abroad and serve on a student-faculty committee?

A: Students must be able to serve the duration of the committee term they apply for, but there are some committees, such as the Honorary Degree Committee etc, that only meet for one semester.

Three Pillar Plan FAQs: Union

Q: What exactly does the Union do?

A: The Union is a student advocacy group that amplifies student concerns, serves as a conduit to the administration, and a place where institutional knowledge can be generated. There is no hierarchy of executive power within the organization, allowing the organization to become a safe space for students to create change.

Q: Can I go abroad and serve on the Williams Student Union?

A: Union members only serve single semester terms, so students who are on campus for the semester can serve on the Union.

Q: Does the Student Union have power over the other two pillars?

A: No. The three pillars are independent organizations, and do not overlap in functionality or responsibilities. This is intentional, so that if one organization ceases to perform its duties competently, the other two can still function normally.