

# Student Senate Appropriations Committee Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** 10/17/2017

**Meeting Time:** 4:30 pm

**Meeting Location:** Kirkhof Center Room 2201

**Chair:** Carly Aller

**Advisor:** Chase Dolan

**Board Members Present:** Ben Rifkin, Patrick Cox, Brad Stek, Nyia Slade, Clyde Woods, Jack Boitel, Hannah Scott, Nick Bara, Tyler Szymkowski, Nick Toth

## 1) Opening of Meeting

- a) Meeting Called to Order
- b) Committee Introductions
- c) Organization Role Call

## 2) Hearing of Requests

a) **Requesting Organization:** Hillel  
**Title of Request:** Hillel HCAM Shabbat

**Date of Activity:** 11/03/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Zoe Kacfmán

**Amount Requested:** \$200.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$200.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for a Shabbat dinner on campus that is open to everyone, although it is geared towards Jewish students from other schools. Promotions are not being requested for this event because most of the promotions will be made through social media. The board clarified that student life would only be able to cover funds for GV students. The board went on to explain that they should only fund GV students at about \$8 a head.

**Motion to:** Approve in full

9 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**b) Requesting Organization:** Irish Dance Club

**Title of Request:** Villanova's Annual Intercollegiate Irish Dance Festival

**Date of Activity:** 11/3/2017-11/5/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Victoria Force, Emily Dougherty

**Amount Requested:** \$306.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$178.65

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for a festival that the group will travel to. As a clarification, line item 1 will not be used for costumes-it will instead be used for registration for the event. The club confirmed that they are taking personal vehicles, and they do have a confirmed list of 5 students attending. The second line item was adjusted to 257.28, bringing the new total to \$357.28 The board discussed cutting the total amount in half, but also considered funding one line item in full, even if this would not be half. It was considered to only fund one night at \$128.50. The board discussed still funding line item 2 in full, even though this is above the half-way point because this will be the first event for the club. The board asked if the club has done any fundraising yet for this event, and they confirmed that they couldn't. Because the members are already paying for their own costumes and personal costs, they do not believe that their members could afford this cost.

The board went on to discuss

**Motion to:** cut line item 1 and fund line item 2 at \$178.65

9 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**c) Requesting Organization:** FAA

**Title of Request:** Brand Yourself

**Date of Activity:** 11/9/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Kimberly Long

**Amount Requested:** \$514.50

**Amount Allocated:** \$514.50

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for a “Brand Yourself” event that helps students prepare for the professional world. The board raised the point that the food is around \$8 a head, which the board thought was reasonable.

**Motion to:** Approve in full

9 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**d) Requesting Organization:** Criminal Justice Association

**Title of Request:** American Society of Criminology Conference

**Date of Activity:** 11/14/2017-11/18/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Abby Elliot

**Amount Requested:** \$1,056.60

**Amount Allocated:** \$778.30

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for lodging for a criminal justice conference in Philadelphia. The organization broke down the costs for each item, showing that the school of CJ is paying \$550. The board clarified that with everything they can fund (not including the \$50 deposit), half of this amount would be \$778.30.

**Motion to:** Adjust line item 1 to \$778.30 and approve

9 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**e) Requesting Organization:** Urban Planning Association

**Title of Request:** Michigan Association of Planning Emerging Planning Professionals Conference

**Date of Activity:** 11/3/2017-11/4/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Christin Carrol, Stephanie Balke

**Amount Requested:** \$1168.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$240.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for a trip in Lansing, and lodging

and registration is included. It was clarified that the board would only be able to request one event at a time, and the board would be unable to hear more than one. The board discussed if the rule of only funding conferences 100 miles away would be upheld because Lansing is only 81 miles away. The board discussed whether this rule should be upheld. The board then asked the group about the networking opportunities at this conference, and it was explained that there are ample opportunities. The board discussed that a one hour drive does not warrant funding for a hotel due to the rules. The group explained that they have fundraised for the registration costs, and the board decided to help the group fund the registration.

**Motion to:** Deny request in full, retracted, strike line item 2 and approve line item 1 in full.

9 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**f) Requesting Organization:** Ethics Bowl Team

**Title of Request:** Hotel Room

**Date of Activity:** 11/10/2017-11/11/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Christopher Nostrant

**Amount Requested:** \$2000.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$888.91

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for an ethics bowl. Currently, \$3000 has been raised by other sources including departments at Grand Valley. If the 2000 was funded in full, the group would be able to fund the rest of the 240 amongst the group. The issue that was raised that while the lodging was reasonable, there should not be 10 rooms for 16 people and 2 faculty members. The board discussed only funding 4-5 rooms. In order to fit 2 on a king bed and one on a twin pull out, 6 rooms at \$1326.78 would be reasonable. Considering all of the funds for the \$100 fee, the adjusted hotel, and the vehicle rental fee, half of this cost (\$1777.82) would be \$888.91.

**Motion to:** Adjust line item 1 to \$888.91 and approve

9 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**g) Requesting Organization:** iPromise

**Title of Request:** I Appreciate You Event

**Date of Activity:** 11/4/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Alician R House

**Amount Requested:** \$2000.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$0.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for an annual event called iAppreciate You. The group is asking for food and promotions to support this event. The board expressed concern about this event not being inclusive to all students because there is a dress code and parents are invited and the primary ones being celebrated. VP Aller expressed concern about this event upholding the purpose of the student life fund. The board also expressed concern about the amount of students who were predicted to participate-200 seemed a bit of an overestimation. The board raised concern about if this event would be truly welcoming to all students, and also if food is integral to the event. They then again debated whether or not the fund should be used for this event, and there was still confusion what the purpose of the event. The budget for last year along with last year's minutes were called into question to clarify precedent for the event. Discussion occurred of what was funded in the past and if the board wanted to stay within this precedent. The mission of the event was called into question, and it was answered that faculty, family, and students are meant to be appreciated at this event.

After deliberation, the board decided that promotions could possibly be funded, and the VP Aller expressed that possibly the board could help the club with this small amount of money. Due to the lack of direction of the event and the concern about the event falling in the scope of the event, the board still disagreed. The board discussed possibly tabling it and having the club come back in to discuss a change in direction for the event, but it was a consensus that the event, on 11/4 was too close to be able to table and look at this event later. The board encouraged the organization to come in to ask for funding for other events that are more in line with what the fund's mission is: supporting the endeavors of GV students, and being open and free to the entire GV campus.

**Motion to:** deny request in full

9 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly