

# Student Senate Appropriations Committee Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** 2/7/2017

**Meeting Time:** 4:30 pm

**Meeting Location:** Kirkhof Center Room 2201

**Chair:** Rachel Travis

**Advisor:** Valerie Guzman

**Board Members Present:** a Mathew Criado-Cano, Carly Aller, Deja Broaden, Riley Burch, Olivia Kolc, Tyler Szymkowski,

## 1) Opening of Meeting

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

## 2) Hearing of Requests

- a) **Requesting Organization:** Physical Education Club

**Title of Request:** SPEAK Out! Day 2017

**Date of Activity:** 4/25/2017-4/26/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Prescott Holbrooz

**Amount Requested:** \$200.48

**Amount Allocated:** \$200.48

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** This request is for a travel event held in Washington D.C. The group is already paying for the conference fees and travel costs, they are only requesting funding for lodging. It was confirmed that fights so far are \$160, but this does not include all ticket costs. The group estimated that the registration fee might be about 100 dollars. The board raised the question that the hotel was listed at around \$170, and they asked if the difference was tax, and it was confirmed that it was. The board then asked how many students were going, and the group answered that at least 2 members will be attending, but a third might attend. There will be at least 2 people in the funded

hotel room. Because the group is bringing in money for other expenses, the board approved in full.

**Motion to:** approve in full

6 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**b) Requesting Organization:** Physical Education Club

**Title of Request:** SHAPE America 2017

**Date of Activity:** 3/13/2017-3/18/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Prescott Holbrooz

**Amount Requested:** \$1799.31

**Amount Allocated:** \$833.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested to attend a conference in Boston that will last nearly a week. Funding is specifically being requested for lodging expenses. The group has already covered the \$180 dollar registration, and the flights that have been purchased. The rooms are split up between boys and girls because the girls received a group-on deal. The flights were researched, and it would be around \$100 per flight to fly out of Detroit. The group asked if the group-on hotel had already been purchased, and the answer was yes. The board then explained that they could not cover the girls' room. The board discussed that they should cover the rooms that have not already been paid for. They decided to fund only the other room, and the reason was because the board likes to approve groups at 50% or a 200 cap per person.

**Motion to:** approve at the adjusted amount of \$833.00

6 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**c) Requesting Organization:** Lanthorn

**Title of Request:** CMBAM Conference Trip

**Date of Activity:** 3/30/2017-4/2/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Hannah Lentz and Amanda Fellman

**Amount Requested:** \$2000.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$1290.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested to fund a conference trip for registration fees and flight costs. The group is already contributing a lot of funds to cover some of the registration fees. The board suggested funding each person at \$215.

**Motion to:** Strike line item 1 and adjust line item 2 to \$1290

8 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**d) Requesting Organization:** GV Swing Dance Club

**Title of Request:** Sweetheart Swing

**Date of Activity:** 2/9/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Adam Pierson and Alex Cordela

**Amount Requested:** \$254.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$0.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested to fund a sweetheart swing dance. Funding would be used for food service and media equipment. The group explained that the request was put in so late because they were not sure about the dance floor (as they never received the floor last time they ordered it), and they had to move around meetings with Student Senate in order to make this event work. In order to promote for this event in advance, the group has been making posters and doing flash mobs. The board was concerned that the event was only 2 days away, and that this might be too soon to fund. The board also raised concern about the attendance at some of Swing Dance's events. VP Travis raised concern that the requests have been habitually late from the Swing Dance Club, and that this is unfair to other groups who follow the rules. Valerie mentioned that the club should still have the funds from the Dance floor that was not provided for the Holiday Dance. The board then discussed that food was not essential to the event, and it was explained that at the last event no one was dancing because they were eating, so the food should be cut down.

The board raised the point that if they didn't have the mishap with the dance floor, the board would have probably cut the food from the request entirely, so they decided that they should view this in the same way, and not fund the food at all.

**Motion to:** deny the request

5 FOR 1 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

e) **Requesting Organization:** Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers

**Title of Request:** IEEE 2017 Student Leadership Conference

**Date of Activity:** 3/16/2017-3/18/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Ethan Ruffing

**Amount Requested:** \$346.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$235.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for a hotel room for 3 nights and transportation to a leadership conference. The group is paying \$250 toward the event from members and the organization. The group of students would consist of 4 people. Line item 2 was updated to reflect the new costs of the van rental, and this brought the price down, and nearly cut the amount in half.

**Motion to:** Adjust line item 1 to \$97.17, adjust line item 2 to \$137.58, and approve the adjusted total to \$235.00

6 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

f) **Requesting Organization:** USAS

**Title of Request:** Speaker stipend and advertising cost

**Date of Activity:** 2/22/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Lindsey Diska, Kristy Hill

**Amount Requested:** \$9036

**Amount Allocated:** \$0.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** The group started by adjusting the items on the list. They are cutting line item 1, bringing line item 2 down, but the rest of the line items should be the same. The group wants to bring in a speaker to address hedge funds and institutional issues within the system. They will be bringing multiple representatives from Hedge Clippers. 3 people would be coming, and they would presenting in lecture and workshop style.

The board asked if any university representatives were talked to and have approved it, and the Sociology department has been helping promote this event, along with many other student organizations who want to get involved with Social Justice Movements.

The group also explained how they have been fundraising-they have been reaching out to NGOs, departments, and unions. There have also been fundraisers throughout the year, and the group has around \$300 so far.

The board asked again if any officials have been contacted about this event to see if there is any advice or any rebuttals. The group said that they would like to invite the administration and discuss the results of the research, but the board discussed some issues they had with creating unnecessary drama or 'going behind GV's back.' The board was concerned that the speakers will present bias in their presentation, and they would want the administration to be on board. The board discussed that they need more support on campus and they would want the club to explore a later date. For that reason, and because the event is so expensive, the board wanted to table the event until they receive confirmation from the administration, they have negotiated down the price, and they have an itemized list of catering.

**Motion to:** table the request

**g) Requesting Organization:** African Student Council

**Title of Request:** Auburn Hills Palace

**Date of Activity:** 2/10/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Corey Arthur-Fox

**Amount Requested:** \$378.16

**Amount Allocated:** \$0.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested to tour the Palace and for students to network with current employees at the Palace. The council has a connection with this group, but the board was concerned with the event reflecting the group's vision and purpose. They will not be connecting with any other African councils at this event. The group explained that there are many different majors within the group, and they will find out more information when they get there. Because the event does not reflect the organization's mission it was denied.

**Motion to:** Deny the request

6 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**h) Requesting Organization:** Exercise Science Club

**Title of Request:** Michigan ACSM

**Date of Activity:** 2/9/2017-2/10/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Vanessa DeLeo

**Amount Requested:** \$696.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$165.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** The group began by apologizing for not submitting within the 4 week time period and cutting line item 3, because the transportation probably could not be processed within 2 days. It was explained that the transportation would be more around the price point of \$58, not \$300. The group debated whether or not the group providing transportation should be considered in the overall costs. The board discussed paying for just registration in order to uphold the 50% payment rule. It was questioned whether the group could just fund both line items, and there was some disagreement between upholding the previous rules and continue with the mentality that the funds should help students get there, not pay for all of it.

**Motion to:** Cut line items 2 and 3, and cutting line item 1 to \$165.

5 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

i) **Requesting Organization:** A Cappella Groove

**Title of Request:** A Cappella Groove Winter Semester Concert 2017

**Date of Activity:** 4/22/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Kelli Nemetz

**Amount Requested:** \$1520.00

**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 event that will be held just off campus, in the Jenison Center for the Arts. The group has been fundraising and collecting dues to fundraise for the concert. They have covered the costs for catering, and the concert will be free. Unfortunately, the group cannot fund events that are off campus. For that reason, the request was had to be tabled. The group attempted to brainstorm other options for the event, but there were very limited options. The board suggested that they look into alternate days and talk to intervarsity to switch room reservations.

**Motion to:** table the request

j) **Requesting Organization:** Geology Club

**Title of Request:** Educational Geology Big Bend Trip

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

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Sam DeYoung

**Amount Requested:** \$1799.70

**Amount Allocated:** \$1498.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for an educational trip that will include student presentations. The group has raised over \$400 dollars from gem and mineral sales, and the organization explained that they know they will not be funded for the campsite because they have already paid for this. So the club is still looking to be funded for transportation (the passenger van and the national park fees). \$2360 could be funding in actuality (when gas, tolls, and food is discounted). Valerie questioned the vans that were reserved, and this was because Enterprise did not have what they needed, so this is possible. The only issue is that the van company might not allow their vans to go out of state.

The board raised the point that this trip is different than a typical conference, and that even though gas cannot be funded, this is a huge cost. The board discussed how much they should fund, percentage-wise. If the board funds the vans, that would be \$125 per person, which is well within the travel guidelines. It was discussed that it might be easier to work with the van rentals than the hotels.

**Motion to:** Fund line item 1 in full and strike line items 2 and 3

4 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**k) Requesting Organization:** Book Club

**Title of Request:** Potter & Pancakes

**Date of Activity:** 2/23/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Carly Aller

**Amount Requested:** \$837.50

**Amount Allocated:** \$675.50

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** The organization explained that the catering request is set for 70 people, and this is far too many. Otherwise, the organization is requesting money for promotions and the movie-rights. The organization explained that Catering should be approved at 40 people. At this count, 200 dollars would be appropriate for food costs. This would bring the total to \$670.50 in total. The organization explained that they do quite a lot of fundraising, as well

**Motion to:** Adjust line item 1 to \$200 and approve the rest in full, at \$675.50

**Consent was called and there were no objections**