Finance & Budget Committee
2017-2018 Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 1st, 2018
5:30 P.M.
HUB 314: GPSS Board Table

Present:
Chase Kania - Committee Vice-Chair, Foster School of Business MBA
Ted Cohen - Molecular Engineering
Audrey Motta-Wurst - Speech and Hearing Sciences
Adam Tahir - Aeronautics and Astronautics
Sameer D. Meshram - Mechanical Engineering
Rene Singleton - Assistant Director of Student Activities
Duong Phan - Budget Specialist, Staff

Not Present:
Brad Copenhaver – Treasurer; Committee Chair, Foster School of Business MBA
Jacob Ziegler - Chemistry

1. Call to Order

Chase called the Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Chase asked for motions to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2018 meeting. Adam moved to approve. Sameer seconded, all in favor.

3. Presentations:

Special Allocations Presentation:

- Request SP2018-09 (RSO: Micronesian Island Club), presenters: Jerusa Salas and Raeleen Camacho

Chase introduced the Committee and asked Jerusa and Raeleen to tell more about their RSO and event.

Jerusa introduced herself and Raeleen to the committee and described her organization's event. Micronesian Night is an annual event which will be held in HUB Ballroom. The event will include live music, cultural performances, and buffet style food.

Chase asked how they would advertise for the event. Jerusa said they have advertised through social media and sending out flyers
Sameer asked if they had received funding from the GPSS Diversity Funds. They said that they have received $500 from the GPSS Diversity Funds.

Chase asked how they would cover the claimed budget as their funding sources are less than their budget. They said that they have sold tickets, so this revenue will cover their costs.

Chase asked how long they have held this event. Jerusa said that about 21 years.

Adam asked if they received funds from Special Allocations before. They said yes.

Chase mentioned to them about the GPSS mission and suggested that the Committee would be willing to fund more for them if they continue to apply for this fund and their event includes more graduate students as the GPSS Special Allocations funds’ purpose is to serve graduate students.

Chase said that the Committee would consider their request and let them know within two weeks.

- Request SP2018-10 (ROS: Black Students Union), presenter: Maxine Addo-Kufuor

Maxine introduced about herself, the Black Student Union, and its upcoming event. The purpose of this event is to honor outstanding students, including undergraduate and graduate students.

Chase asked how long they have held this event. Maxine said that they have held it for 6 years.

Sameer asked why they did not mark all the funding conditions in their application. Maxine said that she did not know that they must mark all of them.

Chase suggested Maxine re-submit her application with their agreement to the conditions of the GPSS funding.

Ted asked if they had received funding from the GPSS Diversity Funds. Maxine said she did not apply for the GPSS Diversity funds as she did not know about it.

Adam asked if they would raise ticket prices to cover their costs if they did not receive enough funds to cover their spending budget. Maxine said they would not raise the ticket price as they want to encourage more students to join.

- Request SP2018-11 (ROS: Veritas Forum), presenters: Jesse Mackinnor and Jeffrey Haynes

Jesse introduced herself and Jeffrey to the Committee. Jesse also introduced her RSO and its upcoming event. This event will be held at Kane Hall on February 22, 2018. It is a panel discussion on different ways to approach mental health, hope, and suffering. Jeffrey added that last year their topic was about the election, but this year they will focus on mental illness.

Chase asked if they have a formal process to choose the event topic. Jeffrey said that they have a planning team that brainstorms ideas, organizes these ideas, and then they vote on the topic for the event.
Chase asked how they advertised for the event as they had a huge number of attendees last year and expected this year to have 500 undergraduates and 150 graduate students. Jeffrey said they set up tables with posters on campus to hand out flyers, sent flyers to all departments, and that graduate student members also helped to hand out flyers.

Sameer asked why they did not charge the attendees and if they want to charge in the future. Jeffrey said that they did not want to charge as they want everyone to be able to access the event. They received support from private donors and received funds as well. If they are short of money they can reach out their organization to ask for support.

Adam asked why they requested funds in excess of their spending budget. Jesse said they have not received confirmation about other requests, so they are not sure if they will receive them.

Audrey asked about their event speaker. Jesse said their speaker will only give a speech at their event, not anywhere else at UW on that day.

4. Discussion and Voting:

The Committee discussed and agreed to fund these RSOs as below:

1. $500 for the Micronesian Island Club. The reasons were that this is a cultural event and they had good activity planning, however the event would not include many graduate students. However, the Committee still wants to fund them as they wanted to support all RSO’s events.

Chase asked for motions to approve to fund the Micronesian Island Club for $500. Audrey moved to approved, Sameer seconded, all in favor.

2. $750 for the Black Student Union. The reasons were that the event’s purpose was to focus on honoring outstanding students and promoting cultural awareness.

Chase asked for motions to approve to fund the Black Student Union for $750. Adam moved to approve, Ted seconded, all in favor.

3. $350 for the Veritas Forum. The Committee liked their event as it focused on an educational purpose and included many graduate students. However, the Committee did not agree to fund more than $350 as they have private donors, support from their organization, and many other funds. The Committee suggested the RSO representatives come to the general meeting to advertise their event to other senators as they think this event would give good information to graduate students and they would enjoy it a lot.

Chase asked for motions to approve to fund Veritas Forum for $350. Audrey moved to approve, Sameer seconded, all in favor.

Chase motioned to adjourn the meeting, Adam moved to approve, Ted seconded.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.