



Finance & Budget Committee

2019-2020 Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 10, 2020, 11:30am

HUB 314: GPSS Board Table

PRESENT:

Shane Schrader – Treasurer; Committee Chair

Becky Tran - Budget Specialist, Staff

A.J. Balatico, GPSS Senator

Danielle Brown, GPSS Senator

Terrence Pope, GPSS Senator

Jared Canright, GPSS Senator

Julia Overfelt, GPSS Senator

NOT PRESENT:

Ted Cohen, GPSS Senator

Simon Crean, GPSS Senator

Shane calls the Meeting to order at 11:30am.

OVERVIEW

Shane gives each member an agenda, copies of last week's meeting minutes, Special Allocations Applications: Chinese Student and Scholars Association (CSSA)'s 2020 Chinese Spring Festival Gala, Foundation for International Understanding Through Students (FIUTS)'s CulturalFestExpo, The Veritas Forum at UW's The Veritas Forum 2020, and Pakistani Students Association (PSA)'s PSA Formal.

1. Call to Order
 - a. Approval of Agenda

Jared moves to approve the agenda. *Terrence* seconds. No objections. Motion passes.

- b. Approval of the Minutes

Danielle moves to approve last week's minutes. *Jared* seconds. No objections. Motion passes.

2. Special Allocations Presentation: Chinese Student and Scholars Association (CSSA) - 2020 Chinese Spring Festival Gala

Presentation

CSSA is a non profit organization with over 4,000 members. CSSA's mission is to help make students' transitions from China to US smoother. Currently there are 91 members, 11 are graduate students the rest are undergrads. Chinese New Year is the most important holiday in China, so it is important to have this event for new international Chinese students. As of now, CSSA is \$4,000 away from the budget they need; however they have a meeting with ASUW next week. They expect to have 750 attendees for this event. There will be dancing, singing, and a magician performances. Some performers are UW students. Overall goal is to promote the culture and diversity on campus.

Questions and Answers

AJ asks how is CSSA promoting this event?

Presenter answers that it is open to all. They are holding booths to publicize, Facebook event, and marketing via Instagram. Last year they had 700 attendees. Previously, the event has been sold out.

Shane asks about the Morgan Sound budget line.

Presenter answers they are using Morgan Sound for audio, camera, technology, etc...

Shane mentions the max we can fund would be \$750.

Terrence asks about the \$10 ticket sales with \$5 red envelopes to be returned.

Presenter explains that their ticket pre-sale prices are \$10 per person, but when the attendee shows up to the event, they are handed back \$5 in a red envelope (as a reimbursement/refund) for lucky money.

Shane asks if they expect to make a profit on the sales.

Presenter says they do not usually get profits. With any small profits that they do get, they use the money to invite companies to come present and network with their members.

Shane explains that we have a 15% profits policy, where 15% of their profits, up to the amount GPSS funds them would be returned to GPSS to further fund other organizations.

Julia asks about performances.

Presenter answer there are 2 hours of performances. Dancing, magician, little kids performers, stand up comedy.

Ted asks about the 700 attendees, 150 graduate students. Is that based off last year?

Presenter explains that they have every participant that attends fill out an information card.

Jared asks about reaching out to graduate specific organizations improve the graduate involvement. (i.e. GO-MAP)

Presenter are willing to reach out to GO-MAP and more strategy to reach out to grads.

Julia asks if they have any posters.

Presenter say they will start posting posters next week.

AJ asks about a backup plan if it snows.

Presenter say that is something they will have to discuss with Kane Hall. It has not happened in their history yet.

Discussion

Shane's comments about CSSA's actual numbers of grad students for last year's event, and CSSA was able to provide those numbers. Happy to see the numbers are up. Plus, having about 10% of grad students are great.

Jared moves to fund at \$750. Terrence seconds. No objections.

VOTE: ALL vote YES. None OPPOSED. None abstains.

3. Special Allocations Presentation: Foundation for International Understanding Through Students (FIUTS) - CulturalFestExpo

Presentation

This is an annual event with over 2000 students and community members in attendance. Attendees can visit booths of over 35 cultures. It is the largest multicultural events at UW. There are dance, music, etc... performances. If they receive multiple applications from the same culture, they connect the multiple groups. It's a good opportunity for booth captains to practice their public speaking, interviewing, networking, and leadership skills. It's also a great place to make new friends. The event continues to grow every year. This year, they're expecting over 2,000 attendees. Last year, about 300 grad and professional attended. 26% of FIUTS are grad students but they want to expand that representation. They expect to host 800 non-UW visitors, mainly elementary students - hope it will be inspirational for those to pursue higher education. Expecting the event to cost ~\$11,000. GPSS funds will go towards equipment rentals. \$4500 for HUB venues.

Questions and Answers

Terrence asks how they will expand student involvement.

Presenter hopes GPSS will help get the word out for this event.

Shane asks if there are any graduate students involved in the planning of this event.

Presenter is FIUTS GPSS Representative. There are only 2 graduate students on the board; neither are directly involved in the planning process.

Danielle asks about the expected 300 grad students number.

Presenter says there are signup sheets to keep track of attendees.

Danielle asks about advertisements.



Presenter says they use online methods like social media and the UW Daily email.

Julia asks about the flyers and handouts, would they be willing to put the GPSS logo on these materials.

Presenter answers, of course.

Discussion

Shane is trying to put out more info in the GPSS newsletter about promoting all the things the Finance and Budget Committee is funding.

Julia asks if we invite students to come and promote their event at Senate Meetings.

Shane says we definitely can. Probably someone on the FB committee will make that announcement.

Shane informs the committee that FIUTS asked for funding last year.

Danielle says it sounds like a very good event.

Shane says he likes they're bringing in elementary students.

Danielle likes the confirmed estimates through the signup.

Shane mentions that they did come into GPSS last year and we funded them for \$600.

Danielle thinks this sounds like a great event that promotes multicultural and diversity and it would be easy to pick up graduate student attendees.

Shane mentions he also likes that they bring in elementary students to show further/higher education at UW.

Danielle points out their their estimates are pretty confirmed because they use sign up sheets.

Terrence likes that a large chunk of their attendees are graduate students and professionals.

Danielle moves to fully fund at \$750. Jared seconds. No objections.

VOTE: ALL vote YES. None OPPOSED. None abstains.

4. Special Allocations Presentation: The Veritas Forum at UW - Veritas Forum 2020

Presentation



The Veritas Forum is a local chapter of a national organization. They have been hosting this event for the past six years. The idea behind the event is that they want to address relevant social and cultural topics through academic conversations with those with a worldview religious and non-religious background. Last year, they addressed the topic of Faith and Science in Academic Fields. This year, the theme is Artificial Intelligence and what it means to be human. The speakers are a professor from Washington University in St. Louis who will be addressing the topic from a Christian perspective and a professor from UW Law School who will talk about the non-Christian side of the topic. This is not a debate, but a place for the audience to hear these different perspectives and their common ground. Professor Jim Wellman from UW Jackson School is the moderator.

Questions and Answers

Danielle asks about the planning and involvement with graduate students.

Presenter answers that there is one graduate student that's involved in the planning process and event for this year. Last year, they had 3.

Danielle asks about 150 grad students - how is that data collected?

Presenter collects involvement cards and it's something they have done for the past 6 years.

Shane asked about ASUW's funding.

Presenter answers that they reached out but have not heard back yet.

Julia asked about budget and total requested amounts; the total requested funds is higher than their budget.

Presenter explains that they requested more funds than their actual budget because they did not know how much they would be granted, but assumed that they would be given less funds than what they request.

Julia follows up on what would GPSS funding would go towards.

Presenter says it will go towards publicity; hopefully ASUW would cover room expenses.

Julia asks about how they plan to reach out to graduate students.

Presenter answers through tabling, graduate student groups, and Facebook event.

Discussion

Shane says we fully funded them last year.

Danielle says it seems very skewed towards graduate students, making it easier to market.

Shane says there is a pro/con to having a national organization but the pro is that they have good reach.

Terrence points out that their access to graduate students seem to depend on the involved graduate students on the board.

Jared says when asked about reaching out to grad students, the presenter did not address the question.



Danielle says it's definitely something grad students would be interested in coming.

Shane mentions that their facilities costs amount to \$850, the equipment rental is \$590. So, if the committee wanted to fund at a lower level, they could choose \$600 to maybe cover the equipment costs.

Terrence points out that they listed in their budget sheet that they expect to apply GPSS funds towards publicity.

Shane agrees but we can just give our funds to their general pot. If we wanted to fund the publicity, then the amount would be \$500.00.

Terrence questions their publicity line item - it seems high for them not having a game plan on how to reach out to graduate students and it seems that their ability to reach out to graduate students is contingent on how many graduate students are actively involved in the program. Due to this, *Terrence* feels comfortable only funding the publicity portion.

Becky argues that she would want to give them general funds because they do not have the room reserved yet and that should take precedence before publicity. Plus, their number of 150 graduate professional attendees are high - and as we've mentioned, it would be an easy event to publicize to graduate students as long as the word gets out.

Danielle points out they mentioned the graduate student involvement on their planning committee dictates how they reach out to graduate students and since 3 of the graduate students from last year have graduated now, they do not have a clear plan on how to reach our population.

Jared mentions that he has enough internal conflict about this decision that he'll abstain from this vote.

Julia says that she would probably be comfortable funding at the \$600 level because we have funded them in the past.

Becky moves to fund at \$600.00. *AJ* seconds. No objections.

VOTE: 3 vote YES. 1 OPPOSED. 2 abstains. Motion passes.

5. Special Allocations Presentation: Pakistani Student Association (PSA) - PSA Formal

Presentation

This organization started at UW since 1998, making it 21 years old. It's mission is to about the Paki culture and establishing a Paki community at UW. The organization's typical events include: formals, cultural showpieces, weekly general meetings, mock weddings, game nights, and network events with Paki professionals. They want to expand because a lot of graduate students are approaching PSA for involvement, which is great for adding diversity.



This event, the PSA Formal (potentially renamed: Cultural Gala) showcases Paki culture and art. They will have decorations, art pieces, presentations, dances, and sponsored food from Paki restaurants. They expect 90 members in attendance. Funding requested from GPSS is for the room reservation.

Questions and Answers

Jared asks about the name of the event, PSA Formal. Is that a different name for this event? *Presenter* answers that they board is still trying to figure out the permanent name for this event. There's talk about calling it a Cultural Gala because it's a showpiece event. It's been previously called a formal because they ask members to show up in cultural/formal attire.

Danielle asks about grad student - have they reached out to GO-MAP.

Presenter says they will do that.

Shane recommends reaching out to the GPSS Diversity committee and ASUW as well.

Ted asks about graduate student involvement.

Presenter says in general meetings - there are 5 graduate students. They want to make it more inclusive this year and creating a community they didn't have before.

Ted asks about student involvement in the organization and their attendance.

Presenter shares that there are consistently 40-45 members at general meetings.

Jared asks about how they plan to reach out to graduate students.

Presenter says they plan to utilize email contact lists, tabling, reaching out to organizations, talking to other RSOs. And they are also open to non-UW members.

Terrence asks about the projected costs. How do they see the ticket sales factoring into it. Do they expect to make a profit?

Presenter says their profits go towards a donation for a local Pakistani-oriented organization. If they don't make a profit, they're still willing to hold the event at a financial loss. Their ticket sales are around \$10-\$12. And they also receive sponsorships from other organizations as well.

Discussion

Shane mentions they did not come to GPSS for funding last year, this is their first time.

Danielle doesn't have any issues fully funding their requested amount.

Shane wanted to find representation of other UW orgs.

Danielle says they have clear active missions.

Jared recommends to add in our email to reach out to SEAPaks, ASUW, GPSS Diversity in our email.

Julia mentions they applied in October, maybe their budget has changed since then.

Terrence wants to see an updated budget.

AJ has a concern about the amount (\$495) per student (5).

Danielle says it's a well put together package for that they're asking.

Shane says they are confident in their 5 graduate students.

Jared and *Danielle* mention they seem like they know those 5 personally, and they are active members.

Danielle motions to fund at \$495. *Terrence* seconds. No objections.

VOTE: ALL vote YES. None OPPOSED. None abstains.

6. Adjourn

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:32pm.