

University of Chicago Student Government

Student Government Finance Committee

Date: 10/26/2023

Time: 7:00 PM CST

Summary:

RSO Name	Event	Amount Requested	Recommended Funding
Student Research Society	Second General Meeting	\$101.97	\$101.97
Chicago Journal of Foreign Policy	International Law with guest speaker Daniel Abebe	\$320	\$275.18
The Organization of LGBTQ+ Students	OLSxOLAS Book Banning Real Talk	\$150.00	\$150
Society of Women Engineers (SWE)	Fireside Chat with Prof. Yamuna Krishnan	\$504	Reject (recieved during annual allocations)
Environmental Research Group (ERG)	Speaker Event (Fireside chats with professors)	\$550	\$550
Phoenix Farms	Annual Fall Festival	\$602.90	\$602.90
University of Chicago Buddhist Association (Meditation and Buddhist Groups of UChicago)	DharmaQ	\$948.50	\$868.50
UChicago Quantum Society	Speaker Series Event: Dr. Kanav Setia	\$1,193	Table (not present)
Society for the Advacenment of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science	General Body Meeting Gatherings for Autumn Quarter	\$1,427.00	Table (not present)
College Republicans	Events for this year	\$810	\$405

Agenda:

7:00 - SGFC Members

7:05 - Student Research Society

7:15 - Chicago Journal of Foreign Policy

7:25 - The Organization of LGBTQ+ Students

7:35 - Society of Women Engineers (SWE)

7:45 - Environmental Research Group (ERG)

7:55 - Phoenix Farms

8:05 - University of Chicago Buddhist Association (Meditation and Buddhist Groups of UChicago)

8:15 - UChicago Quantum Society

8:25 - Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science

8:35 - College Republicans

Attendance:

Name	Attendance
Gaurav Ajmera	Present
Lauren Harris	Present
David Yao	Present
Jian Park	Present
Jiayi Yue	Present
Annika Naramreddy	Present
David Liu	Present
Ariel Barnea	Present
Bianca Jortner	Present
Rachel Maya	Absent
Ishaan Goel	Absent

Jennifer Spinoglio	Absent

Organization: Student Research Society

- Notes on presentation
 - New RSO
 - Second General meeting - last general meeting for quarter, provide Boba from Heloe Jasmine
Each case - 11-12 people, turn around roughly 30-40 based on new members from last meeting, expecting even more members too
 - Each case is \$34 - comes up to roughly \$100
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- Questions
 - Gaurav: How is it like to be a new RSO?
 - Hard, but good experience
- Discussion
 - Jian: Motion to fund full.
 - In favor: 6
 - Opposed: 0
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion passes in full**

Organization: Chicago Journal of Foreign Policy

- Notes on presentation
 - Event coming up with Chicago Law Professor Daniel.
 - Trying to get free food
- Questions
 - Jian: Where'd you get your expected attendance of 40 people?
 - Newsletter, around 120 on it, got 20 more applications, and assumed 20 from the flyer.
 - Gaurav: Account balance is \$44. Is there a plan for that, or do you want to apply to this event?
 - Yes, apply to this event. People in charge of club last year didn't apply for allocation, so we have this charged along with this funding requested.
 - Jiayi: Have you had a speaker event before?
 - First one since 2021, not as active last year. We ended up putting out a publication, but were pretty inactive.
- Discussion
 - Jian: Motion to fund \$275.18 on basis we take requests and subtract current amounts in account balance.
 - Gaurav: second

- In favor: 6
- Opposed:
- Abstained:
- **Motion passes**

Organization: The Organization of LGBTQ+ Students

- Notes on presentation
 - First request is for OLS collab, book banning talk
 - Space for Latino and LBTQ to come together and talk about LGBTQ issues
 - Specifically about book ban
 - Food, tacos, based on what OLAS has spent on the past
 - Split cost between two orgs
 - 50-60 attendance, both organization
 - Additionally, asking for money for two study breaks
 - One movie night
 - Bottoms - lesbian coming of age movie
 - Snacks and drinks
 - Arts study break - canvases, snacks, drinks
 - Cpost will be put by products + expected number of attendees
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- Questions
 - Jiayi: For book ban talk, amount requested \$150 for OLS specifically?
 - Yes, \$150 for OLS specifically.
 - Gaurav: Will they come to talk about this event?
 - I don't want to speak on iit as I do not know.
 - Jiayi: for expected attendance of study break, 60, based on past?
 - Yes, etsimating based on collaboration.
 - Gaurav: For the movie, are you going through all the screening right procedure?
 - It's through a personal account.
- Discussion
 - Jian: Would the study break be a recurring event?
 - Gaurav: Tough to answer, because while they are study breaks, it is movie night and painting event, which technically the way you should treat it as two separate events. Means this is their 3rd event of quarter, so one needs to be fundraised 10%.
 - Jian: I would say give them the full amount.
 - Gaurav: can't technically ,because it wouldn't be treated as full or recurring events.
 - Jian: separate events, which gives them more money/
 - Annika: If they were unable to fund, do we make sure they fundraise?

- Gaurav: not necessarily, in this case it is where someone asks to give \$1 from the committee. We don't require to fundraise before, but require to have fundraise plans.
- Jian : Motion to fund in full for book banning as of right now.
- Jiayi: So we treat them as new RSO because they just started last winter.
- Gaurav: Treat as one study break request, it is fundable.
- Jian: Motion to fund in full if treating as new RSO.
- David : second
 - In favor: 6
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion passes**

Organization: Society of Women Engineers (SWE)

- Notes on presentation
 - Represent community of gender-minority in STEM at UChicago
 - Professor talk again, who's expert in field of Chemical and Biochemical engineering - allow for students to be excited careers in academia and research - form long-term relationships btween students and professors
 - Due to last years funding, dont' have enough for this event
 - 130 new sign ups from fall club fair
- Questions
 - Jian: for 40 people figure, did you send a sign up sheet?
 - Typical amount to show up from long-standing history, but expecting uptick from new signups
 - Gaurav: walk through budget?
 - SWE part of national org, so we're required to run 3 series of events throughout year. One is peer mentorship, other is professor talk, other is study break, and want to include industry panels
 - Events on budget breakdown based on events held last year and years before, same events every quarter. Numbers and prices based on previous events.
 - If we were to run normal sequence of what we promised members, we'd be in negative, so this would help us avoid being in debt by end of year.
 - Gaurav: are any events on this funded in annual allocations
 - A lot of still in annual allocations not funded at all, change in leadership, previous treasurer neglected to correctly input criteria for events → budget cut
 - Gaurav: Looking at annual allocation, you're funded women mixer, fireside event, general board meetings, stem mixer, study breaks, and professional development event. Based on what is submitted in screenshot, it feels like the

undergrad mentorship we can fund half and leave with \$65 of unknown amounts of money. The only thing we can really help with there is to help start fundraiser, so we can fund raw materials, but have to do fundraiser and keep profits.

- Presenter: Would you rather us cancel this and do something for spring?
 - No, do this but come to us for \$1,200 for winter, and as soon as we fund that you have to make up \$65 through next three quarters.
- Gaurav: You can email me back and we can talk more about offline to talk through everything else about your future events. We can't fund this event for that reason. What you guys do is great, we don't want cost to be prohibited measure.
- Discussion
 - Lauren: Would it have been considered an unforeseen price, because unforeseen you can consider from annual allocations.
 - Gaurav: In annual allocation, put in \$400 request, but amount went up to \$500. Ideal world, maybe extra \$50 but that won't really help.
 - Gaurav: Can't pre-fund future debt, if they're not going under by doing an event, we don't need to deal with it. So they can come back for future events, set up with fundraiser starting balance.
 - We can 50%, up to RSOs to choose what they do with that.
 - Gaurav: Reason is because they were funded in annual allocation**
 - Jian: Motion to reject request in full
 - Jiayi: second
 - In favor: 4
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion fails**

Organization: Environmental Research Group (ERG)

- Notes on presentation
 - Requested funding for speaker event on Week 7, November 9th
 - Quarterly event ever quarter, invite speaker from relevant department to cover research topic
 - One of major events
 - Funding because not allocated enough this year, so requesting for food for the event.
- Questions
 - David: You still have \$16 in balance, would you spend that toward the event?
 - We neglected that because it is low, if we have a small expense we can get \$12 as vegetarian pizza. Save for future expenses.
- Discussion
 - Lauren: They have \$16 in debt, not \$16 in their account.
 - David: Is it recurring?
 - Jian: They're asking for a specific November 7 event.
 - Gaurav: A lot of RSOs collapsed in COVID, still seeing resurgence.

- Joian : Motion to fund in full on the basis of cost guidelines for food.
- Jiayi: second
 - In favor: 6
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion passes**

Organization: Phoenix Farms

- Notes on presentation
 - Budget is for a fall festival, event that is the upcoming weekend (not this one)
 - Event to get a lot of members, spread out ,but around 70 and some of friends in community to have a break, celebrate fall, explore work we do
 - Planting, talking about bee hives, various farming endeavors, get people excited for winter
 - Community engagement activities, like partnering with Church, non-profit association, bigger events that are more accessible to greater Hyde Park community - integrate urban farms
- Questions
 - Jian: where did you get an expected attendance of 150?
 - Word of mouth, we knew we'd get at least 5 people per board, facebook event has 140 invites with various groups we're connected to
 - Talking with other RSO's, advertising
 - Large through attendance at various amounts - added up numbers we had
 - Current club membership is about 70 active members
- Discussion
 - David: Rentire \$400 is allocated?
 - Ariel: It was the annual allocation number. It's for other events. What is the tip for \$60?
 - Jian: They fundraised \$400.
 - Ariel: \$30 tip.
 - Gaurav: fundraised half, strong performance
 - Motion to fund in full based on fundraising and budget's allocation.
 - Jian: second
 - In favor: 6
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion passes**

Organization: University of Chicago Buddhist Association

- Notes on presentation
 - Tryign to bring together all Buddhist's and meditaiton community across campus, going to be a dinner with meditation sit

- Providing food, community for ppl to come together
 - Get groups from Divinity School, spiritual life, bring all together for social event
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- Questions
 - Jian: Wondering where 75 people are coming projected?
 - Provided by Malcolm, but we're calculating based on student groups on campus related to meditation. Several groups, each has at least 15-20 people attending meetings
 - also considering interest from grad, undergrad, faculty
 - Jian: Also where you're getting the food and why you chose Thai food?
 - We wanted to keep food vegetarian, so easy way to make it vegetarian. Buddhism is an Eastern religion, so that's why we chose Thai, an Eastern Asian cuisine.
 - Ariel: What's \$105 left in RSO account balance being allocated to?
 - Reserve, can't speak if it's applied to this event, but we're also planning to host speakers throughout the year and have other events.
 - David: What restaurant?
 - Two Thai restaurants in Hyde Park. CM Thai or Thai 55, one of those two.
- Discussion
 - Jian: Is it cultural?
 - David: I would say it's cultural.
 - Jian: Food had specific purpose.
 - Ariel: They have money in account that should be used, not allocated.
 - Gaurav: For context, \$13 mark would be in cost guide
 - Jian: Have \$1 local food.
 - Gaurav: if you order from Hyde park restaurant, cost guide says may consider going over per-person limits to fund community. Number isn't public, thinks between \$1-2 per person. Off of that, you can up it.
 - Jian: So we're applying count balance?
 - Ariel: Says they saved by reusing decorations from other RSO, we shouldn't fault them for being efficient with their funding. Honestly,
 - Gaurav: We can't also just leave money in their account regardless of how they tried to save costs. But they did have plan for it, speaker event.
 - Ariel: Could come back for those events.
 - Gaurav: any motions?
 - Ariel: Motion to fund \$868.50 after deducting current account balance.
 - David: Second.
 - Motion to...
 - In favor: 4
 - Opposed: 1
 - Jian against

- Abstained:
- **Motion passes.**

Organization: UChicago Quantum Society

- Notes on presentation
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- Questions
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- Discussion
 - Jian: motion to table because there is no-show.
 - David: second
 - In favor: 6
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion passes**

Organization: Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science

- Notes on presentation
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- Questions
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- Discussion
 - Jian : Motion to table due to no-show.
 - David: second
 - In favor: 6
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**

College Republicans

- Notes on presentation
 - Be able to get funding for food for meetings

- Last year, annual allocations leadership team turned in form blank - got zero in annual allocations → working toward in later quarters doing bigger events, but as of now focusing on growing membership with food
- IOP spot secured at regular time for meetings
- Only one guy on board last year
 - People running finances now are not that one guy
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- Questions
 - Jian: where will you get food?
 - Trying to buy pizza, because we have undergrad and grad, and want actual substantial food. Pizza is goal for all meetings, happy to buy cheap pizza but prefer enticing food
 - Ariel: Process of requiring money for event ?
 - Debt by \$733, due to last guy who mismanaged funds last year. One miscommunication about security, commuting with YAF about it - to get money back
 - Gaurav; Dollar amount to make it “+”
 - Security charge \$2,000-\$3,000, so we should have a \$2000 surplus for this year.
 - Gaurav: What will you use it on?
 - We plan to do outings out of state, like gun range because pro 2nd amendment.
 - Also no place to spend money for sure yet, but its nice to have it in bank, but before COVID-19 used to go to Conservative political conference in D.C.
 - Came into year without money, we can't do anything fun for people, a social club.
- Discussion
 - Jian: We have to cut in house because recurring
 - Ariel: What was the motion?
 - Gaurav; Anything funded in Annual allocation, gets same treatment as annual allocation, so 50% of all recurring events.
 - Ariel: that's tricky, their food is \$5 per person. They can easily make argument pizza is \$10 a person.
 - Joan: Motion to fund \$405 on basis they have recurring funding.
 - In favor: 6
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion passes**

Post Meeting:

- Send completed minutes to College Council Chairs, Committee Chair, and Advisors
 - Council Chairs: Elijah Jenkins- ejenkins26@uchicago.edu Juan Simon jsangel@uchicago.edu
 - Committee Chair: Gaurav Ajmera- gajmera@uchicago.edu
 - Advisors: Lauren Harris- harrisl@uchicago.edu Amie Clark- amieclark@uchicago.edu