

University of Chicago Student Government

Student Government Finance Committee

Date: 2/8/2024

Time: 7:00 PM CST

Summary:

RSO Name	Event	Amount Requested	Recommended Funding
University Ministry of Christ Church Chicago	Women's Tea	\$673.69	\$340
UChicago Majalla	UChicago Majalla Winter Launch Party	\$853.50	\$853
Pritzker Student National Medical Association	SNMA Mahogany Bus Tours	\$900	\$900
UChicago Buddhist Association	Chan/Zen Meditation Group Dinner	\$385.00	Couldn't Attend
JGrads Chabad at UChicago			
Hispanic and Luso Brazilian Studies	Chicago Graduate Conference in Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Studies	\$750	Didn't Attend
Equestria	Twice Weekly Horseback Riding Lessons	\$1,500	\$750
Hong Kong Student Association	Hong Kong Student Association	\$1,600	\$1298
Cadenza	Cadenza A Capella EP + Singles Recording	\$9080.00	0
Outdoor Adventure Club	OAC Annual Spring Break Program (Mountains)	\$5,847	\$4443.70

Outdoor Adventure Club	OAC Annual Spring Break Program (Everglades National Park)	\$6,435.17	\$4227
Outdoor Adventure Club	OAC Annual Spring Break Program (Appalachian Trail)	\$4,061.80	2543.13
UChicago Students for Life	Spring 2024 Speak Life Conference	\$10,000	Rejected (encouraged to resubmit)

Agenda:

- 7:00 - SGFC Members
- 7:05 - Cadenza
- 7:15 - University Ministry of Christ Church Chicago
- 7:25 - UChicago Majalla
- 7:35 - Pritzker Student National Medical Association
- 7:45 - UChicago Buddhist Association
- 7:55 - JGrads Chabad at UChicago
- 8:05 - Hispanic and Luso Brazilian Studies
- 8:15 - Equestria
- 8:25 - Hong Kong Student Association
- 8:35 - Outdoor Adventure Club (Mountains, Everglades National Park, Appalachian Trail)
- 8:45 - UChicago Students for Life

Attendance:

Name	Attendance
Lauren Harris	Present
Jian Park	Present
Chad	Present
Darius	Present

Edward	Present
David Yao	Present
Bianca Jortner	Absent
Shanice Handley	Present
Ariel Barnea	
Gaurav Ajmera	

Notes:

- 1st idea: set of provisioning that only apply until the end of the school year due to budget shortfalls
 - ◆ Ceases to exist by end of year
 - ◆ Message to RSOs to be self-limiting
 - Unless limiting amount of funding, no need for this
 - ◆ Fundraising requirements for size of request rather than number of requests
 - Sgfc shouldn't have same levels of these requirements
 - Ideas:
 - 10% fundraising min for over \$3k, 25% for over \$10k
 - ◆ Is a recommendation not a strict requirement
 - Anything over \$1500 - 10% >
 - ◆ Sgfc won't fund events that haven't occurred in prior years/had funding
 - Point of annual allocations is to fund events that haven't happened
 - There might be events that SGFC can't fund since they'll run out of money > SGFC has discretion to not fund events that it doesn't deem fulfilling/contributing to campus life
 - But SGFC tries not to make subjective decisions but maybe there should be an objective way to do so
 - ◆ CC made point about concerns about events that admissions props up as uchicago experience
 - Might have to refuse funding for newer/less known events
- 50/33 > 40/25
 - ◆ Cost guided travel downgrade
- General cost principles
 - ◆ Sgfc may discount options when they are
 - ◆ No mechanism at the moment to cost guide RSOs
 - ◆ What does this look like:
 - When they quote items but a cheaper alt is found
- \$1k/yr > \$200/quarter/RSO
 - ◆ Encourages RSOs to hold more fundraisers throughout the year

- ◆ Decreases avg amount slightly unless RSOs come with multiple funding requests
- ◆ There is exception for newer RSOs
- ◆ Only restriction at the moment is cap of \$1k/yr
- RSOs expected to show retention/attendance through RSVP/attendance forms
 - ◆ If they provide speculative numbers, this can help cut down
 - ◆ Events where they have 20 active members, if they have 50 ppl for event > there should be a discrepancy for events and number of people who are active members
 - Would have to check on RSO's activeness amongst their members
 - ◆ Requests for RSVP attendance sign up sheet
 - Help with considering cases where attendance from last year has drastically increased
- Restricting graduate RSOs
 - ◆ No way of knowing the complete makeup of grad/undergrad numbers
 - ◆ Funding from sgfc comes from student service fee that undergrads pay but grads don't pay
- advertising/printing
 - ◆ Change: Print publicity is 1 color print/2 attendee, 0.25/2 attendee
 - ◆ Max: \$100 for social media publicity is a little high
 - ◆ Separating printing and social media > small events don't need social media publicity as much
 - ◆ Cut social media line item
 - If RSO comes with request, could lump sum/make an exception
- Added to section 6: publication RSOs have to justify # of prints they need
- Decor for events
 - ◆ Change to per person, done similarly to social media/publicity
 - ◆ Expectation that RSOs must break down item by item of their decorations
- Food
 - ◆ 1st change: decreasing breakfast to max \$2
 - Most events don't need breakfast
 - ◆ For cultural events
 - 15/person > increase up to 25%
 - ◆ Cultural desserts
 - RSOs serving snacks so reduces funding
- SGFC may limit food funding if food isn't necessary for function
 - ◆ Food for general meeting is okay
 - ◆ Exceptions:
 - Cultural events
 - Events exceeding 5 hours
 - Out of town trips
 - ◆ Not for events such as a movie night where pizza is requested for 12/person
 - ◆ Call for SGFC to cut on food funding because it's the biggest
- SGFC may have food funding with exceptions due to budget
- Funding requests must have item/item breakdown

- SGFC will likely not fund event that's sole purpose is to provide food
 - ◆ Already mentioned in guidelines
- utensils/plates bracket will be \$50 for utensil, 0.60/person
- Hotel accommodations
 - ◆ From precedent, not funding airport to school cabs - unless exceptional instances
- SGFC will only fund 1 student travel requests
 - ◆ For the rest of this year
- SGFC will not fund current students who are performers
 - ◆ Extends to Phd students
- 500 or more is discouraged but open to reviewing
 - ◆ Letting RSOs know
 - ◆ Every time there's an honorarium
 - ◆ But more can be funded
- Subscriptions
 - ◆ Websites
 - 4/month - base level
 - Usually funding websites
 - ◆ Need to justify and if design is an essential part of club

Cadenza:

- Notes on presentation
 - New quote: negotiated different price, slightly lower cost
 - Requesting for album recording
 - Fundraising from singing valentines goes to other RSO costs and not album recording
- Questions
 - Fundraised for an album at all?
 - Singing valentines, in process of tabling
 - Haven't done any funding specifically for album
 - Usually raise 1500 for valentines event
 - Any funding for album in previous years?
 - no
 - Have you tried to lower fundraising efforts?
 - Typically, started doing them in person
 - Annual 1500-2k
 - A lot of funds go to annual running costs due to low allocations
 - For line costs, where does money go towards
 - Recording in logan so no recording fee
 - But all goes to engineer working with them
 - For quote, 3225, is that going towards the producer just producing or is he also singing + producing?
 - Will's quote is going towards engineering work, 75/hr
 - Others are 120/hr
- Discussion

- SGFC policy: Expect 50% funding for album
 - Can't fund it, they haven't fundraised any money so far
- The fundraised money wouldn't go to album if it had been fundraised
- Could be SGFC error for making them come twice
 - Told them to come back because request wasn't itemized
- SGFC missed the cost guideline on fundraising expectation as well as Cadenza
- SGFC didn't ask about fundraising last week
- Cadenza was asked to come back because they didn't have a lot of information about their request
- SGFC now knows they haven't fundraised for it
 - Unless there's substantial reason to go against what is generally required, it shouldn't happen
- If funding 50%, funded money wouldn't be enough for them
 - But expectation is that they funded 50% but they don't have the other half if the half from SGFC is granted
 - Wouldn't be able to fund the needs of RSO
- Motion to... not fund on basis that half of costs for album has not been fundraised and based on guidelines, rso must fundraise half
 - In favor: 4
 - Opposed: 1
 - Abstained: 0
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Motion Passes**

University Ministry of Christ Church Chicago:

- Notes on presentation
 - Request for annual event, successful last year
 - Galentine's event
 - Request for food, decorations and supplies
 - Organization about building community
 - Annual event where interested people can come and get to know org and connect
- Questions
 - Where is brunch coming from?
 - Cater from a caterer (connection with caterer, food for better price)
 - In hyde park area, a friend of someone in group who has catering business
 - Projected attendance of 20 people
 - Based on last year
 - Underestimate but was benchmark
 - Also based on interest
- Discussion
 - Hasn't been cost guided
 - For 20 people, up to \$50 but this is for 75 ppl limit

- 145 in decorations not including polaroid film
- Fund items 1-6 for \$50 - polaroid film considered decoration
- Cost guide food for 12/person, food is
- Goodie bags aren't funded
- Items 7-19 are all food except for goodie bags
- 340 total lump sum funding polaroid film
- Motion to... fund 340 lump sum on basis it's cost guiding decorations/food
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed: 0
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Passes**

UChicago Majalla:

- Notes on presentation
 - Arabic language magazine
 - Funding the printing of magazine for 1st time since 2019 and launch party
 - Haven't had physical printing/any events
 - No money at the moment
 - Inspiring interest in arabic language/culture/travel to middle east
- Questions
 - Quantity of 30 for magazine
 - Professor proposed this expected number
 - Advertisement through arabic classes
- Discussion
 - Utensils are cost guided
 - Magazines - haven't had any publications - can be funded
 - Food - cost guided, less than 10/person
 - Motion to... fund in full for 853 bc it's cost guided and no events so far this year
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **passes**

Pritzker Student National Medical Association:

- Notes on presentation
 - Org didn't apply for RSO funding due to error by treasurer last year
 - No events done so far
 - 900 for tour of south side neighborhoods for black history month event
 - This allows first years in med school to do events that they won't be able to do in
- Questions

- Projected attendance
 - 80 ppl in org, 20 1st years
- 2 dates
 - Didn't want to ask ppl what day they wanted but didn't wanna ask if no funding
 - Will only be one date
- Discussion
 - Unanimous decision
 - Motion to...fund for 900 on basis that there's value for event
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **passes**

UChicago Buddhist Association:

- Notes on presentation
 - Wasn't able to attend
 -
- Questions
- -
 -
- Discussion
 - Motion to...
 - In favor:
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**

JGrads Chabad at UChicago:

- Notes on presentation
 - 3 requests
 - 1st funding for chabad dinners
 - Communal religious events - both PHd and professional schools
 - 2nd for pHd specific programming
 - Jewish community has nothing outside of Jgrads
 - 3rd - Torah study
 - Set of events where they learn religious text and have some food
 - Typo with biodegradable utensils
- Questions
 - First chabad dinner, 30, 36, 80

- Variance comes from how they scale and the availability of students isn't consistent and word of mouth isn't always consistent
 - Only non-recurring event is PhD event
 - Yes
 - Food
 - Kosher establishment in hyde park
 - Discussion
 - Can only fund last 5 for
 - Can fund Phd, 3 chabads and torah
 - phD isn't recurring
 - phD event
 - \$50 for utensils is steep for 20 people
 - Next chabad: feb 23
 - Can only fund up to \$50 for utensils
 - 362.5
 - Motion to fund 362.50 on basis can only fund up to 50 for utensils and halved because recurring
 - In favor: 5
 - Motion passes
 - Next chabad: march 1
 - Motion to fund \$100
 - In favor: 5
 - Motion passes
 - Torah study
 - Can't fund the 8th
 - Half 175 and take off 50 for utensils,
 - Motion to fund 312.50
 - In favor: 5
 - Motion passes
 - Motion to...fund 170 for PhD event on basis it's cost guided and provides cultural food
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Motion passes**
 - Motion to...fund feb 16th chabad 605 on basis it's cost guided and recurring event
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Motion passes**

- Motion to...fund feb 23rd chabad 362.50 on basis it's cost guided and recurring event
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Motion passes**
- Motion to...fund march 1st chabad 100 on basis it's cost guided and recurring event
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Motion passes**
- Motion to...fund torah study 312.50
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Motion passes**
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Hispanic and Luso Brazilian Studies:

- Notes on presentation
 - Didn't/couldn't attend
 -
- Questions
- -
 -
- Discussion
 - Motion to...
 - In favor:
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**

Equestria:

- Notes on presentation
 - Requesting 30 lessons throughout quarter and into next quarter
 - 1200 + additional 300 for transportation to and from
 - 300 would be allocated to remaining events and for next quarter
 - Will all be in multiple cars

- Have to buy packages for lessons, package of 30 carrying into next quarter
- 3-4 ppl/lesson 2x/week for remainder of quarter
- Has to be purchased in lump sum
- Total of 18 lessons/week
- Have 20-25 participants who are interested
- Questions
 - Where is christian farms
 - 40 min away from chicago
 - Public transit
 - No public transit
 - Recurring event
 - Yes, happens every single weekend
- Discussion
 - Cut in half because it's a recurring event
 - Motion to...750 because it's recurring
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **passes**

Hong Kong Student Association:

- Notes on presentation
 - Joint event with chinese student association
 - Food and line dance performance
 - Food under 8/person, 200 people expected
 - Line dance coach
 - Event is on the 18th
 - Amount requested is 1300
- Questions
 - Is this annual spring event
 - First time doing in winter quarter
 - Want to make it recurring
 - Projected number since it's never been held
 - Show - line dance/skit
 - Rough interest
 - Past events ~ 120
 - If other club is contributing to budget
 - For food, they aren't contributing,
 - They have their own menu
 - In annual allocation, 498 towards spring event
 - Not included for this event, separate event
- Discussion

- Only funding for hong kong group but number of 200 includes everyone including chinese association
- Use 120 number for rso
- Confusion around total
- Requesting 1298
- Motion to...fund 1298 on basis of cost-guided on projected attendance
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **passes**

Outdoor Adventure Club (Mountains):

- Notes on presentation
 - 3 spring break trips
 - Deal with SGFC where all funding for spring break trips and annual allocations for day trips around chicago/gear
 - Charging students 50 for trip
 - Money from annual allocation, 200 for each trip
 - Rest of money for day trips, kayak trips and gear purchases
 - Point is to allow kids who don't have money for outdoor trip to experience it
 - Trying to get more people
 - Every year, 3-4x the interest
 - Tradition, bonding experience
 - Only outdoor club at uchicago
- Questions
 - Plan on fundraising
 - Every student deposits and if not getting all the funding, would be open to fundraising
 - Assuming the deal with sgfc
 - Want to keep it accessible for everyone, want to keep same entry fee
 - Comparing last years, cost request increased, increase in attendance
 - Due to increase in attendance
 - Don't want to cut too many people
 - Going pretty far south
 - For GA trip, price for hostel (cheapest option) due to freezing temps
- Discussion
 - Each trip has different amounts of fundraising
 - No food for travel
 - Mountains trip
 - Third the costs of the following - car rentals, gas, campsites
 - Motion to...fund 4443.70 on basis it's cost guided
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:

- Abstained:
- **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Motion passes**

Outdoor Adventure Club (Everglades National Park):

- Notes on presentation
 -
 -
- Questions
- -
 -
- Discussion
 - Divide campsites by a third - lodging expense
 - 4227 - cost guided
 - Motion to...fund 4227 on basis that it's cost guided
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Motion passes**

Outdoor Adventure Club (Appalachian Trail):

- Notes on presentation
 -
 -
- Questions
- -
- Discussion
 - Add back ticket sales and donations to request
 - 2543.13 - cost guided
 - Motion to...fund 2543.13 on the basis that it's cost guided
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **Motion passes**

UChicago Students for Life:

- Notes on presentation
 - Planning on hosting conference of 6 speakers

- Moved to event to april 20, hosting 10 speakers now
- Conference open to public and university
- Speakers from philosophy dept, political ppl in abortion policy, ppl involved in pro-life/abortion law, and medical side of things
- Educate chicago community about what being pro-life means
- Requesting 10k
- Expecting 14k given 1k/additional speakers
- Want to bring members from all over chicago and south side
- No speakers have been paid speaker fee
- Questions
 - Lump sum numbers, 3 expenses and not itemized
 - 1k/speaker - speakers coming from diff parts of US
 - Vaguely approximated round trip \$250/flight, 150/hotel, 500/speaker fee
 - Notebook expenses for 2k
 - Program handouts
 - Printing cost not known, is gonna check with fedex on 57th
 - Based roughly on previous years
 - Offered writing material/notebooks to audience members
 - 6 speakers not including additional 4,
 - Already have 4 committed and waiting to hear 2 more
 - Ripple effect
 - Want to use event to elevate uchicago as campus of free speech
 - Events had 200 attendees
 - Two years ago, 100
 - Last year, 125
 - This year, 150-200
 - Of 6 speakers, none are from uchicago
 - Only 1 is, they are Phd student
- Discussion
 - Defer for itemized cost
 - Don't plan on funding/rejecting and come back with new request
 - Highballing attendance
 - Last year, 2k for 90 ppl
 - 2500 on basis of 10% increase
 - Motion to...reject proposal bc items aren't itemized and ask them to get attendance confirmation, provide speaker info, submit supplemental documents
 - In favor: 5
 - Opposed:
 - Abstained:
 - **Motion pass/fail**
 - **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 LaSabra Williams lasabra@uchicago.edu