Finance Board Meeting

Minutes

Date: October 9, 2012

Commons 318

*Meeting called to order at 17:38 hours*

**Roll Call**

Mani Gupta

Samantha Spehr

Chisom Ebinama

Mark Crenshaw

Michelle Kuah

**Prep Time**

Samantha: Next week I would like to approve three sets of minutes.

Chisom: (Looking at graph) Based on this trend, for the year of 2011-2012 the total allocation is $15,368.14 for 2012-2013 is $28,096 based on allocation to 14 (orgs that have been approved and allocated funds) different clubs as opposed to last year’s 19 clubs. For the total fiscal year, we have $155,000 left in the budget.

1. **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL**

Members Present: Hadia Aqeel and Sheena Kaddavil

Hadia: We would like to show a documentary in which two alumni will come to the school to highlight poverty in Baltimore, and also spread awareness of Baltimore’s economic significance in America. This will also highlight the Dream Act. Oxfam and Anthropology COM are supporting this event as well as the Women’s center, and event will be advertised extensively. This event will also be spreading awareness of volunteering opportunities at UMBC.

**QUESTIONS**

Mani: What’s included in the marketing package?

Hadia: The banner, as well as 500 quarter cards.

Sam: There will be a speaker?

Hadia: Yes.

Sam: Is the honorarium contingent on the speaker showing?

Hadia: Yes, I can show you the email.

Chisom: How did you get the number 75 for the number of people that would show up?

Hadia: Through advertisement.

Chisom: What does food add to this event?

Hadia: It is an incentive for people to come.

Sam: Who is funding the copyrights for the film?

Hadia: There is no fee for copyrights.

Chisom: How will you get the word out for this event?

Hadia: Through online advertisement (Spotlight and Facebook).

Sam: Could you please walk me through your event?

Hadia: Movie, food, panel discussion, end of event.

Mani: What about online advertising?

Hadia: We are doing UMBC Spotlight and on Facebook.

Chisom: Have you had a similar event in the past?

Hadia: This is the largest event we’ve had so far.

DISCUSSION:

Chisom: I think this is a great event but I am hesitant to fund this event. I believe the message can be delivered without funding from SGA. (unsure)

Mark: (typing)

Mani: I would like to fund the advertisement and the honorarium, but the food I do not want to fund.

Sam: Advertising, I would fund, A/V definitely, Food, I do see value in the food, I think it would encourage students to talk about the film and the things that they have learned.

Chisom: I would not fund the food, because (as they said) it is purely an incentive and does not seem to add anything to the event. I would fund the honorarium because the person may not show to the event. The A/V is very much nonnegotiable as the event will not happen without it. It all depends on the way we see it. Does food really contribute to the message?

(move back into Questions; organization describes food as important for discussion within their event)

Chisom: Based on the description, food is not as much an incentive but now an essential part of the event, and considering this is a new organization we want them to spread their message to a wider audience seeing as how the discussion will add to UMBC.

Michelle: We just funded food for the College Democrats.

Mani: I see food as an incentive.

Sam: Although I can see the food helping discussion, the way the organization initially described their event, food seems more as an inventive. It’s also hard to ignore the fact that they will be advertising that students who are attending their event go to the College Democrats Debate Party right afterwards, which we also funded food for. I don’t think I want to fund food for two events that are so closely associated.

Chisom: College Democrats are irrelevant to this event even though food is at it and we funded, food is not an incentive but has been integrated into the event.

Vote to fund for $713.10

Members For: 4

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

Not Present: 0

$713.10 allocated to Amnesty International for Dream “Baltimore, We Love You”

1. **ANTHROPOLOGY COUNCIL OF MAJORS (AnthroCOM)**

Khristina Treasurer for AnthroCOM

Khristina: We want to show a documentary called *Half the Sky* about problems women face in other countries.

Questions:

Chisom: Did you ask the department for money?

Khristina: Yes, we are working with the department and they have been very helpful.

Mani: Do you need copyright funding?

Khristina: There is no screening charge, we talked to the creators of the film and they are fine as long as we show it for free.

Michelle: Have you explored other options for advertising?

Khristina: Yes; posters, cards, and online.

**DICUSSION:**

Michelle: I feel good about this event; I see this request as essential for this event. I would suggest that the org explores other areas of funding in the future.

Vote to fund for $22.00

Members For: 3

Opposed: 1

Abstaining: 1

Not Present: 0

$22.00 Allocated to Anthropology Council of Majors for *Half the Sky* Screening.

1. **M.A.L.E.S. (Men Achieving Leadership, Excellence and Success)**

Brandon Young: This organization focuses on career development and leadership and is also open to females. We have been struggling to throw social events and HQ wants us to throw a social event in order to increase numbers. We want to have a speed dating event, so that people can meet others without fear. Total is $219.00.

Michelle: You can get a TV Spot from Commonvision with the marketing package.

Young: Okay, then you can strike that from our allocation request.

Sara: I can confirm that iNet (TV Spot) is included in the marketing package from Commonvision.

Sam: Line item 4, TV Spot for $10.00 is being stricken. New total is $209.00.

Chisom: I see that you’re charging for non-UMBC students. How do you facilitate who gets in and who gets charged?

Young: We will block the entrance with a table to facilitate entrance.

Mani: Why do you think 100 people will show up?

Young: We took a poll at our meeting and if all our members came and brought a friend this would be the amount.

Sam: What will you do with the office supplies after you are done with them?

Young: We would like to use them annually and at involvement fests.

Michelle: Are there microphone charges, and are there going to be any other forms of advertisements?

Young: M.A.L.E.S. will be advertising the event personally, as well as online; we have already paid for the microphone.

**DISCUSSION:**

Mark: I have not seen an event like this and I am anxious to see how it performs.

Michelle: I have never seen anything like it; I would like to hear other people’s opinions.

Sam: I like this event because it would help the UMBC community to interact with each other.

Chisom: I am in favor of funding this event.

Vote to fund for $209.00

Members For: 4

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

Not Present: 0

$209.00 Allocated to Men Achieving Leadership, Excellence and Success for Quick Connections.

1. **Filipino American Student Association (FASA)**

Joseph: This event will bring together FASA groups from different campuses from districts 1-6.

Paula: This event will show how the culture pertains to us as college students.

**QUESTIONS**

Mani: Who are the 40 people going and how were they selected?

Paula: Group numbers as to those who have applied, and our club has grown so we have compensated.

Chisom: If we have less/more people how will you compensate?

Paula: We will not go above 40, and we are expecting 40.

Sam: How will you make it fair for the people who apply after the first 40?

Paula: We will select by how many times someone has gone, preferring people who have not gone.

Chisom: How will you advertise for this event?

Paula: People bring their friends, and also anyone can go even if they don’t go to the general meeting.

Michelle: What goes on at the conference what is the importance of the conference?

FASA Rep: We talk about Filipino culture, and we also get to network with people from other FASA groups nationwide.

Mani: How does it benefit the campus?

Joseph: Our members volunteer, and the workshops help FYI2 go smoothly (Future event).

Sam: How has the dissemination of information about (from) this conference gone in the past?

Paula: We use information to help our FYI2 event.

MANI: How many rooms are there?

Jo: 5 per room (8).

**DISCUSSION:**

Michelle: We need to think about how this event will benefit UMBC students as a whole.

Chisom: I don’t really see a way that they would be able to promote this event to the larger UMBC community. Word of mouth isn’t that effective.

Sara: As a board, you should discuss once they get back what will be the benefit.

Michelle: Membership is open, but generally only people in the organization are the only ones that go. The org has done a great job using workshop events to help other events on campus. I’m comfortable just funding registration. I feel that their hotel fee should be coming from the organization’s carryover.

**QUESTIONS**

Mani: If we don’t fund rooms, what will happen?

Joe: We will still bring the same amount of people and dip into carryover.

**DISCUSSION**

Sam: Striking line item 1, Lodging, for $1,509.44. New total is $800.00

Vote to fund for $800.00

Members For: 4

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

Not Present: 0

$800.00 Allocated to FASA for FIND: Filipino Intercollegic Networking Dialogue.

1. **FREEDOM ALLIANCE**

Alex Downie: This event will be our second largest event; this event will be used to thank faculty and staff on campus for supporting our cause, as well as educating the student body about what our organization is about and what resources are on campus that are a little less known. We do a lot of work on campus making sure the campus is more inclusive for all students.

**QUESTIONS**

Sam: For the band, are the contracts submitted to Jackie (Events Planning)?

Alex: There was a clerical error where the contract has not been added to the list of documents.

Chisom: Do you have a breakdown for the band?

Alex: There is a flat rate of $300.00.

Sam: You said you’re sending out invites, does this mean you can go only if you’re invited?

Alex: No, anyone can go, invites will be sent to people that we know have been allies to our organization, such as members of SGA who supported our initiative to have BMORE Proud on campus last year, and this will be advertised extensively.

Chisom: How many people are you expecting, why 200?

Alex: We are basing this number on how many seats we have, this is a facilitation event with a speaker, people are encouraged to interact.

Mani: Will these 200 people only be students?

Alex: 200 students will be in and out throughout the night, but faculty will be included.

Chisom: Could you walk us through the event?

Alex: Walk in, Dinner/Live music, Speaker is listened to, discussion/interaction, end.

Michelle: How has this event changed?

Alex: It used to be more formal, but this year it will be freer flowing and less food-based. We want it to have a larger student focus.

**DISCUSSION**

Chisom: I see this more as a cocktail I believe that people can get this information elsewhere.

Michelle: I appreciate the restructuring of the event format, and how it is less formal. I am comftorable funding this event.

Mani: I agree with Michelle.

Vote to fund for $2,370.64

Members For: 4

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

Not Present: 0

$2,370.64 Allocated to Freedom Alliance for Allies Dinner.

1. **American Institute of Chemical Engineering (AICHE)**

Requesting for 2012 Annual Student Conference, October 26-29, 2012

Org: Conference put on by AICHE in Pittsburgh. Wanted to get members and non-members to join us. Main reason to go there is: Ideas and Concepts in ENG Field. 2. Learn how to network. Student conference, so all attendees can network between other ENG Societies on campus. Usually interENG fields don’t communicate or network with each other. Networking should happen at an earlier stage, at the University level. If we were able to learn how to network with other companies and industries, lots of room for potential growth/possibility of employment.

Want to build this chapter, and going to this conference will give us the chance to do that.

**QUESTIONS**

Chisom: What are the criteria for choosing the five people who will be able to go to the event?

Org: The officers of the organization decide who will benefit the most from going. You have to be invited to attend.

**DISCUSSION**

Chisom: I’m uncertain that 5 people can convey this information to the larger UMBC community. Also, the cost is very high for just five attendees.

Michelle: Whenever I see an off campus conference that has closed membership, I see that the officers that would be going to this conference I do believe they have the experience and knowledge to benefit others. But I think that it is expensive for the benefits.

Vote to fund for $1,854.00

Members For: 0

Opposed: 4

Abstaining: 1

Not Present: 0

Allocation Request for AICHE for The 2012 Annual Student Conference *DENIED*.

1. **UMBC HUMANS VS. ZOMBIES (HvZ)**

Margaret: Zombie Prom is our annual Halloween celebration, zombie-themed and open to both on and off-campus students. This year we wanted to make the theme more interesting, and we decided on a *Nightmare Before Christmas* theme.

**QUESTIONS**

Chisom: What is the A/V for?

HvZ: For the DJ.

Kian: How is the turnout generally?

HvZ: Pretty good, we usually have people coming from other universities.

Chisom: How many people are in the club?

HvZ: ~150 are active.

Chisom: What about marketing?

HvZ: We advertise online, and mostly through word of mouth considering that it has been growing every year.

Mani: Buttons?

HvZ: We would like to have buttons; we hope that this puts HvZ on the map at UMBC.

Sam: Could you please explain the mask-making and crafts aspect?

HvZ: We want to make Boogie-Man masks to be reused.

Mani: Is a blaster necessary to participate?

HvZ: No anyone can participate.

Sam: How many people do you expect will be there from UMBC?

HvZ: ~300 will be UMBC students.

Mani: Will this be ticketed?

HvZ: No, we will be using wristbands to track students coming in and out.

Chisom: How does this benefit the larger UMBC community?

HvZ: I think this would allow HvZ to socialize with the greater UMBC community.

Chisom: What about people who aren’t members of the club?

HvZ: I would love for UMBC to join an international group and educate UMBC about HvZ and promote diversity. I feel like there’s a stereotype that’s associated with HvZ on this campus, and we’d like to show the student body that their perception of us isn’t entirely true.

**DISCSSION**

Michelle: Other than the giveaways, I am for this event. I would like to see the benefit of the giveaways as it pertains to this event. I am on the fence about buttons.

**QUESTIONS**

Sam: What is the role of buttons?

HVZ: We want them to promote our event in the spring.

**DISCUSSION**

Chisom: I do not want to fund the buttons, everything else I am fine funding.

Michelle: The marketing package does not include buttons; I think buttons should come from carryover. Buttons are related to the event in terms of advertisement, but I think the 1,000 free black and white copies from SGA can be used.

Sam: $40.00 for Buttons being stricken from line item 5, new total for line item 5 is $140.00, new overall total is $2,094.64.

Mani: Only 150 people are coming from UMBC, and it is open to everyone.

Chisom: It is open to everyone and it comes down to choice. I think it adds to the social atmosphere of UMBC.

Michelle: It is a social event, and it comes down to a personal choice, just as every other social event does.

Vote to fund for $2,094.64

Members For: 3

Opposed: 1

Abstaining: 1

Not Present: 0

$2,094.64 Allocated to Humans vs. Zombies for Zombie Prom.

1. **Ethiopian Eritrean Student Association (EESA)**

At this event we want to raise awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS, and also debunk some common misconceptions about EESA. We want people to celebrate common things in culture, and we want to spread this idea through food and dance. We are working with many different organizations to put our name back on campus, due to a hiatus. This also correlates with HIV/AIDS awareness day, and we are working with others. We will be helping UHS with testing this week as well, as well as promoting it.

**QUESTIONS**

Chisom: Why are you expecting 250 people to come?

Mekael: This is based on our 2009 numbers.

Chisom: How do you plan to promote Eritrean/Ethiopian culture, as well as raise awareness about AIDS?

Mekael: We will have a poet to take care of this, as well as having a speaker who will make sure that our dual message is delivered.

Chisom: Are you promoting AIDS awareness only for Ethiopia and Eritrea?

Mekael: No for the whole world, AIDS affects everyone.

Michelle: Quotes for the flags from Walmart?

Mekael: We cannot get proper quotes from Walmart that is why there is a discrepancy.

Michelle: What will you do with the flags?

Mekael: We will reuse them.

Sam: Is shipping included?

Mekael: No, we are going to Party City to get the supplies.

Sam: Were you not able to look at prices for the drinks on Walmart’s website?

Mekael: We were unable to get a screenshot of the prices inside the cart.

Michelle: We are worried about underfunding or overfunding.

Mani: How much is going to each speaker? Is the space confirmed?

Mekael: There is only one speaker. And the space is confirmed.

Mani: What is the role of the photographer?

Mekael: We were unsure about that and that would be something we would be comfortable taking out.

**DISCUSSION**

Chisom: It is good they want to take the photographer out, but I think there is a lot of information that is missing.

Michelle: Photography I would not fund, but the other things, such as the contracts I am not comfortable funding in full.

**QUESTIONS**

Michelle: Do you think there is any room for further negotiation?

Mekael: We could do that definitely.

**DISCUSSION**

Chisom: I think there is so much going on, they must decide between the musical performance and the speaker.

Michelle: I think it is up to the org to decide what will be at the event, but I think the EESA should negotiate further as it pertains to contracts in order to get a lower price.

Chisom: I don’t think recommending is judging, I think the musical performance is unnecessary. That is my opinion.

Michelle: They should go back and really try to find the lowest number. We should revisit this next week. We should look at each line item as it affects the event.

Chisom: We should give them a more specific number as to how much we want to fund.

**QUESTIONS**

Sam: Are you willing to compromise and negotiate?

Mekael: We are willing to attempt to do that.

**TABLED**

1. **ARAB STUDENT UNION**

John: The idea of this event is to break the stereotype of Arab culture. We want to inform students about Arab culture, and bring Arab countries together.

**QUESTIONS**

Mani: Could you walk us through the event?

John: Walk in, music played, food is eaten, belly dance completion, possibly comedy, dance.

Mani: How are you spreading Arab culture besides food?

John: We have designs that will share Arab culture; also the comedian will be breaking stereotypes about Arabs in society.

Mani: Food?

John: Arab food.

Mani: How are you paying for the DJ and the comedian?

John: Fundraising (carryover).

**DISCUSSION**

Michelle: Most of these things I see coming from events planning and is therefore essential. However, we need a more definite breakdown of what the organization is actually requesting.

**TABLED**

**10.) Biology Council of Majors (BioCOM)**

(Organization chose not to send a representative to the Finance Board meeting.)

**DISCUSSION**

Chisom: I see no difference between this request and the request they submitted from last week.

Michelle: I agree

Sam: I agree. Organizations cannot request funds for the same event more than once.

Vote to fund for $39.45

Members For: 0

Opposed: 4

Abstaining: 1

Not Present: 0

Allocation Request for BioCOM for Pizza & Speaker at General Body Meeting *DENIED*.

**Roll Call**

Mani Gupta

Samantha Spehr

Chisom Ebinama

Mark Crenshaw

Michelle Kuah

*Meeting Adjourned at 21:42 hours*