

Finance Board Meeting  
Minutes  
Date: February 7, 2012  
Location: Commons 318

Call meeting to order at – 5:34pm

Roll Call

Michelle Kuah  
Damani Lewis  
Ebony Tongo  
Samantha Spehr  
Kaylesh Ramu  
Kian Larijani  
Morgan Russo  
Sheetal Chopra

1) Pre-physical Therapy Society

**Description:**

Pre-physical therapy society is requesting funding for advertising the organization's first general meeting/recruitment event. They are also requesting funding for pizza to use as an incentive for people to come to their first meeting. Their goal is to make others aware of their presence on campus, especially since currently, there is little knowledge of the club and they have very few members.

**Questions**

*Sam: Did you do this last semester?*

No

*Kaylesh: How many people do you want to show up?*

A: We're thinking about 30 people.

**Discussion**

Damani: I think it's fine. It's a first pizza event for the organization. It would be a good tool to raise the amount of people that they have in their club.

**Votes**

**6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 0 not present**  
**\$188 allocated to Pre-Physical Therapy Society for pizza party/first meeting.**  
(\$48 for pizza (x6); \$140 for marketing package)

2) Tawainese Student Association

## **Description**

Tabled from last week

## **Questions**

*Kaylesh: Did you get the information for the cost of transportation?*

A: {reads out cost}

*Kian: If this event is not paid for, do the people who paid have to go?*

A: Yes, because they wont get a refund.

{Note: In general, there were multiple questions, and calculations made, in regards to the cost of the hotel and transportation.}

## **Discussion**

Sam: I like that they were able to get the cost per person down so much, but it's still really high at \$92/person.

Ebony: I think it's the nature of the event that is what's making it expensive. The fact that they are leaving, staying at a hotel, etc. is what's bringing the cost up.

Morgan: If I fund anything I want it to impact the campus and student life...and I want it to impact the campus in a big way. I don't feel like this event will really do that. The impression I have is that it's not a good way to bring it back to the campus. I didn't get the impression that this was a leadership conference. I feel like this is information that they could get online.

Kian: For me, I think it's expensive and it's difficult to say what exactly is going to be brought back to UMBC from this experience. I don't really see it as representing UMBC at the conference. I see it as a personal experience and not really a campus enrichment program.

Kaylesh: I think that this is not a good use of the finance board money and that there are better events that will attract more people and be more justified.

Michelle: Do you all feel like partially funding or not at all?

Sam: I was already looking at the event as if we were already partially funding it.

Damani: I personally don't like partially funding conferences because we have a certain amount of money...and I don't feel as if they ever really happen when that happens. I feel like this decision has to be made now and I would say no.

Michelle: (explains similar situation that occurred last semester)...what was mentioned was personal benefits vs how it would work for the school.

Damani: What would be concrete is physical ramifications. I think that this has relevance to umbc, but the question is what is what has the MOST relevance?

Kaylesh: I think that you can see the impact of it through intention. I find a lot of value in these kind of things which, like strive, brings people together.

Kian: If the cost of gas wasn't so expensive, then this would be a legitimate request.

#### **Votes**

**2 in favor, 4 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 0 not present**

**Request Denied**

3) ISCOM

#### **Description**

ISCOM is requesting funding to host jeopardy game night. The event is open to everyone. The group says that they typically have very serious meetings and would like to use the opportunity to have a more relaxed meeting that is open to everyone.

#### **Questions**

*Sam: Are you guys advertising?*

A: We will be advertising through spotlight, our organization, etc.

*Kaylesh: Have you had a pizza event before?*

A: No

#### **Discussion**

{Note: Not too much discussion; there was a general consensus to fund this event.}

#### **Vote**

**6 In favor, 0 Opposed, 1 Abstaining, 0 Not present**

**\$117 Allocated to ISCOM for Jeopardy game night.**

4) Amateur Radio Club

#### **Description**

The amateur radio club is requesting funding to participate in a radio contest that occurs every couple of months. The group also wants to use the opportunity to expose new, and potential, members to club activities.

#### **Questions**

*Michelle: How many people do you think will be competing?*

A: There will be between 12-15 people and any new people who are interested as well.

*Josh: Technically, anyone who has a radio can listen in?*

A: Yes

Sam: Is this event in August?

A: It's actually in February.

*Damani: How does this work with the food?*

A: We took a little free time from the schedule so we could include the food.

*Michelle: How many people do you plan on providing food for?*

A: About 12-15 people for sure, but we're planning on inviting Howard Community College as well as prospective members.

*Damani: How will you feel that food will enhance the event?*

It will give people the chance to socialize and act as an incentive to get people to come to the event.

Damani: Did you do any advertisement?

A: We plan to advertise through different places including spotlight and Facebook.

## **Discussion**

Sam: I think this is a good event. I think that the pizza adds to the event.

Ebony: I think that it'll {the pizza} enhance the event.

Kaylesh: The food just adds a good element to it. I think that the pizza will make it a more comfortable setting.

## **Votes**

**6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained, 0 not present**

**\$140 allocated to Amateur Radio Club for radio contest.**

(\$100 for pizza(x8); \$30 for drinks; \$10 for plates/napkins)

5) Disciples On Campus

## **Description**

Disciples on Campus is requesting funding for an event called "Dance Around the World." The purpose of the event is to foster a fun, interactive environment where different groups of people can come together.

### Questions

*Damani: Have you gotten the contract with UMBC?*

A: No, I was unaware of the fact that we needed one.

*{Damani explains policy}*

*Kian: I know it's on mainstreet, but did you advertise?*

A: Yes, we are advertising on spotlight, facebook, etc.

*Sam: How many people do you think will participate in the event?*

A: About 70.

*Morgan: What is the purpose of this event?*

A: It's more for getting people to be involved and come together.

### Discussion

Kaylesh: It's a refreshing, different kind of outreach.

### Votes

**6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained, 0 not present**

(\$130 for common sound; \$8 for tables; \$210 for lights)

6) Coptic Club

### Description

Coptic club wants funding for their weekly bible study. The group has a volunteer who uses power point in order to reinforce what's being spoken. Therefore, the group would like a projector that will be used to display the power points. The group is also requesting funding for t-shirts. They hope that the shirts will be used {as advertisement} to bring more people to the club.

### Questions

*When will you wear the shirts?*

A: It's up to the members as to when they will wear the shirt.

*Kian: There is a deadline issue.*

*(Michelle explain the policy in regards to the deadline).*

{Note: There was apparently an issue with the form not being received in due time. No one knew who was at fault.}

Kaylesh: Did you submit a form for the shirts?

A: We never received information in regards to the shirts. We waited for the emails. I talked to Shawn White and she knew that shirts was funded, but she didn't know for how long.

*Kaylesh: (explains the policy)*

### **Discussion**

Sam: I'm okay with funding the projector, but not the shirts.

Damani: I wouldn't feel comfortable funding the shirts, because it's not something that I feel is necessary for the club. They need the projector, but not the shirts.

Kaylesh: I think that this {the projector} is something necessary to help their organization function and it falls in line with their purpose. I don't think we can fund shirts, because we already set aside funds and that funding was used up. Now, it is too late to fund the shirts.

### **Votes**

**6 in favor (of funding projector), 0 Opposed, 1 Abstaining, 0 Not present**

\$300 allocated to the Coptic Club for a projector rental. Request for shirts denied.

(\$300 for projector)

7) Model of the United Nations

### **Description**

Requesting funding for the National Model United Nations conference. The dean will fund \$3,721.08 and the group would like SGA to fund the rest.

### **Questions**

*Kian: On page 3, there is mention of a student discount? So that means that you all already paid a certain amount?*

A: We collected \$300 and we gave it Shawn White and she has already paid.

*Kaylesh: In regards to policy, is it okay?*

*Sara: Yes, it is.*

*Kaylesh: Do you all have a tax exempt form?*

A: We already have a tax exempt form, but it didn't work for New York.

*Michelle: So does the invoice includes taxes?*

*Kian: The hotel is the grand total of everything, including taxes. If student services were to pay this invoice, you would be subtracting \$1450? There is the occupancy tax as well.*

*Sara: Any tax is ineligible when it comes to school related events, even if it's in New York.*

A: I will go back and do all of that.

### **Discussion**

Damani: I am fine with it; it serves the function of the organization. It can be considered a considerable amount but it's not particularly alarming.

Sam: I agree and it seems like they did a lot of research.

Kian: It's a fantastic education experience.

### **Votes**

**6 In favor, 0 Opposed, 1 Abstaining, 0 Not present.**

**\$2,450 allocated to Model United Nations for the NMUN conference.**

8) Model United Nations

### **SECOND REQUEST WITHDRAWN BY REQUEST OF THE ORGANIZATION.**

9) Hindu Student Council

### **Description**

The group is requesting funding to host "Holi Hungama", a cultural event. They will have a few umbc dance teams and will be showcasing indians students and conferences. It'll last about two hours and it's similar to ajouba.

### **Questions**

Michelle: Do you already have a confirmation?

A: Yes. We got a confirmation email and they did the allocation form online. We were also confirmed for the UC Room.

*Michelle: How many people are you expecting?*

A: The last two years we did it, we almost always sold out.

*Sam: You're not charging UMBC students? And what about off campus?*

A: It's free for UMBC students; \$70 for those who are coming off-campus.

*Michelle: Do you plan to advertise?*

A: Yes, via facebook, twitter, and spotlight.

*Michelle: Have you all submitted contracts?*

A: We're waiting for approval from you all, because there is no point in getting contracts if we can't afford the event.

### **Discussion**

Damani: I'm fine with it. It's a great benefit. Everything on here looks fine to me.

Kaylesh: It seems like a great event and they always have great turn out.

### **Votes**

**6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain, 0 not present.**

**\$2448 allocated to Hindu Students Council for Holi Hungama.**

10) Filipino American Student Association

### **Description**

The Filipino American Student Association is requesting money for an annual event which aims to showcase the Filipino culture through music, dance and story.

### **Questions**

*Kaylesh: How many people are you anticipating?*

A: Since we've sold out in the past, we were allowed 450 people, however we let more in.

*Kaylesh: Do you have a breakdown of your food quote?*

A: Yes (presented a total breakdown of the food quote) and we got a discount after turning in the request. The cost includes the transportation of the food.

*Sam: Do you have a breakdown for the decoration?*

A: We don't have a specific breakdown of decorations, but we do have costume totals which is higher than what we expected. Our previous connection dates is no longer with us, so we are not sure if we can get them cheaper.

*Michelle: So under decorations what should we consider?*



A: \$110 is the cost you should consider.

### **Discussion**

Damani: I'm fine. Looking at the items, nothing is alarming.

Kaylesh: I like the idea of costumes because it really displays their culture.

### **Votes**

**6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain, 0 not present.**

**\$4,797.10 allocated to the Filipino Student Association for cultural event.**

11) Tau Kappa Epsilon

### **Description**

Requesting funding for unforeseen security cost. Shannon (event planning) mistakenly gave them the wrong security quote so they're requesting the edited cost.

### **Discussion**

Sam: I feel like it's necessary since they resubmitted it.

### **Votes**

**6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain, 0 not present.**

**\$90.00 allocated to Tau Kappa Epsilon for unforeseen security cost.**

12) SASA

### **Description**

**TABLED FROM LAST WEEK**

### **Discussion:**

Michelle: I noticed that they still kept on tax and we'll subtract that.

Kaylesh: The subtotal is \$185 and that's include delivery fee. I don't fee comfortable to add \$20. I just think it's better to do the 7.95. She's asking for another \$20 just for delivery. She's asking for extra shipping cost for everything overall.

### **Votes**

**6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain, 0 not present.**

13) Ultimate Frisbee

### **Description**

Tabled from last meeting, New date is now february 14th

{Note: The previous issue was a deadline problem so the date of the event was moved to accommodate the deadline.}

### **Votes**

**6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain, 0 not present.**

**\$45 allocated to Ultimate Frisbee for recruitment event.**

14) Election Board Chair

{Note: Continued from last week after reviewing written responses.}

### **Discussion**

Kaylesh: I thought that her responses were good. She seemed like she was really serious and she had a plan.

Damani: She's really prepared. The website is already up and the applications will be up soon.

Kian: We all have obligations and I don't think the fact that she can't be here is an indication of whether or not she is committed.

Sam: She didn't just say yeah; she had real, detailed answers to questions.

Kian: She had a timeline. She's already put together so that's great.

### **Votes**

**7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain, 0 not present.**

Emails to be sent out

Pre-physical Therapy and Model United Nations: Damani

Human vs Zombies and Hindu Student Association: Ebony

ISCOM and Taiwanese Student Association: Samantha

Tau Kappa Epsilon and SASA: Kaylesh

Coptic Club and Ultimate Frisbee: Kian

Amateur Radio Club and Filipino Student Association: Morgan

Disciples on Campus: Michelle

**Adjourned at 9:35pm**