

USG Finance Committee Minutes  
Meeting: 28 March 2019  
Senate Session Corresponding: 16 April 2019  
TUSTEP Travel Request

VP Finance: Maggie Palys  
Recorded by: Olivia Johnson

Total Requested: 189.96

- 189.96 Transportation

Conference Details:

- Advanced Training Turn-In Ceremony, Orlando, FL
  - May 10 – May 14, 2019
- 1 student attending

Presentation Details:

- Only asking for airline ticket to and from Orlando
- Same trip that all puppy raisers have gone on recently

Debate Details:

- We've funded around this amount for the last travel requests (around 280)
- Fund in full

Voting: **190, 13-0-0**

- **line items**

#### Finding Intersectionality Together (FIT) Budget Request

Total Requested: 4000

- 1600 Food
- 200 Miscellaneous
- 2200 Honoraria and Fees

Liaison Recommendation:

- Recommended Budget: N/A
- Last Year's Budget: 2400

Presentation Details:

- This club is under MCC; they do a lot of programming between MCC and GSAC organizations
- 1400 They have spent their honoraria from this year in total; co programmed with SOAR and GSAC
- 500 on a previous event
- They have plans to spend their money for the rest of the semester – study session for this final
  - We typically do not fund study breaks
  - We only fund for events that further your club's mission
  - Make sure you are directing your money to the right
- They are increasing their honoraria request because they want more speakers to come on campus
- Miscellaneous
  - The O cannot fund the multicultural festival on its own anymore
  - Is this going to be pooled?
- Meetings per semester?
  - IntersectionaliTEAs are their "general meetings" typically every month
  - Turnout? Varied; regular meetings are about 15, bigger meetings are about 30

Debate Details

- Spent 0 according to our funding, but they have clearly had programming

USG Finance Committee Minutes  
Meeting: 28 March 2019  
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- Should we fund in full?
  - They have had big turnout
- They received 1000 in food last year, 1400 in honoraria
- 3400
  - 200 Miscellaneous
  - 1000 Food
  - 2200 Honoraria
- 3000
  - 200 Miscellaneous
  - 1000 Food
  - 1800 Honoraria
- 2800
  - 200 Miscellaneous
  - 1000 Food
  - 1600 Honoraria
- Because the 200 is because they have to, should we judge them without including the money that the O requires? Yes
- This org has received increases every year they have been on campus
  - 1100 → 1400 → 2400
- 3400
  - 3-10-0
- 3000
  - 11-2-0

Vote: **3000, 11-2-0**

- **200 Miscellaneous**
- **1000 Food**
- **1800 Honoraria**

#### TU Gente Budget Request

Total Requested: 7595

- 2850 Food
- 2445 Miscellaneous
- 650 Minor Equipment
- 400 Rentals
- 1250 Visiting Professionals

Liaison Recommendation:

- Recommended Budget: 5525
  - 2050 Food
  - 1625 Miscellaneous
  - 200 Minor Equipment
  - 400 Rentals
  - 1250 Visiting Professional
- Last Year's Budget: 6050
- Explanation:
  - Food: 1800 for Festival Latinx and 250 for Culture Shock

Senate Session Corresponding: 16 April 2019

- Miscellaneous (Performers): 1,500 for Band for Festival Latinx and 125 for Bayou Movimiento Festival Latinx
- Decorations and Supplies:
  - 100 decorations for Festival Latinx
  - 100 New decorations for Dia de Los Muertos Altar: They asked for this last year, and we did not fund it. They are asking for this again, and I think we should fund this
- Photo Booth: consistent with last year
- Guest speaker: They said they are bringing in a reporter this year and want to continue to have someone of this caliber every year
- In general, I wanted to fund all of their line items for their Festival Latinx event, as it is one of their biggest event.
- They outlined a few line items about a new event celebrating Carnival. I would like to hear from them about how much they have spent this year and their priorities for next year before funding this event.
  - They could utilize the programming fund for a new event like this

Presentation Details:

- Gente is dedicated to uniting the Hispanic and Latin American students at TU
  - Their events are to build a feeling of family on campus
  - Weekly meetings (that discuss an interest topic/food/study),
- They are trying to focus more on the advancement of the Latinx community
  - They are starting up a service portion of the club
- Festival Latinx is happening later this year, which is why it looks like they haven't spent their budget yet
  - Most of their money goes towards this event every year (request is an increase in this event)
- Festival Carnival will be a medium-scale event; Culture Shock was co-programmed with other MCC orgs, and they are looking for this to be a bigger event; freshman welcome event
- Performers: dance lessons, bands; for freshmen welcome, etc.
- Speaker: they are flying in a speaker this weekend
- They wanted to get a photobooth for Festival next year
- Notes from Maggie:
  - We don't see their spending record totally yet
  - You don't have any funding last year from visiting professionals → they need to reallocate ASAP
  - Programming fund would be good for Feliz Carnival
- Priorities?
  - Festival Latinx
    - They had about 180-200 people last year
  - Feliz Carnival
    - New event, they want to get it started
  - Festival event, then food for everything, then everything else
- How do you fund your weekly meetings with food? Through 9 account, not 2 account

Debate Details

USG Finance Committee Minutes  
Meeting: 28 March 2019  
Senate Session Corresponding: 16 April 2019

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- Spent 463 so far this year
- Recommendation includes the photobooth: 5525
  - if we include everything for Festival Latinx, 3925
  - plus 250 in Culture Shock
  - plus 100 in Decorations (asked for it again this year)
  - Guest Speaker 1250
- They do have set-in-stone spending plans, but they haven't spent that much this year
- Not necessarily good with a cut
- 6025
  - 5525 Liaison recommendation
  - Plus 500 Food (all food except Carnival)
- 5525
  - Take 400 from photobooth and put it into Freshman Welcome (200) and 200 in Food and Music Fest
- 5525
  - Liaison Recommendation
- In the bylaws, we do not fund recruiting events
  - Does Freshman Welcome count as this? No, because it is open to all freshmen
- Votes
  - 6025
    - 4-8-1
  - 5525 (with 400 in food)(not Liaison)
    - 12-0-1

Vote: **number, votes**

- **Line items**

#### Indian Association of Tulane (IATU) Budget Request

Total Requested: 19300

- 150 Printing
- 6450 Food
- 300 Minor Equipment
- 1950 Professional and Consulting Fees
- 1500 Honoraria
- 6000 Rentals
- 2000 Operating Supplies
- 950 Shuttles and Transportation

Liaison Recommendation:

- Recommended Budget: 14150
  - 100 Printing
  - 4650 Food
  - 300 Minor Equipment
  - 1950 Professional and Consulting Fees
  - 4700 Rentals
  - 1550 Operating Supplies
  - 900 Shuttles and Transportation

- Last Year's Budget: 12500
- Explanation:
  - Printing: they received 100 in printing last year; kept consistent
  - Food: Received 4,650 in food last year, and when asked, they said that the amount they received last year for food and entertainment was sufficient
  - Equipment: kept consistent over the past few years (300)
  - Professional and Consulting
    - I decided to fund this item in full, because they have spent their money in this item for the past few years at their programming. They requested a photographer last year and we did not fund it, but they paid for a photographer out of their 9 account. I think this is an appropriate time to fund this in full as it seems to be important to their programming
  - Venue Rental: I advise a 1000 increase in venue rental from last year as they said it was the most important piece of funding where they would want more
    - The venue they used last year cost \$5500 and they used the programming fund with the MCC to help cover the difference in cost
    - Utilized programming fund—good sign, deserves an increase
  - Operating Supplies: consistent with last year (1550)
  - Shuttles and Transportation: 200 increase from last year
    - They had to pay \$200 from their 9 account last year to cover the difference in the shuttle cost to and from the venue for Diwali
    - Seems justifiable to me as they as spending their money ☺
- Ultimately, I think this is a club that does a lot of good programming on campus
- They met with me and answered all my questions, and they are on track to spend all of their money
- I did give them a small increase in my recommendation, but they seem to be routinely spending all of their money and putting on successful events

Presentation Details:

- Printing
  - Helps to get word out for events; put all over campus, res halls, etc.; they are currently printing with their own credits; “color printing is nice”
- Food for Events
  - Holi, Culture Shock, Diwali
  - For every event, they try to keep the authenticity of the food and culture; they are great New Orleans partners that cater to their needs
  - They have also expanded to include Northern Indian and Southern Indian foods
- Minor Equipment
  - They have DJs for their biggest events; really attracts students; really want to keep this
- Photography Services
  - They like to have photographers at events so people have pictures, videos, etc for the people that were there
  - Admissions and the yearbook use their pictures, so they want to have high-quality
- Campus Services

Senate Session Corresponding: 16 April 2019

- Venue for Diwali; they have this off-campus which has increased their attendance and made it more of an event
- They have had problems in the past with lights on campus, so off-campus makes this easier
- They had 100% attendance and admissions came to make PR
- Shuttles is self-explanatory
- Venue Rental
  - Total cost last year was 5500, why did you cost 6000?
  - Last year, they did it at Hilton previously, but now they want to do JW Marriot (they allow outside food also)
  - Having it at a nicer place made the event more successful
- Priority
  - Entertainment, Campus Services, Transportation

Debate Details

- Spent 12764
- Recommendation is a slight increase, but they have spent all of their money
  - Open to changes
- Should we pay for people to have their events to be photographed professionally?
  - They can pay a student with a nice camera also, and save some money
- Just the DJ and Rentals changed from recommendation; 5500 in rental- 13800
  - Liaison recommendation -150 to just fund DJ but not photographer for Diwali
  - Full fund venue at cost from this year, not 6000
- 14125
  - 1-11-1
- 13800
  - 12-0-1

Vote: **13800, 12-0-1**

- **Line items**

### Multicultural Council (MCC) Budget Request

Total Requested: 4700

- 500 Facilities Services
- 200 Printing
- 750 Food
- 250 Decorations and Memorabilia
- 3000 Honoraria and Fees

Liaison Recommendation:

- Recommended Budget: 2950
  - 500 Facilities Services
  - 200 Printing
  - 750 Food
  - 1500 Honoraria
- Last Year's Budget: 2950
- Explanation:

- I did not get the chance to meet with MCC, so I gave them the same budget as last year, as it looks almost identical with identical descriptions.
- If they express priorities in other places, open to changes and potential increases in honoraria/decorations

Presentation Details:

- Spent 0
- Facilities Services, Food, etc. are for an on-campus retreat for all MCC organizations
  - To foster better communication between all MMC organizations and to ease the transition process
  - They want to reframe people within MCC as friends and collaborators, not just clubs in the same organization
- Printing
  - For MCC co-sponsored events
- Honoraria
  - The bulk of this money will go towards the MCC Showcase
  - They pull in groups from different organizations to put on an event, watch dances, etc.
  - They also want to help all MCC orgs with shortages in their budgets; because they are a council, they don't plan that many things, but they help their clubs
- Notes from Maggie:
  - You haven't spent any money this year so far?
    - For some reason, a 400 transfer to IATU hasn't happened yet but it should soon
    - The rest is because their main event hasn't happened yet (retreat is late April, MCC Showcase is May)
  - How many officers are in the MCC? This is what we will fund a retreat for
    - Not constituent organizations, but actually on the board of MCC
    - For each organization two members plus the MCC = 17
- How much of Honoraria will go towards helping clubs rather than planning your events?
  - They don't have an exact number, but definitely more than 400 (this year's number)
  - As a USG, we don't support having council reserves for clubs, rather than clubs using the Programming fund or allocate their budget correctly
- How much are you spending on the showcase that is about to happen? About 2000
- Priorities?
  - Honoraria

Debate Details

- Plans for this year include retreat, showcase, and transfer to IATU
- 17 officers x 60 per officer = 1020 for retreat
  - No negotiation per bylaws
  - 520 Food
  - 600 Facilities
- Remainder (1930) in honoraria
  - Retreat
- 2520

USG Finance Committee Minutes  
Meeting: 28 March 2019  
Senate Session Corresponding: 16 April 2019

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- 1500 Honoraria
- 1020 Retreat
- 2950
  - 1930 Honoraria
  - 1020 Retreat
- We don't see a multicultural showcase in the historical financials either ;(
- Voting
  - 2950
    - 4-8-1
  - 2520
    - 12-0-1

Vote: **2520, 12-0-1**

- **Line items**

### Muslim Students Association (MSA) Budget Request

Total Requested: 5100

- 3200 Food
- 600 Honoraria
- 900 Miscellaneous
- 400 Operating Supplies

Liaison Recommendation:

- Recommended Budget: 3450
  - 2250 Food
  - 600 Honoraria
  - 600 Miscellaneous
- Last Year's Budget: 3450
- Explanation:
  - I recommended the same budget as last year
  - I did not get to meet with them
  - If they are spending their money, I recommend giving them an increase in food for Eid, as this is a big event for them, and they requested \$1000 for this food

Presentation Details:

- They have three main events:
  - Eid Celebration
    - 750 last year
    - 100 this year; increase because they ran out of food and visibility/membership has increased significantly
  - Islamic New Year
    - Used for the Palestinian film festival
    - About 1000 last year
    - 2100 this year
  - Spring Banquet
    - 1050 last year
    - 1600 this year
- Overhead Costs



Senate Session Corresponding: 16 April 2019

- 200 event promotion (stickers)
- They also maintain the prayer room, and they are hoping to get a bigger room
- So far you have only spent 693 so far. Why?
  - They have submitted receipts to the SOC
  - About 1000 for Islamic New Year, planning for 1050 for Spring Banquet
- Prayer room upkeep
  - We typically don't fund line items with contingencies in them
  - This would be a great Reserve Request next year
- Priorities?
  - Eid celebration
  - Spring Banquet
  - Islamic New Year

#### Debate Details

- Spent 693 so far this year
- Change in allocation: take 100 out of Honoraria Spring Banquet for Event Promotion
- They said that they ran out of food at Eid, so we could take some money out of food for Islamic New Year
  - All in food, doesn't matter how they spend it
- 3450
  - 100 Event Promotions
  - 200 Prayer Room
  - 2250 Food
  - 500 Honoraria
  - 400 Miscellaneous
- Voting
  - 3450, 12-0-1

Vote: **number, votes**

- **Line items**

#### Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth (SPICMACAY) Budget Request

Total Requested: 15450

- 150 Printing
- 1700 Food
- 10000 Honoraria
- 1000 Other Professional and Consulting
- 150 Advertising
- 200 Operating Supplies
- 2000 Visiting Professionals
- 250 Local Transportation

Liaison Recommendation:

- Recommended Budget: 1200
  - 1200 Honoraria
- Last Year's Budget: 750
- Explanation:

Senate Session Corresponding: 16 April 2019

- I gave them a slight increase in honorarium, but this is only based on the fact that they told me they are going to spend their money on their upcoming event on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- We exchanged emails about the org and their budget
- They did one event last semester where they raised over \$5,000 from various departments, which is why I think they deserve an increase

Presentation Details:

- Spent 750
- The bulk of their request are for sound engineers, etc. which is central to their mission
  - Because they are an international organization, they are only allowed to invite a certain list of artists
- The next largest portion is artists accommodations
  - Most performances are two artists, so they have to have multiple hotel rooms for them
  - 2000 is for two events lodging
  - Performers also have riders, etc. that need to be funded
- Flyers and programming
  - They are trying to program to students and try to get more students to come, not just SPIC MACAY members
- Listed in order of priority

Debate Details

- Liaison is open to changing recommendation, considering they have spent all of their money and they have fundraised a lot this year
- What about 2000?
- 1200
- Voting
  - 2000, 10-1-2

Vote: **2000, 10-1-2**

- **2000 Honoraria**

#### Tulane Chinese Students and Scholars Association (TCSSA) Budget Request

Total Requested: 5800

- 300 Printing
- 200 Illustration Services
- 4000 Food
- 500 Miscellaneous
- 600 Minor Equipment
- 200 Operating Supplies

Liaison Recommendation:

- Recommended Budget: 3400
  - 200 Illustration Services
  - 3000 Food
  - 200 Decorations
- Last Year's Budget: 3250
- Explanation:

- Illustration Services
  - They asked for this money to design logos and flyers. Last year they got \$200 in printing, and I figured they could use this money instead in logo design and utilize the SOC for their other printing needs
- Food
  - Food at public events seems to be their biggest programming element. Last year they received \$2600 in food, and I think since it is their biggest line item, an increase should go here.
- Decorations
  - Their events celebrate big Chinese holidays, and I think decorations at these events are helpful for their programming. They received 200 in decorations last year.
- Unfortunately, I did not get to speak to this club at all about their budget or programming; they did not respond to my emails

#### Presentation Details:

- Spent 2431 so far this year
- The majority of their budget is food, which is a large component of their club as well
  - They will also have guest speakers, etc. that will have food and drinks at the events
- Printing and Promotion
  - They do not like that only some people know about their events
  - They want to boost cultural communication between Chinese students and American students
- They had a bad experience with LBC event lighting last year
  - They are asking for money to rent/pay people to set up the stage and rent the sound equipment to bring up the caliber of the event
  - They will have cultural events
- They will also be providing food for the Activity Expo
- Do you have plans to spend the rest of your money for the year?
  - They are still planning Chinese-American student meals at local restaurants
- Priorities?
  - Food

#### Debate Details

- Change liaison to 3400 in Food
- 3400
  - Original liaison recommendation
- 3400
  - 3000 food
  - 400 Sound Equipment and stage lights
- From what he was saying, it sounded like stage was important
- Do we normally do website promotion/illustration services
- 3200
  - 3000 Food
  - 200 decorations
- 2400

USG Finance Committee Minutes

Meeting: 28 March 2019

Senate Session Corresponding: 16 April 2019

- 200 Decorations
- 2200 Food
- Voting
  - 3400, 4-8-1
  - 3200, 10-2-1

Vote: **3200, 10-2-1**

- **Line items**

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