

2-24-2018

## AFRC minutes 02/24/2018

Activity Fee Review Committee

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## **In Attendance:**

Parker Smith (PS)  
David Israels-Swenson (DS)  
Alec Santelman (AS)  
Duncan Vermillion (DV)  
Clement Loo (CL)  
Ryan Schamp (RS)  
Dennis Ostroushko (DO)  
Andre Oliveira (AO)  
Renee Seycora (RSY)  
Sara Carman (SC)  
Tarlynn Tone-Pah-hote (TT)

***Called to order at 8:52 AM.***

## **ORGANIZATIONS:**

### **University Register:**

RS: Why spending \$4,000 per iMac?

Querent: Because it's the industry standard, very good.

RS: It would cost \$2,500 for an equivalent computer that isn't a Macintosh.

Querent: The New York Times use macs, Star Tribune uses them.

DV: Move to fund at \$11,465.

*Seconded, passed.*

### **ISA:**

Querent: We're doing festivals and events that we need money for.

PS: Do you have any carryforward, or are you projected to have \$0 at the end?

Querent: We don't expect to have too much.

RS: What do you do on campus other than feed people?

Querent: We do the Spring Festival and other events that are cultural in nature. We tried to add Holi to do something for India's culture that isn't as food-related.

CL: Food budget could be used for advertising instead.

AS: Could you do Spring Festival with \$3,500 instead of \$5,000?

Querent: The Spring Festival is the ISA's major event, and \$5,000 gives us the minimum for a good event.

PS: How much were you allocated for Spring Festival last year?

AS: They were allocated \$4,000 last year.

DO: Move to fund at \$5,000 which is removing \$500 from Spring Festival, and also removing other things.

*Seconded.*

RS: I would look for partnership opps on campus, like from other groups than AFRC. Reliance on food is sort of lazy, could look for assistance from Programming Assistance.

*Passed.*

### **ASA:**

Querent: We're adding Asian Heritage Month to have a month of Asian-themed activities and events.

AS: Have you considered charging for camping or leadership retreat?

Querent: Yes, but we want to get newcomers and not have prohibitive expenses.

PS: Are you planning to have the leadership retreat at Morris next year?

Querent: No, we're planning to have it somewhere else.

RS: What are the speaker fees for, exactly?

Querent: For the leadership retreat, they might be helped paid for by a campus we're at.

PS: What is your carryforward for the year?

Querent: We don't really know, we're having events during the rest of the year.

DO: What are T-shirts for?

Querent: They're going to be sold during Asian Heritage Month.

RS: You charge for Taste of Asia, correct?

Querent: \$5 for students, \$10 or \$12 for adults.

PS: What would you cut if you had to make cuts?

RS: Move to fund at \$7,000.

*Seconded.*

RS: Cut speakers because you have advisors that can facilitate, you don't need to have that.

*Passed.*

### **MCSA:**

Querent: We're adding a Gala.

PS: You're not allowed to have over \$6,000 in stipends without an exemption, why do you deserve one?

Querent: Because MCSA is the *student government* of Morris, and with a campus that prides itself on student involvement, it makes sense to provide these public servants for their hard work.

Querent: The Gala is a fundraiser for scholarships that the University is giving to students.

PS: How much of impromptu event category have you spent this year?

Querent: The money is there for new events that aren't weighed down by not having it included in the annual budget.

Querent: The Gala has a suggested donation and a silent auction.

Querent: Last year our budget did take substantial cuts, but we are very efficient and our group has a tangible positive impact on the campus.

SC: Move to fund at \$8,000.

*Seconded.*

DO: What about the top 6 stipends? They do a lot of work--probably--but we need to make cuts.

DV: Move to amend to \$7,200.

*Seconded, accepted.*

CL: Move to amend at \$7,400.

*Seconded, accepted.*

*Motion to fund at \$7,400 passed.*

DV: Move to grant exemption to MCSA to work their budget fully without restriction on stipends.

*Seconded, passed.*

### **KUMM:**

RS: Why \$7,000 for bands and performers?

Querent: Because they are *not* inexpensive and put on a few each year.

RS: Do you partner with other campus groups?

Querent: We've thought about CAC partnerships, to get bigger and better-known bands.

AS: With \$1,500 in carryforward, what are you planning to expand this year?

Querent: Upgrading existing equipment that is from the '70s.

DS: The budgets are basically the same with the carryforward given the allocation from last year.

Querent: We're saving money for a new soundboard because the current one is almost unfixable. The one we get will be good to last 15-25 years.

DS: We're looking at a plan to upgrade everything, because everything that is there needs to be upgraded.

RS: Move to fund at \$4,786.

*Seconded.*

CL: Move to amend at \$6,786.

*Seconded, accepted.*

*Motion to fund at \$6,786 passed.*

### **Women's Rugby:**

RS: Number of participants on team?

Querent: 10-11 consistently, 20 that come to practice at least occasionally.

RS: Number of spectators on average?

CL: A couple hundred.

RS: Have you considered charging for spectating?

Querent: Yes, but it seems non-optimal.

AS: Have you considered charging more for dues?

Querent: Yes, but the people in the club already pay a lot for equipment and such.

RS: Move to fund at \$12,630.

*Seconded.*

PS: I support the amount, not the reasoning. It's up to you to use the money you're allocated however you wish.

*Passed.*

### **Men's Rugby:**

**Voices Unidas:**

DO: Why are you selling T-shirts for less than they cost?

Querent: Because we don't want to make them prohibitively expensive.

AS: Why \$3,000 in carryforward?

Querent: Because of collaboration and other things.

PS: What is the performer cost about?

Querent: We don't know what performer, but we've been planning it for a while.

DO: What is the food for? General meetings, or...

Querent: Yes, general meetings, food for trips, etc.

AS: What are the "other planned events"?

Querent: Those are up in the air, we want to have a movie night, etc.

DO: Move to fund at \$100, because no food for general meetings and T-shirts don't seem as concrete.

*Not seconded, failed.*

RS: Move to fund at \$1,015.

*Seconded, passed.*

**ACS:**

AS: Were these travel expenses new or were they there last year?

Querent: They were there, but cut by \$1,000.

AS: Where would you make cuts?

Querent: A little bit from the trip, some T-shirts.

DO: What is this meeting food?

Querent: It's for longer meetings that need people to have food during.

PS: What do these T-shirts look like? How much do they cost to make?

Querent: We did not look into the cost a whole lot, could definitely look into that. Although they are potentially going to be redesigned.

DO: How many O-chem students are there?

Querent: About 60-90.

AO: What are the gifts?

Querent: Gifts for graduating seniors, will change to an opt-in system.

TT: How many people go to the conference?

Querent: 10-11.

RSY: What is the transport in host city?

Querent: Usually public transit, if available.

PS: Move to fund at \$2,985.

*Seconded, passed.*

**BFLF:**

AS: Would anyone on the committee be able to tell anything about getting non-profit funds?

RS: I always assumed you got support from the OCE.

DS: Perhaps not necessarily monetary support.

AS: Where would you make cuts if necessary?

Querent: Smaller parties, fewer transit passes/RFC passes, etc.

DO: Could you cut down on food?

Querent: Morris seems to have groups get attendance with food, but we could.

DO: Move to fund at \$4,300.

*Seconded.*

RS: Long term benefits of this are important for this school, and aren't necessarily measurable. I believe this to be a reasonable cut to this proposed budget.

RSY: I suggest trying to get games at cheaper rates than suggested in the budget. Also, the library has games that are there for loan.

*Passed, funded at \$4,300.*

### **BSU:**

Querent: We want to diversify our programming and our campus, which is why we're asking for more money for a trip.

PS: What is NCORE?

DS: National Conference on Race and Ethnicity.

RS: How many days and where is it?

Querent: Three days, in New Orleans this year, but the location changes.

RS: How many are going to Africa Night?

Querent: Approximately 15.

AS: Would you be willing to have people pay for the trip to NCORE?

Querent: Yes, we also are considering charging for the Variety Show and selling more T-shirt, etc.

PS: I know this doesn't have a classification, but it's an E-3 or E-4 if it was. If we treat this as such, we would fund at 40%.

AS: Guidelines for travel apply to annually funded groups as well as ASG.

DV: Move to fund at \$7,134.

*Seconded.*

PS: Are you projecting that you'll spend all the money you currently have?

Querent: Yes, we have Africa Night.

PS: Why are you saying \$3,000 for Soul Food Dinner if it was \$1,600 this year?

Querent: Because last year there was some wasted food so we decided to cut down on that.

PS: Move to amend to decrease allocation by \$1,000.

*Seconded, accepted.*

*Motion to fund at \$6,134 passes.*

### **CNIA:**

DO: Why are you selling T-shirts at a loss?

Querent: We're not, they're separated into two items which add up to more than the cost.

*(Clarification: The enumeration of T-shirts was unclear on the finance system.)*

RS: The powwow attendance varies widely because of factors outside of our control.

RS: What was the attendance last year?

Querent: Around 150 dancers, packed RFC, shifting people.

Querent: Do not charge an admission fee.

AS: Who are co-sponsors?

Querent: Other student orgs, like ASA, EDI, etc.

PS: It seems weird to list them as a co-sponsor when they're giving you \$50 for a 17k event.

Querent: We just ask for what they can give because budgets are often tight.

DO: There's a powwow a week before this, will that impact attendance?

Querent: No, we do not expect it to do so.

CL: Move to fund at full (\$18,225).

*Seconded, passed.*

### **MoQSIE:**

PS: Is the revenue from the drag show going to be used for this year or next year?

Querent: This year.

AS: Where do the T-shirts come from?

Querent: We are not requesting new ones, we have them this year. We will be selling them to get revenue.

PS: What was the net profit of these T-shirts?

Querent: \$3 per shirt -- sell for \$10 and make for \$7.

AS: Have you considered making the drag show only student-run as a feature and less an accident?

Querent: Have not discussed, but could. It's nice to have someone who knows what they're doing, just generally.

PS: What would you cut if you had to?

Querent: Meetings and Events food could be cut, though it's how we pay for our big events.

PS: How many buttons does \$200 make?

RS: A lot.

PS: What would we classify the travel expenses as? Who can go?

Querent: Not just MoQSIE members, anyone can go, half MoQSIE members but others were not.

PS: What would going to this conference do necessarily for the group and campus?

Querent: We get a lot of knowledge on things like "how to ask alumni for money" and getting more involvement, and so on. A lot of networking and such.

PS: It appears that the travel falls between E-1 and E-2 if we gave it a classification.

CL: They also are paying for the trip.

SC: Why are you not going through ORL for the movie licensing?

RS: There are movies not covered by the service used.

RS: Move to fund at \$6,100.

*Seconded, division, tie broken by chair, passed.*

### **AISES:**

AS: What are you paying for at the first and last meetings?

Querents: First meeting has pizzas, pops and water, etc. Last meeting has a potluck.  
AS: AISES national Conference and regional conference are planned, but you don't have dues listed. Would you be willing to add dues?

Querent: We have them paying for travel and food while they're there, sometimes make students split hotel costs.

AS: It seems like you're planning to pay for hotel costs?

Querent: We just copied from previous year.

PS: I believe if we were classifying their travel costs, the leadership conference would be an E-3, maybe E-3 or E-2 for the national and regional.

CL: How does the leadership retreat promote the mission of AISES?

Querent: It helps promote indigenous people in STEM, which is AISES' mission, by making them better at public speaking and such.

DO: Is there anything special you got from last year that you shared with the campus ?

Querent: I've been able to learn more about indigenous culture and an AISES conference allowed me to apply for a summer research internship, and so have others.

SC: What are the outreach activities?

Querent: Our outreach liaison comes up with ideas for others to learn about AISES and STEM in general.

CL: Do you think that serves as a recruiting tool for UMM?

Querent: Definitely, it does.

TT: Is this open to just STEM majors or all people?

Querent: Open for everyone but geared towards STEM majors.

DO: I think this is an E-3, because seems somewhat like replicating career services office, because they teach how to do internship search, etc.

PS: Move to fund at \$5,500.

*Seconded.*

PS: Arrived by counting as between a 2 and a 3, so like 65% of travel, which subtracts approximately \$3,000.

CL: I think they do bring programming to this, and this is very helpful for AISES' mandate. I think there is some unique aspect to this.

PS: I don't think the primary focus is bringing programming, it's potentially for STEM majors, which puts it at an E-2.

*Passed.*

### **Entre Nous:**

AS: What is this French Meal?

Querent: It is a formal sit-down served meal similar to Soul Food or Taste of Asia based on different regions of France.

AS: Will this be the first year?

Querent: Yes.

AS: How much do you think tickets will be?

Querent: Just shared emails with Tony Nemmers--we think we'll do \$5 per student. He thought it should be pretty simple as far as catering goes.

PS: Have you thought about making it more expensive for faculty and staff?

Querent: Yes, of course, that was implied.

AS: Where would you make cuts if needed?

Querent: Would make cuts to smaller things like conversation table, meetings, etc.

CL: Move to fund at \$3,000.

*Seconded, passed.*

### **Men's Rugby:**

RS: Two travel questions, why does hotel in Wayne, Nebraska cost 3x as much as other matches?

Querent: Because we get more players in the spring.

RS: What is food during travel for \$600?

Querent: When we travel to far away tournaments, we cover for breakfast and other things.

AS: Part of the issue with that is that we can't, as a committee, fund non-Morris food as stipulated by our guidelines. It is up to the members to pay for their own food.

AS: Are you flying to Wayne, Nebraska?

Querent: No, that's a typo. We drive everywhere.

AS: Your season ended early, correct? Where did the money for games go?

Querent: A lot of that money was invested in equipment.

AS: We expect groups to include what they carryover in their budget request.

Querent: The carryover money is planned to be used for modifying a field.

DS: It is unlikely to have the University willing to do the modifications, as the goal posts they want are similar to the ones that fell on a student and killed them.

Querent: We will not be going to all-state conference. But we are going to matches, which will cost money.

PS: If you thought until 5 minutes ago that you only had \$1,500, how are you planning multiple additional matches?

Querent: We would have had to go through stressful times if we didn't have that money.

AS: Are you paying for all 80 of the alumni?

Querent: Only for 30-40.

AS: If they ask alumni to pay a portion of the fee it seems reasonable to assume they'll have at least \$2,000.

RS: Move to fund at \$8,310.

*Seconded, passed.*

### **Northstar:**

PS: Move to fund at \$0, given that the two printings, each at less than \$600, would still allow their carryover to cover all their costs for next year.

*Seconded, passed, funded at \$0.*

### **Administrative Fees:**

PS: Move to approve the administrative fees. I think it's good. I'm upset the number had to change.

*Seconded, passed.*

### **Mock Trial:**

PS: How did you get the numbers for the travel costs?

Querent: Based on prior experience, 6 tournaments, etc.

Querent: Both years which Mock Trial went to Berkeley got more people as opposed to other areas.

DO: Have you considered public transit as opposed to rental cars?

Querent: Yes, but sometimes it is not viable.

SC: Move to fund at \$10,510.

*Seconded.*

AS: If you had to make cuts, where would they come from?

Querent: Probably printing, would pass onto participants.

RS: Could you not just drop a tournament or two?

Querent: Potentially, but we perform worse in regionals.

SC: Long distance travel is great, but would you be able to maybe go to less far away competitions?

Querent: We already went to ones that were not very far away.

PS: You seem to function well as a regional team.

RS: I think that you can get the information you need from tournaments via the Internet, while still competing in regional tournaments.

Querent: Yes, but the experience is very different and most don't share their theories.

*Motion fails.*

SC: Would feel better knowing that we were funding regional tournaments as opposed to destination tournaments.

Querent: We'd rather do 6 regional tournaments as opposed to 3 regional and a destination.

CL: How many people are in Mock Trial in total?

Querent: Usually 18-25.

RS: Move to fund at \$9,500.

*Seconded.*

PS: It's a tight budget, you could do three competitions in the fall and one destination trip in the spring.

*Division, passed.*

### **MPIRG:**

PS: What exactly do you get from statewide MPIRG?

Querent: "How to organize" materials, opportunities to develop leadership skills within high levels.

DO: Without being affiliated with the statewide organization, why wouldn't you be able to be in some events?

Querent: Because MPIRG has rural representation, in addition to the events are made by statewide MPIRG that are exclusive to MPIRG chapters.

DO: How many people were at your most successful event?

Querent: 50-60, we believe.

RS: MPIRG's voter drive had 100s of people.

AS: You have \$9,000 in carryforward, where is that going?

Querent: Speakers, state fees, etc. that will be necessary for the rest of the semester.

AS: Have you looked into getting donations from people that want to support an organization such as yours?

Querent: That's what the phone canvassing is.

PS: What is that plan going forward, in relation to statewide MPIRG's funding issues? Can you expand on that?

Querent: Without a binding vote, I do not feel comfortable with doing that.

DO: This name does give you an advantage, but I think \$10,000 is too much for 20 students.

PS: How would you fundraise if we are unable to fund you as you want to be funded?

Querent: That would take away from our ability to do better things.

CL: 80% of political orgs is fundraising, and how does your budget feel in terms of constraint this year?

Querent: We've used everything that we've received, and the budget has already been pared down a bit.

PS: I know that you don't want to, but would you be willing to make up the disparity between an 80% allocation and what you asked for with fundraising?

Querent: Yes, but it's extremely difficult to do so in a rural community.

*(MCSA is putting on the Gala, not AFRC)*

CL: Move to fund at \$11,400.

*Second, passed.*

## **PHE:**

Querent: We're asking for \$3,000 to give stipends to "triad leaders" by educating peers in various ways about central topics in health and wellness.

PS: How much of this money is the dogs?

Querent: I don't know, but I think it's through us.

*(PS: I support the dogs)*

PS: How do the events break down in terms of numbers?

Querent: Love, Sex, and Banana Splits is the most popular one, about 8 sessions last semester.

AS: How does your organization work? Do you have meetings every week?

Querent: Yes, but mostly just the triad members that plan stuff every week.

CL: How closely do you guys work with health and wellness?

Querent: We work with them a little bit, we kind of report to her in a sense, we don't work together super consistently.

SC: Can you approximate the number of hours a week you spend functioning as a peer health educator?

Querent: Not to be dramatic, it really depends, but last semester I had a terrible semester because of mental health awareness week.

*(Minutes of discussion around where PHE should get their funding.)*

RS: What are you using the \$1,600 dollars for events for? Where do you have them?

Querent: Mostly on campus. We have about equal in-dorm and on campus-wide events.

DO: What do you use the campus-wide events funds for?

Querent: Paying people, such as those that were brought in for STIs.

CL: Move for committee to recommend PHE be rolled into health and wellness.

*Seconded, passed.*

***(PHE is recommended to be rolled into health and wellness by the AFRC)***

SC: Move to fund at \$4,000. I have reservations about events and stipends, but both are very important. They can decide where they can take it off from.

*Seconded.*

PS: Move to amend to fund at \$3,600.

*Seconded, accepted.*

*Passed, funded at \$3,600.*

#### **ASG & AFRC Final Deliberations:**

*\$35,000 for ASG?*

PS: Move to amend allocation for Women's Rugby to \$12,130.

*Seconded, passed.*

PS: Men's Rugby is poorly managed.

SC: Why did we fund Men's Rugby so high in the past?

CL: Travel costs.

PS: Wayne, Nebraska is the Berkeley of Rugby, apparently.

RS: I feel like there's more buy-in from the Women's Rugby team because they fundraise more than the men.

RS: I would hope that we're not judging Men's Rugby by their presentation.

SC: I think it's justified to cut them given their poor management and the budget that doesn't make sense. In addition, they seemed to not care about the email sent by this committee.

SC: I'm perfectly comfortable with the current allocation, but I'd also be good with cutting down \$1,000 to warn the club to make them get better management.

CL: Move to amend Men's Rugby at \$8,000.

*Seconded.*

PS: I like it because it's an even number and I think it sends a message that they need to get better at managing their budget.

*Passed, Men's Rugby amended to \$8,000.*

#### Voices Unidas:

PS: I think Voices Unidas did the right thing by not spending that much, which means that if they get funded at \$0, they can get funded by ASG.

CL: My concern is that the only group on campus that represents Latino culture.

SC: I would say that the idea of funding at \$0 is ASG wiggle-room, but they also have \$3,000 in carryforward that they can use for various programs. I don't think that we'll be crippling them by funding them at \$0. The club will be ok either way--at this current funding level, or at \$0.

CL: In the health of the club, it's ok, but we open ourselves to a lot of hullabaloo if we change it.

UR:

PS: They didn't do anything for tech fee, they can get PCs so we can save money.

RS: They don't need iMac pros, they can put on the University Register on my Chromebook, for example.

(General discussion about the non-necessity of iMacs for graphic design)

DS: They use their computer one night every other week. It's not cost-effective.

DV: Move to amend UR's budget to \$9,465.

*Seconded, passed.*

MPIRG:

PS: I don't think they have much utility outside of presidential election year. I think they can fundraise to make spring dues.

SC: Whether or not they're MPIRG shouldn't matter to them if the issues they care about are truly important to them.

PS: If Morris MPIRG's presence as the sole rural organization of Minnesota is so important to central MPIRG, then central MPIRG should be willing to give them some more support.

DV: Move to amend MPIRG allocation to \$10,000.

*Seconded.*

*Passed.*

DV: Move to adjourn.

*Seconded.*

***Adjourned at 5:28 PM***