

UA Senate Meeting (Budget Session)
October 6, 2008
8:00 PM
W20-400

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Call to order
 - a. Jason: to get you thinking about committees you'd like to join, look into them on these worksheets, and you can hold off until committee chairs give you their take on the committees.
 - b. Mike: Budget is in consistent format from previous years. The UA is given 266,000 dollars per year, broken up evenly into two semesters. This funding can be forwarded to the financial board to plan and execute events. We take off the top what we need to operate.
 1. We have contracts with Kaplan and Princeton Review: we email campus and reserve rooms for them, in return for \$2000 each.
 2. With some guidance from Jed, we are to use some of the 20,000 operational spending to spruce up our office.
 3. Running through committees, I'll highlight big numbers.
 - c. Athletics: Athletics weekend expensive. We are dealing with figuring out how that event is going to be continued.
 - d. Committee on Student Life has a huge budget—Undergrad. Mentorship Program.
 1. Include this just in case. I think we'll get a lot of help from the Dean's office.
 - a. Noah: the program is gearing itself towards leadership development. There's a lot of money floating around for exploring leadership as a process.
 - b. Danny: If money is not spent there, where will the money go?
 - c. Mike: Because the money's so high, we may put it back on reserve, but are looking to help out FinBoard especially—around \$6000. Any money not used at the end of the semester is rolled into a reserve account. It's hard to plan for your whole semester.
 - d. PR is the other big one. It's a big front-heavy committee. New year and we're working on a lot of new public relations things: Dorm Storm for one. \$13000 budget: its big. We are looking to use a lot of this money to clean up the office.
 1. We spent about \$8000 this summer to clean up the office and make it a nice place to work.
 - e. Committee Budgets may fluctuate as expected.
 - e. A lot of the committees under \$500 are just looking for money for food at meetings.
 - f. Riley: Fresh Fund limited to supporting fresh initiatives.
 - g. Ekaterina: what happened with athletics weekend.
 1. Riley: We don't do budget meeting until about a month in. They're approved by exec, and the Senate can further vote on the process.
 2. Mike: The Constitution gives Exec. And head of Senate the power to run the budget. We had to use that power to get money out so that committees could get things done. We really wanted to get Athletics weekend going in the middle of fall sports. We only have the issue in the Fall when the Senate can't approve anything.
 3. Hawkins: I think the Senate should approve all major things before they happen.
 4. Mike: this is a gap that really needs to be filled in, and plan things in advance. Or at least have rules in place, such that Senate Exec. And. Exec. Can only approve a certain number of dollars.

5. Mike: this Budget is kind of cut down, and we need to account for worst case scenarios.
- h. Keone: To answer Tim's questions, there are to be 50 pairs for LUMP. Last year it was an 'epic failure' since there was little organization.
 2. Mike: This is Senate, and you can change any of the values that you'd like. Don't take them at face value. I've fit them so that they all fit within our budget constraint.
 3. Keone: Curious, website IT work line item on the operating portion—it says \$3000 for this. Who's getting paid and who's making this website: Evan and the guy who designed the website this summer. How is this funding going to be disbursed? Up front?
 1. Mike: We pay him based on the deliverables he achieves. It's up to our discretion after things to done if they were done well enough to deserve payment. The funding is not going to disappear quickly.
 4. Keone: Does NonComm really not want any money?
 1. Mike: Right, they don't need any in the fall.
 5. Jason: to revise the Senate Budget: it's \$500 for Printing/Copying, \$1000 for Food, and \$300 for Outreach to MIT faculty.
- i. Keone: Does anyone else have any questions about this budget?
- j. Eleni: What's Dorm Storm?
 1. Jason: It's a program to meet students in dorms and present them with issues and events that the UA is heading. It's under the PR committee, and involves sending UA reps to the dorms to discuss various topics with students.
- k. Mike: Sustainability budget is \$1200...to keep things in line with other committees.
 1. Mike: Riley pointed out: bottom line is FinBoard allocation: \$94,000 for them. We over-allocate to \$108,000 expecting \$94,000 to be spent. We usually get 10-15 percent back. This is usually accurate—no historical deviations really.
 2. Sarah: why are polos \$450?
 3. Mike: We are buying multiple shirts with UA logos; about 20.
- l. Keone: Motion to vote on approving the Budget.
 1. Katerina: motion to postpone to the next meeting so that we can discuss with our constituents before approving.
 2. Keone: (I retract my motion.)
- m. Jason: there is a motion to postpone approving the budget to next meeting.
 1. Second
 2. Jason: been seconded. Is there any discussion on this?
 3. Danny: So if we have an issue with this, we can discuss it with our constituents and come back next week to debate this.
 4. Jason: Yes.
- n. Vinay: about LUMP, when is CSL holding this?
 1. Noah: this will start when plans are finalized with people dealing with this.
 2. Vinay: Will people starting spending \$6000 before we can really hear about it?
 3. Mike: No, I strongly doubt it. We are looking to get plenty of help with this.
 4. Keone: I think the idea is to mentor freshman as early as we can.
 5. Noah: The idea is that we organize this properly and not just preemptively get a jump on things.
- o. Jason: All in favor of postponing budget approval meeting until next meeting:
 1. In favor: all but 2
 2. Opposed: 2

3. Abstained: 0.

p. Maggie: get here before 8 next week so that you can get food.

q. Noah: Let us collect Senate t-shirt sizes.

4. Adjournment

a. Jason: Motion to Adjourn:

1. All in favor: all.