

Student Organization Resource Fee

SORF Meeting

Monday, November 28, 2022

Student Org Complex

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 7:06.

Roll Call:

Present:

- Faraz Khan, *Chairperson*
- Chris Gasche, *Vice-Chairperson*
- Dipankar Yettapu, *Undergraduate Board Member*
- Fawwaz Ahmed, *Undergraduate Board Member*
- Jimmy Ewers, *Undergraduate Board Member* (Pablo Quispe proxy)
- Alfonso Munaco, *Undergraduate Board Member* (joined at 7:11pm)
- Myles Washington, *Undergraduate Board Member* (Alfonso Munaco proxy)
- Amani Laliwala, *Undergraduate Board Member*
- Pragati Salunke, *Undergraduate Board Member* (Dipankar Yettapu proxy)
- Pablo Quispe, *Undergraduate Board Member*
- Stephanie Cardoza-Cruz, *Faculty/Staff Board Member*
- Arianna Agramonte Holterman, *Faculty/Staff Board Member* (left meeting at 7:43, Brian Farber proxy)
- Brian Farber, *Faculty/Staff Board Member*
- Nick Fink, *SORF Advisor (non-voting member)*
- Christina Fraser, *SORF Secretary (non-voting member)*

Absent:

Old Business:

New Business:

Chairperson's Comments:

Vote on Application Appeals:

Public Comments/Vote on Application Appeals:

- App No. 168995- **Habitat for Humanity**
 - *Public Comments:* President and treasurer came to discuss their Broomball Tournament Appeal.
 - *Original Reason for Rejection:* Application was originally denied due to a large fund balance.
 - *Appeal Language:* The reason for the denial was due to a large fund balance. However, I would like to clarify that as an organization on campus, our ultimate goal is to fundraise money to donate to Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County. Every year, we help sponsor a home that is built in the C-U community. We do not use these funds for daily operational purposes. Therefore, SORF funding is essential to fund our fundraising events so that we can maximize our donations to build a home. This application for our annual Broomball Tournament is one of our most successful fundraisers of the year, and SORF funding would help us reduce costs. We greatly appreciate your time and effort to review this appeal!
 - *RSO Rebuttal:* RSO's large fund balance is due to fundraising for annual housing project. Fundraising money would be used if SORF was not supporting RSO.
 - *Meeting notes:* Funded at 75% due to charging students' entry for this event. Brian Farber motions to approve at standard. Dipankar Yettapu seconds. Vote of 12-0-0.
- App No. 166904- **Chinese Language and International Development Society**
 - *Public Comments:* Treasurer came to discuss appeal.
 - *Original Reason for Denial:* Original application was rejected due to being a services funding request.
 - *Appeal Language:* For our Chinese New Year Showcase, we hold weekly dance practices from 12pm-6pm every Sunday. We applied for programs funding to rent ARC multipurpose rooms for these weekly practices. According to the SORF website, "programs are considered recurring if the spirit of the event or activity remains the same across all the recurring events". Our weekly practices are recurring events that take place on the same day, at the same time every week, and the same performances are learned and practiced. According to the SORF website, services funding "are not tied to a single event, project, or activity". These practices are all related to a single event, which is our Chinese New Year Showcase which will be held on 2/18/2023 at Lincoln Hall. Our dancers attend these weekly practices to prepare for their performance at our Chinese New Year Showcase.
 - *RSO Rebuttal:* RSO argues this application is a program because its practices leading up to a single event.

- *Meeting Notes:* Practices are not a program. They are a service to prepare for a program. Dipankar Yettapu motions to deny appeal. Stephanie Cardoza-Cruz seconds. Vote of 12-0-0.
- App No. 166880- **Chinese Language and International Development Society**
 - *Public Comments:* High fund balance due to services funding request that has not yet been used for costume purchase.
 - *Original Reason for Rejection:* Rejected due to giveaway and high fund balance.
 - *Appeal Language:* Every fall semester, we hold a Calligraphy Workshop to spread awareness of Chinese Calligraphy to the UIUC community. Every year at this event, we give out free calligraphy kits that contain brushes, ink, paper, magic cloth, etc. These calligraphy kits will be distributed to participants and they get to keep their calligraphy kit. This event is free and accessible to everyone in the UIUC community. Last year, we also applied for SORF Programs funding for this calligraphy event and it was approved. I'm sure we were correct in applying for Programs funding because this is a one-time event and the funds requested will be used to purchase consumable supplies, which are the items in the calligraphy kits.
 - *Meeting notes:* Chris Gasche motions to deny appeal. Dipankar Yettapu seconds. Vote of 10-0-2.
- App No. 159737- **Student Ambassadors of UIPD**
 - *Original Reason for Rejection:* Applied for branded tents and table clothes. Denied due to not being necessary or essential.
 - *Appeal Language:* Requested funding for both goods are necessary for our organization to get started with our role.

The purpose for the tent and tablecloth falls within their Services funding types where we are looking to purchase the items for long-term function of the organization including for events such as Quad Day, Cherries & Berries, as well as New Student Week along with community engagement events out in the community that includes different festivals and events alongside police. Both the tent and the tablecloth will act as identifiers as to who we are especially for when we are working alongside UIPD.

The tent and tablecloths also act as essential equipment for us that will be unique with our name and trademark on it to help showcase who we are and garner the attention of other students as we work to expand the organization so that we can continue to build and work towards impacting the Illinois Campus Community.

- *Meeting notes:* Dipankar Yettapu motions to approve appeal after determining that these items are essential for the mission of the student org. Stephanie Cardoza-Cruz seconds. Vote of 9-0-3.
- App No. 160757- **Society for Women in Physics**
 - *Original Reason for Rejection:* Applied for teatime social events items. Denied due to items not deemed essential.

- *Appeal Language:* Honestly, for the most part the restriction felt fair. We asked for money for stickers, which I understand does not qualify as essential equipment. On the other hand, the rest of the items we requested (i.e. paper cups, kettle, etc) are for our tea times which are an important aspect of our club. One of our main functions as the society of women in physics is to help students in our RSOs connect with women faculty in the physics department (which there are not that many of) in order to see the difficulties they have faced and be able to connect with people in positions of power that share experiences with them. This is one of the most beneficial aspects of the club, but in order to keep the atmosphere comfortable but professional, snacks and drinks are necessary. We can fundraise the money for most of these but what we really need is a kettle just to help make the tea that has been a staple of meetings since the inception of SWIP. We have tea bags from past years but no accessible hot water in Loomis to use for meetings. We hope to get SORF to allow us this amount so we can continue making this event both free and comfortable for everyone coming to these events.
- *Meeting notes:* Dipankar Yettapu motions to approve line item 3 and deny other line items. Stephanie Cardoza-Cruz seconds. Vote of 12-0-0.
- **App No. 159028- Myra Blackwell Women's Law Society**
 - *Original Reason for Rejection:* Denied t-shirts due to being a giveaway
 - *RSO Rebuttal:* Claim the t shirts are being sold for fundraising
 - *Appeal Language:* The budget request 159028 for our Women's March should be edited to include \$837 for shirts sold at the event. We agree with your assessment of the safety vests, but we dispute the denial of the t-shirt funding. The only reason given for this specific denial was that SORF "does not fund giveaways." The shirts we sold at the march were not giveaways and were meant to raise awareness for the march and the legal issues that women face. We sold each shirt for \$20 each and have Venmo transactions if you need proof of this.
 - *Meeting notes:* Dipankar Yettapu motions to table application until 12/5/22 after determining if the shirts were sold as a fundraiser for a 501c3. Stephanie Cardoza-Cruz seconds. Vote of 12-0-0.
- **App No. 158861- Myra Blackwell Women's Law Society**
 - *Original Reason for Rejection:* Information meeting. SORF does not fund general governance meetings. RSO claimed this is a meet and greet event.
 - *Appeal Language:* We ask that the budget request 158861 include \$30 for snacks served at our informational meeting. This meeting was a free event open to the entire university and was meant to inform new students about the mission of the Myra Bradwell Women's Law Society. Thus, it does not violate SORF Funding standards.
 - *Meeting notes:* The board determined that the appellant's program was being used solely for recruitment efforts which is in violation of the Standards. Dipankar Yettapu motions to deny appeal. Stephanie Cardoza-Cruz seconds. Vote of 12-0-0.
- **App No. 158763- Cross Country Club**

- *Original Reason for Rejection:* Out of funding period except for two meets. Gas calculation is incorrect.
- *Appeal Language:* We applied for fall funding 2 and we were denied the total amount we applied for. This was because one of the events in the funding request was outside of the fall funding 2 period. However, 2 of the 3 parts in our request were in the fall funding 2 period, thus we should have received 2/3 of the funding we applied for in fall funding 2. I have been in contact with Faraz and he instructed me to fill this out as my earlier appeal was apparently lost.
- *Meeting notes:* Dipankar Yettapu motions to adjust line item 2 to \$500 to fund the two (of the original 4) events that were in period and zero fund line item 1 for the wrong gas calculation. Stephanie Cardoza-Cruz seconds. Vote of 9-0-3.
- All appeals submitted by The Fashion Network were submitted more than 48 hours after the funding decisions were communicated and were not considered by the Board for violating the Appeals process as outlined in the SORF Bylaws.

Vote on Appeals process:

- Dipankar Yettapu motions to add new process to SORF bylaws. Stephanie Cardoza-Cruz seconds. Vote of 10-0-0.
- Amend Article V, Section 1, Part A of the bylaws to add the following:
 1. Any Registered Student Organization in good standing shall be eligible to apply for SORF funds and are entitled to an appeal of allocation decisions, so long as the appropriate requirements are met.
 1. For a Student Org to appeal, the Treasurer must submit the SORF Appeal Form located on the SORF Website within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving notice of the Boards decision from the SORF Secretary.
 1. An appeal can be granted if the Student Org Treasurer believes that that SORF Board incorrectly applied one, or more, of the SORF Funding Standards and Restrictions.
 1. The following appeal requests will not be considered:
 1. Violation of SORF General Standard 8
 2. Violation of SORF General Standard 9
 3. Submitting the incorrect Application Type
 4. Insufficient or Incorrect Supporting Documentation
 5. Missing the SORF Application Deadline
 2. Should the SORF Board decide to uphold their original decision, a final appeal can be made to the Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Success, Inclusion, and Belonging.

Vote on Proposal to add SORF Chairperson as a paid position on the Board:

- Faraz Khan passes Chairperson power to Vice-Chairperson Chris Gasche and leaves the meeting room at 7:58pm.
- *Proposal Language:* After consulting with the SORF Chairpersons from 2020, 2021, and now 2022, they have all averaged their workload to be around ten (10) hours a week on average and peaking at twenty (20) hours during application review time. This is in comparison to the three (3) hours of work that the average board member is held to and is outlined in the SORF Bylaws.

As the SORF Chairperson is not the primary reviewer for any application, only votes in the case of a tie, and has a more considerable time commitment, I believe that it is both ethical and prudent to add them as a paid member of the SORF Board.

This payment would follow Student Engagement's operations of paying minimum wage as defined by the State of Illinois for a maximum of 20 hours a week. At most, this would total \$8,840 assuming the SORF Chairperson worked all 20 hours every week of the semester. A more likely estimate would be \$4,940 assuming the Chairperson works 10 hours most weeks and 20 hours during the 6 funding period weeks.

Looking at the SORF Budget holistically, this would increase the SORF Student Salary & Benefits line item from \$7,000 to \$12,000. To offset this, the SORF Board would look to other line items to investigate what changes can be made to lessen the impact of this to Allocations.

- Fawwaz Ahmed motions to approve proposal. Dipankar Yettapu seconds. Vote 4-2-5. Motion fails. Stephanie Cardoza-Cruz motions to table. Dipankar Yettapu seconds. Vote of 9-0-2.

Review Process Training:

For the good of the order:

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.