

FaCU Meeting Notes

Thursday, May 8, 2008

FaCU Presentations

- 9:00-10:30a Inter-Greek Council
- 10:30a-12:05p Club Sports Governing Board
- 12:05-3:30p *Break — a committee member has an exam*
- 3:30-5:00p Activities Board at Columbia
- 5:05-6:35p Student Governing Board
- 6:40-8:10p Community Impact
- 8:10-8:30p Break — dinner
- 8:30-10:00p WKCR

Assignment of letter writing will be determined later, after all presentations.

IGC – Inter-Greek Council

Giselle Gastelle – PanHel
Matt Heiman – IFC
Donna Desilus – MGC

MGC:

- Increased cross-cultural programming for next year
- Collaboration, rather than working as individual councils
- Similar to ABC, SGB
 - o Many groups exist under MGC
 - o Three revived groups, one new
- Dues paid go to Nat'l organization, not necessarily to the individual chapters
- Allocation usually goes to programming, building infrastructure
 - o Desire to bring infrastructure from other governing boards to MGC, e.g. website

IFC:

- Created this year, similar to existing organizations at colleges nationwide
- \$1600 for Greek Night, part of NSOP
 - o Shut down 113 & 114, open 8 fraternities
 - o Alcohol-free parties; expenditures \$200/fraternity for decorations, etc.
 - o Expecting ~70 people/party
- \$1000 General Programming
 - o AEPi Pie eating contest
 - o SigPhi Scholarship Ceremony

- RTPi Informational

PanHel:

- Recruitment Software costs: \$400 flat, +\$2/registering woman
- Formal Recruitment
- \$400 Formal Recruitment Space Fees
 - Tables, related facilities fees
- \$400 Formal Recruitment Supplies
 - Nametags, pens, etc.
- \$1000 PanHel Programming
 - Individual sororities have independent budgets. This is similar to
- \$600 PanHel Expansion
 - Support for National representatives for a potential new sorority

IGC

- \$15000 for Greek Formal
 - Replaced the old "Greek Weekend"
 - \$20 * 200 tickets
 - 550 total in Greek Community
 - \$12,000 total cost of event; covered location costs (yacht) and hors 'oeuvres
 - Desire to expand to Greek Weekend, with several components:
 - Community Service
 - Greek Fair (e.g. Bacchanal, Block Party)
 - One large event by IGC for the whole year; consider what costs would be if IGC did a series of events throughout the year.
 - Tickets subsidized \$30 each, MGC subsidized further
- NE Greek Leadership Conference
 - 2 from each Greek Council, plus an adviser
- \$1000 for T-shirts

General Comments

- Would like to change the perception of Greeks on campus

Questions

- Why a boat?
- Who will control IGC funds, since it no longer formally exists as an independent board?
 - No Greek Weekend this year due to the cost of the formal.
- Computer costs for PanHel cover upkeep of the system
- NSOP Greek Night: a part of NSOP programming? Subsidy?
 - Part of program, not sure if subsidy
- Why is Greek Formal off-campus?
 - Space issues on campus, wanted to make a spectacle.
 - Council semi-formals/formals cost:
 - \$15,000 Winter Gala
 - \$4,500 Junior Class Semiformal
- Do individual chapters contribute to Greek Formal?

- No; cover costs only for their own events
- Any discussion about chapters financially supporting Formal, promoting community as previously mentioned?
 - Not financially feasible; dues for fraternities generally run \$400, half goes to National Chapter
 - Wide range of types and size of groups; DSigPhi has only 5 members, compared to some sororities, which have 74 members.
 - Greek Formal as a means of gathering the entire community in one place, which doesn't otherwise happen.
 - Hold \$1600 separate from other costs
 - Old attitude toward IGC was largely apathetic; Greek Formal really brought support for the councils.
- NE Greek Leadership Conference: elaborate.
 - Coordinated by a national Greek organization
 - Meeting of many Greek groups to discuss pertinent issues
 - Risk management
 - Alcohol policy
 - Etc
 - Individual chapters often send their members to other conferences; this isn't the only conference Greek orgs at Columbia attend
 - Build relationships with other chapters in the area, want to build relationships with other campuses
 - Generally, chapter presidents attend.
 - Training is a large part of Greek orgs; rules are very strict, especially around risk management
- Why send so many people to the conferences?
 - Three parallel organizations, so makes sense to send someone from each.
 - Having just two from IFC is actually low attendance among groups attending conference
 - Adviser is sort of common, but extremely helpful
 - 2 or 3 nights stay
 - Intent is to attend a regional conference, rather than National for next year

Discussion

- Charity Donation
 - Generally don't allocate for direct charity; only for co-sponsorships to enable an event.
- Greek Formal
 - \$8,000 net cost?
 - Discrepancy in subsidy, \$30/ticket doesn't add up
 - Some tickets fully subsidized?
 - Packets says that they want to do full subsidy
 - However, councils don't do this for any semi/formal event
 - Support general idea of community building, but where is the willingness to cut costs?
 - What if every group with ~200 people had a formal? Will those be subsidized by the councils as well?

- Low was available several times this semester
 - Fund part, but not all?
- Leadership conference
 - Do we generally allocate for advisers?
 - No; these are student fees. If the adviser feels it is important to go, the money should come from her budget or ResLife
 - Is this an appropriate venue to discuss hazing policy, legal liability?
 - Similar to NAESC, Ivy Council
 - Concerns regarding sending half the IGC membership
 - Possibility of sending just one member for each IFC, MGC, PanHel?
 - CU delegation may be smaller, but we also have smaller Greek community
 - Hotel is \$200/night? Looks like 1 room per person
- Is there a need for another sorority?
 - Have heard that some sororities have trouble filling
 - There is a need in Greek Community
- Regarding leadership development: does it make sense to pay for individual groups' leadership development
 - Might make sense for this one year, but make it clear this is a one-time cost
 - If we can determine that the IGC is in a unique position, then this will make sense

CSGB – Club Sports Governing Board

Bryant Rolfe
Joe Matuk
Amy Lin
Diana Patterson

Changes for this past year

- Administrative training for all club leaders
- Increase financial responsibility
 - o New ledgering system
 - Cash-based vs. Accrual-based
 - Transaction recognized when charge applied, rather than when money actually moved
- Changes in coach hiring practices
 - o Formerly casual employees, 500hr lifetime limit, with 33% fringe benefit tax
 - o Now “Recreation Sports Consultants” - contracted employees, no fringe benefit tax, no lifetime working hour limit
- Straightening out admin issues
 - o Liability, etc

Unique aspects of CSGB

- Are not overseen by SDA, policies come from Athletics
- Largest costs are travel expenses
 - o Undergraduates not allowed to drive
- 60% of operating budget raised from dues paid by members

Changes for Next Year

- Requirement that coaches form their own small businesses, LLCs so that CU will recognize them as independent contractors
- Want to create a synchronized skating, increasing activity of particular clubs
- Financial aid for students unable to afford some clubs, e.g. equestrian
- Cycling had to cancel some tournaments due to lack of funds
 - o Nearly affected Ivy standing

* New supplement provided to answer questions sent to CSGB.

Questions

- How is financial aid need determined for club members?
 - o Application process, also examine official Columbia Financial Aid Package
- Where does this Financial Aid funding come from?
 - o Allocation
- Since coaches are no longer being charged 33% fringe benefit tax, what is happening with this extra money? Are coaches getting a 33% raise?

- Money would be used to buy equipment, etc.
 - Some groups couldn't afford coaches this year, and just didn't hire, so not necessary more money available
- What is the actual request? Letter amount and table amount before tab #1 do not match.
- Is the Road Runners' donation to NYRR a donation or a fee?
 - Really, a fee – covers registration costs, etc that otherwise would have to be paid individually by group members
- What are the details for competition expenses? What are the quality of the hotels, how many people per room?
 - Guidelines are ~\$125/night hotel, \$100/day for vans
 - Varsity sports have priority over CSGB for athletics vans
 - Competitions are approved case-by-case by application and proposal
- How is student recruitment done, advertising?
 - Strict guidelines under M. Diane Murphy
 - Once approved by Dr. Murphy and Brian Jines, advertising and flyers posted in Dodge Fitness Center, in very specific locations
 - Facebook is also a good recruitment tool
 - Many sports are in small communities, and know who's coming beforehand
 - A large number of people actively seek out club sports
 - Some clubs are at limit of capacity; some are still growing
- Necessity of spending money on advertising in Columbia College Today, other alumni newsletters?
 - Fundraising from alumni recovers these expenses and more
- A lot of funding requested for this year is for facilities, equipment; what's the reason for the change?
 - Many clubs now have access to dedicated practice fields, e.g. rugby team, and performance has significantly increased as a result. Direct correlation can be seen.
- Regarding the packet, tab #1 sheets, what is the relationship between "Budget," "Difference," and "Income"?
 - Sf
- What was the CSGB rollover from last year?
 - Athletics accounting system was different before this year, when each club got it is own account.
 - All club sports' surplus used to be reclaimed and deposited into a "Nationals Fund" to subsidize costs for participation in national competitions.
- "Consultant" costs are...?
 - Coaches.
- Are "Current Balance" amounts accurate reflections?
 - Yes.
- We don't see a CSGB allocation request for the actual board, and yet some groups appear to have debt. Where is this money going to come from?
 - The "Nationals Fund" is considered the CSGB emergency fund, and in addition, each club has a gift account, and any leftover revenue in past years has been moved to these accounts, largely from alumni donations.
 - These gift accounts are also considered "Capital Improvement" funds to buy equipment, etc.
 - Students do a lot of fundraising as well
- What is the change in the number of groups, etc. under CSGB?

- Lost 5 clubs this year
- Many applications for groups who would like to join.
- Men's Squash is hugely in debt, and Women's Squash is seeing a nearly eight-fold increase? Both are moving in the same direction (toward varsity), and yet there's a disagreement about
 - Going varsity soon, and have large gift accounts
 - Brian Jines has/will meet with them to discuss debt
- How are dues, expenses accounted for? Seem to be some discrepancies.
 - For the example of the Equestrian club, the riding lesson package fees vary greatly by individual, so those costs are not accounted at all, because it would be extremely complicated, whether to go under dues or ...?
- Swing dance semi-formals?
 - Swing doesn't participate in travel competitions, so these are viewed as substitutes for that
 - We will likely look at semi-formals by Club Sports in the same way we consider formals by fraternities and sororities... e.g. not fully subsidized

* Club Sports is a completely different organization from even a couple years ago; much more responsible, etc.

Discussion

- We will consider formals by fraternities and sororities... e.g. not fully subsidized
- We should look at all clubs whose member contributions are less than 50%, since many expenses are related to travel, and the precedent set by other governing boards is that half the responsibility of travel costs lies with the students
- Look at whether costs for travel, etc are appropriate?
 - We should trust the numbers set by CSGB
- All this is great, but there are unique expenses for each group
- Should consider income components of budget, e.g. income from fundraising compared to income from membership dues.
 - Shouldn't be punishing people for playing expensive sports?
- CSGB Guidelines say minimum dues are \$15 per person per semester for clubs w/o coach, \$30 per person per semester for clubs w/ coach.
 - Racquetball dues do not meet this minimum.
- How to structure budget analysis algorithm?
 - Use 50% of costs by dues as a threshold, then also looking at how large the club is.
- Wish that CSGB would do their allocations prior to FaCU, rather than in the fall. Would be useful for incoming board to be present.
- Looking to match dues paid by members, then some portion of fundraising/donations?
- Numbers being passed to Lauren are half of club costs if request is greater than 50%, otherwise entire request, so maximum given per club is 50% of costs. Sums to \$312,771.67
- Also, just matching dues and all of fundraising, to recognize extra effort, sums to \$198,661.25

ABC – Activities Board at Columbia

Paula Cheng
Jacob Weaver
Samantha John
Scott St. Marie

Changes for this past year

- Streamlining processes
- Closer ties and increased communication with groups, administration

Remarks on this past year, initiatives

- Fiscal discipline
 - o Large surplus, increased council co-sponsorships
- Appeals
 - o Funds reserved for fluctuating, unconfirmed estimates for events, typically earmarked for particular groups and events
 - o Also used to supplement club budgets in the event of shortfalls or cost overruns
 - o Appeals funds allow ABC to be flexible in their support for groups
- Columbia Concerts & Bacchanal
 - o Not in good shape at the beginning of the year, low membership, etc.
 - o NSOP spent ~\$20,000 out of this budget without consultation
 - Refunded by SDA
 - o Recently merged together under Bacchanal
- Board Programming
 - o Allocation meetings
 - o Miscellaneous costs related to assembling FaCU packet
 - o Storage Request, beginning Spring '08
 - New initiative that came up last year as well
 - Meant for groups unable to secure space in the SGO/Club Space for the summer
 - Located with Manhattan Mini-Storage

New Initiatives for next year

- Board Programming & Policy Initiatives
 - o Website Restructuring
 - Database-driven
 - Improve accessibility of information
 - Hire outside developer to build PHP/MySQL-driven site
 - Motivation: digitize request process (EAFs), centralize archives and records currently distributed in various e-mail systems, e.g. Cubmail, Gmail, etc.
 - o Group Mixers
 - Foster dialogue among groups and between groups and reps
 - Demonstrated interest from student groups, as shown in end-year survey
 - o Storage Request, beginning Spring '08
 - New initiative that came up last year as well

- Meant for groups unable to secure space in the SGO/Club Space for the summer
- Located with Manhattan Mini-Storage

Budget Request Remarks

- “Surplus” is not “rollover” but ending position for the year
 - Currently \$88,563.29 (+), in line with historical numbers; rollover from ’06-’07 was historically low
 - Waiting for \$27,000 from GS (+)
 - \$7,000 pending expenses, includes frontend redesign for website (-)
 - \$10,000 backend cost for website will be put to next year’s budget
 - \$30,614.88 Transfers Remaining (-)
 - \$4,499.84 Cat A Appeals
 - Newer groups, \$500/year as \$250/semester
 - \$9,016.83 Cat B Appeals
 - Set allocation for the year
 - \$15,076.21 Heritage Months
 - \$2,022.00 Development Fund
 - \$30,667.90 Reclaimed Allocation (+)
 - Unused allocation by groups
 - \$14,938.87 Reclaimed Debt (+)
 - Debt owed to ABC by groups
- “Allocations” decreased 2.31% from last year’s allocation request, to \$353,826.78
 - Explanation of ABC record-keeping and budget request process by groups
 - Response to questions around Facilities, Security, and Miscellaneous costs
 - Records not accessible, hence website restructuring
 - We have students at Columbia taking classes, why not have a student do it?
 - Scale issues, students can’t do it as a project for a class
 - Actually, CCO did it
 - Brody has a lot of experience working in computer field; \$10,000 figure doesn’t mean anything
 - Suggests learning skills necessary to define structure of website
 - Revisit website discussion
- “Board Programming” is a composition of training, mixers, general body meeting, storage, Community Principles Initiative, etc
 - \$318.78 Training
 - \$520 Mixers
 - \$1,407.97 Internal
 - \$670 AGM
 - \$3,560.00 Storage
 - First-come, first-serve basis, provided for the summer only
 - CSC Lion Heads
 - Hoheup Drums
 - Large number of requests
 - 4 x 50sq. ft. rooms

- ABC Exec board member will be overseeing during reading week, taking inventory
 - Galil moving company may also be contracted to pick up, move
 - No summer access to stored items
 - \$1,000 CPI
 - “Group Recognition” two promotions from Cat A to Cat B (Multicultural Business Association, Colombia por Columbia). Seven de-recognized seven, recognized seven. \$2,600 requested for recognizing four groups at \$650
 - 40 Cat A groups, \$0-500/year
 - ~100 Cat B groups
 - “Appeals” \$89,505.13
 - \$57,252.22 Earmarked Appeals
 - Variable costs, e.g. OPS Hangama horse
 - Capital expenses, e.g. replacing a CSC Lion Head
 - \$27,252.91 Unexpected Appeals
 - Unexpected competition trips, e.g. cuBhangra Vancouver Competition
 - Requests for appeals can be limited
 - \$5,000 Community Development
 - Reduced from \$10,000
 - Awarded for new collaborative programming between groups, specifically ABC. Pending collaboration with other governing boards
 - Ideally, increasing appeals budget here would reduce reliance on councils
 - How many people are generally sent to conferences, competitions?
 - Case-by-case basis. Depends on the number
 - Concern about ABC’s ability to actually directly allocate funds to groups, earmark appeals. This reasoning was used last year to increase governing board budgets, but didn’t really see a change.
 - ESC co-sponsorships increased in size and frequency
 - “Debt Recovery” at a historical low, \$10,057.30
 - “Miscellaneous” is for website project, previously discussed
- * clarification of how final request number obtained

Discussion

SGB – Student Governing Board

Arjun Kapoor - Chair

Devorah Aharon - Treasurer

Aaron Kreiger – Rep

Introduction

- Voltron symbolism
- SGB History
 - o Created 1968
- Groups
 - o CU Dems
 - Voted Dems of the year across the nation
 - o (See PDF received this morning)

Budget Overview

- LOLcatz theme?
- \$195,175.62 Total Allocation Request
 - o \$168,357.62 Group Allocations
 - o \$8,818.00 Board Programming
 - o \$18,000 Total for Appeals and Co-sponsorships
- Review of group budget requests
 - o Limit advertising to \$75 per event
 - o Food limit
 - \$8.50/head for dinners
 - “Draconian,” but cutting down on inflated costs
 - \$2/head for study breaks
 - o Subsidized only half of new events from old groups
 - Again, self-described as “draconian”
 - o All Facilities and Security costs eliminated
 - Prevent miscommunication, as well as to eliminate inflation, since these were usually guesses/estimates
 - o Miscellaneous expenditures without explanation were eliminated
 - o Rewarded groups seeking co-sponsorships and collaboration
 - o See Sections IIC, Supplemental Item B for list of changes to budgets
 - o Conservative budgets for many groups, e.g. Students for North Korean Awareness, Rotaract
 - o Defunct groups derecognized
 - o Some groups recommended for budget cuts or no growth
- Fiscally conservative; unprecedented move for SGB

Statistics

- Examined self-reported census data to determine current allocations by membership.
 - o \$37/member mean, \$25/member median
 - Numbers potentially skewed upward, since questionable membership numbers were just eliminated, but allocation amounts remained.

- Examined recommended allocations
 - o \$43/member mean, \$33/member median
 - Numbers potentially skewed upward, since questionable membership numbers were just eliminated, but recommendation amounts remained.
- On average, each undergrad attends 10 SGB events/year
- Average attendance: 95.61/event mean, 50.5/event median
- Number of event/group: 22/year mean, 10/year median

Co-sponsorships

- 2007-2008 Co-sponsorships allocated: \$10,213
- 2008-2009 Request: \$18,000
- Desire to increase direct co-sponsorship from SGB to groups, rather than having the councils be primary co-sponsorship

Board Programming

- Total request: \$8,818
- 40th Anniversary, priorities for board programming include:
 - o 4 community building dinners
 - o 3 speaker events
 - o 3 town halls
 - Two town halls plus one “Emergency” town hall
 - SGB groups voted to hold mandatory town halls to respond to bias incidents, other campus issues that arise
 - o SGB-CCE Career Fair
 - Assist in making CCE accessible to students not planning to enter finance career track
- Want council co-sponsorship for dinners and emergency town hall

Historical Precedent

- Misconceptions of SGB and fiscal responsibility, relationship with councils
- Limits on the kinds of events that SGB groups can hold
 - o Criteria being that events must contribute to political, activist, religious atmosphere
 - o Groups not here to have fun; here to raise awareness
 - Cannot throw parties
 - Cannot hold competitions
- Desire to establish new status quo grounded in current standing of SGB on campus
 - o Growth of SGB groups is significant, parallels rise in politics, activism, religion and service groups nationwide

CCSC Surplus

- Rightful recipients of this money have graduated
- Partially subsidizing students of another school is better than not subsidizing anyone
- Cannot separate student lives of people from different schools

Governing Board Surplus

- How to determine whether a governing board can have a contingency fund?

- Is this sustainable?

General Comments

- Commitment to be fiscally conservative
 - Recognition that funds are limited and shared among all governing boards
- Belief that SGB groups are underfunded
 - However, viewed as a Columbia problem, not SGB problem
- Columbia's history of social activism, political awareness embodied in SGB

Questions

- Difference between Community Building Dinner and Town Hall
 - Town halls are mandatory, and are where elections happen, keeping groups updated on SGB activity
 - Community Building Dinners are optional, aimed at building community among groups, between groups and SGB, councils
- Reasoning for having SGB as a board host speakers, as opposed to co-sponsoring groups to host the speaker themselves?
 - Having an individual group host a speaker gives an inherent bias into the event, and in addition, there may not be a group on campus that accurately or adequately addresses a particular issue, and this is where SGB can take a lead
- Why does every group think they can solve the CCE finance problem, how is SGB's solution different?
 - Not sure why problem exists, but many SGB members have had internships in political organizations, NGOs, etc.
 - Using SGB to build these contacts within groups to internships, etc.
- Debt recovery? Groups may be underfunded, so if a group goes into debt, how is that handled?
 - Small surpluses from other groups cover many debts, and the debt-incurring group is penalized
 - SGB may actually be more harsh on groups which under-spend
- How is recognition/de-recognition of groups handled? Seems that some new groups address very specific issues that could have been addressed or otherwise fall under a larger umbrella group (e.g. Free Culture vs. RIAA)
 - Need a minimum of 10 undergrads for recognition
 - Informally, also need group to have had programming for at least a semester
 - Collaboration, fundraising efforts?
 - Created "hunger umbrella" group as a consolidation of two groups which came for recognition this year
 - Human rights umbrella? (e.g. Burma 88)
 - SGB tries to consolidate groups like this, but there is also a significant rate of failure for these umbrella groups
- Hillel was one of the groups that did not have an itemized line-by-line breakdown of their budget; what is the working relationship here?
 - Hillel functions as an umbrella for roughly 40 Jewish student groups covering a wide range of activities
 - SGB allocates a lump sum to Hillel

- The Hillel budget packet is roughly twice the size of the SGB budget packet, logistical issue
 - Compromise between SGB and Hillel
 - Hillel is an independent non-profit that is able to subsidize a significant portion (roughly half) of the budgets of the 40 groups under it, so this is a benefit to SGB and the councils indirectly
- Plan for the unused allocations of groups? Some groups appear to have not touched their allocations, and are being recommended for an increase, yet others are not. Why?
 - Student Affairs Central Business Office representative for SGB left abruptly, and many transactions have not been processed.
 - SGB may actually end up in a little bit of debt as a result of this backlog
 - Communication with many of these groups is ongoing

Discussion

- Board programming
 - The speaker panel series, if run by student groups, rather than the SGB, can be used to promote community through collaboration (cut \$2,410)
 - A speaker isn't necessary for community building (Speaker Discussion) (cut \$2,545)
 - Food unnecessary at career fairs (cut \$600)
- **Recommendation with above cuts: \$189,620.62**
 - Still above SGA ability to pay

CI – Community Impact

John Garnder

Jay

Mackenzie

Jocelyn

Introduction

- CI composed of two parts: administrative, which is a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that raises money each year that exists separately from Student Life Fees, and student arm, which is funded by Student Life Fee
- Administrative arm operates similar to the way SDA, OSGA do for ABC, SGB

Updates on the year

- Changes to structure, forms, process
- Several groups dissolved? A group on probation, other looking to join. Currently looking to see what kind of growth is possible at CI.
- Received fellowship grant from the University Provost

Budget Overview

- Project Health, and another group have surpluses for the year, ~\$2,000 each, which account for much of the CI surplus, and these groups will have their allocations reduced for the next year.
 - o One group had a site close down, so less activity. Trying to enter another site
- Several groups have requested budget increases for next year, one is a group that was created by merging two groups last year, and has settled in as a cohesive group.
 - o Also, Habitat Humanity has experienced a revival this year, growing well, and is asking for more money as well. Increased from 5 builds to 10 builds.
- Walking through each individual group and discussing increases, decreases, events planned
- Discussion of Executive Board Programming Budget
 - o Due to the fact that CI is a non-profit as well as a governing board, a lot of work is done with the administrative arm
 - Retreat – 40-50 coordinators attending
 - Most of expenses are for reserving space and transportation to/from
 - Appreciation Dinner (VAD) – fall (?) and spring – 300 attendees
 - Celebrates the work of volunteers
 - Largest expense, generally held as most important
 - Earl Jam
- Response to questions sent by Lauren
 - o CCO Day – Facilities generally table and chair rental for use on Revson Plaza
 - o CCO Day – Replenishing supplies, Arts & Crafts
 - o AYP – Holiday Events: drinks & snacks, Outings: extra kids & parents
 - o Big Sibs – Transportation costs
 - o Big Sibs – Transportation Costs

- EarthCo –Tables
- EarthCo – Storage Boxes
- EarthCo – Tables
- EarthCo –Tables
- EarthCo –Tools, bench, maintain small gardens
- Let’s Get Ready – Awards for final celebration party, 70 kids
- Peace by PEACE – for large end of year festival, last-minute emergency costs

Questions

- Many of the large increases in group budgets come from expenses that had been appeals/co-sponsorships last year, but the requested appeals budget hasn’t been reduced at all.
 -
- How do you check to make sure money is being spent responsibly; how it relates to the allocation, and the request?
 - We go through and check each budget individually
- How are groups expecting that they will get more members next year?
 - Sadf
- Does CI have any standards regarding amounts of money that can be spent on an event, for example, per person for a dinner, study break, etc.
 - Specifically for Fellowship dinner, goes to support fellowship program financed by the provost
 - Guidelines can be found on the last page before supplementary letters in packet
- Clarification: on Section II Form B, are amounts requested the requests from the groups, or the requests from CI to the councils for each group? (Group request vs. CI recommendation)
 - These are group requests after CI board had some communication with the groups, and packets were resubmitted
- For some programs, advertising costs are broken down by type, e.g. fliers, brochures, posters, etc., but for some groups, these are not segregated, and are relatively high numbers. Are these numbers purely for plain paper fliers, or brochures and posters as well?
- Have you ever considered not fully subsidizing the cost of the retreat or other events along the lines of 50% travel, etc?
 - We could, but students are already volunteering to do programming we are asking them to do. It would be uncomfortable to do this.
 - Fundamentally different from club sports competitions, etc.
 - 1000 volunteers, 40 retreat attendees
 - Already have difficulties getting people to attend on-campus town halls; asking people to pay would make it even more difficult to get people to attend
 - Two-day retreat at convention center
 - Early move-in charge from Columbia Housing
 - Off-campus to encourage people to think about their programs; these are two days before coordinators have other things to worry about.
- Printing/Copies/Advertising Costs for the retreat and make-up retreat
 - Significant difference, proportion between the two events that doesn’t agree with projected attendance
- Why the price difference between the various CI newsletters?

- One is much larger, and will be distributed over the summer to visiting students, as well as in the fall
- CI merchandise? Non-descript \$450?
 - Again, preparing for next year, spending on this year's budget.
 - CI Leadership Program having a dinner early next year. Giveaways to new members of CI.

Discussion

- Board programming
 - Coordinator retreat
 - Issues with having a retreat at a convention center
 - Specific convention center is dedicated to non-profit groups
 - Administrative body used to pay for most of it, now want students to pay more for it
 - Analogous to SDA council retreat, SGA retreat
 - Cut make-up retreat then (\$200 – printing and food)
 - All people who missed the first retreat were accounted for in original estimate of attendance; these guides should have already been printed for them, and more food shouldn't be bought
 - Early move in is \$40/day, charged by Columbia Housing
 - Barnard has housing shortage, Columbia as well
 - Appeals fund and initial allocations money being double-counted?
 - VAD event growing?
 - We cut After VAD last year, and this year there's now a pre-VAD for seniors, and the VAD event itself grew significantly
 - Having it in Low, using Columbia Catering
 - Perhaps unaware of protocol to get around Columbia Catering's exclusivity
 - Use previous year's request as a guideline, \$20/head, cutting \$5,100
 - Fellowship Orientation Dinner
 - Beyond CI guidelines at \$13/plate, cutting to \$10 (\$50 total reduction)
 - Earl Jam
 - Don't feel comfortable with giveaways (\$726 cut)
 - Study Breaks: new initiative, seem to meet the same goals as town halls (cut \$300)
- Group initial allocations
 - Many groups are co-sponsored by outside groups? We were told we were the only source of funding... Other groups on campus reach out to organizations outside the university for funding
 - However, not a fair comparison to make to things like CCO

* We should try to identify recurring costs across groups that we might be able to cover, similar to Facilities and Security

* Set benchmark of 5% of allocation (not operating budget) as allowable rollover for each governing board per year? This amount is left out of surplus applied toward allocation amount, operating budget.

WKCR – King’s Crown Radio

Morgan Whitcomb – Station Manager

Introduction

- Columbia’s radio station since the invention of radio; one of the first FCC radio licenses issued
- Abruptly changed format in 60s and 70s to suit the needs of the student body and New York
- Lost main transmitter tower on September 11, 2001
 - o Dormant for two years as a result, broadcasting off the roof of Carman
 - Lost a lot of listener base
 - o Currently broadcasting from Conde Nast Building at 4 Times Square
 - Regained a lot of listener base
 - o Still in debt from this period?
- Gained an advisor in SDA
 - o But recently acquired responsibility of paying adviser’s salary
 - Half of operating budget
- Lost free housing at Barnard for the summer
- Need to fundraise; looking for ways of doing this
 - o No desire to be heavily underwritten, run ads, become an NPR affiliate
 - o Decided to try to create an endowment to provide for annual operating budget (\$250,000) with a \$4,000,000 endowment
 - Want 50% of that to come from corporations, music entities
 - 25% from listeners
 - 25% from WKCR alumni
- To facilitate endowment fundraising:
 - o Approached FaCU
 - o NY State Grant (New York Music Fund?)
 - o Leasing subcarrier frequencies
 - Currently have one, looking for another, can provide \$25,000 per subcarrier
 - o Amend constitution to include a mission statement to make public the intentions of WKCR
 - Want to answer to listeners, not underwriters, etc.
 - Attempt to do this was made two years ago, but now passed and ratified
- Least technologically-savvy radio station around
- Endowment campaign idea well-received by listeners

Budget Overview

- Summer housing cost is for 10 people
 - o \$18,000 for 6 people last year
- Sports department has largest expenses
- Need new CD players; current have been around for ~5 years
- Hard drive recording system: need to be able to archive the stream for the listeners; one of the few radio stations that doesn’t do this. “Air Check System”
 - o Could also provide a recording of the stream for legal purposes, e.g. as evidence to protect against complaints, avoid potential legal costs

Questions

- Undergraduate membership?
 - o 60% undergrads (76 CC, BC, SEAS, CE)
 - o 21% recent undergrads
 - o 8% graduate students
- How accessible is WKCR to students who want to get involved?
 - o A lot of training is involved prior to being able to actively broadcast
 - o In addition, people need to be licensed by the FCC (now more informal) before being able to broadcast
 - o Training period is anywhere from a month to over a year
 - Typically a semester
 - o People are rarely fired, though it does happen
 - Unreliability, e.g. tardiness
 - Violation of rules, e.g. swearing on air
- What is WKCR's presence on campus; is there an active effort to be a larger part of undergraduate life?
 - o A lot of what is produced on-air is in the news and arts
 - o Sounds of China program affiliated with Sounds of China Club
 - o Columbia Bluegrass band
 - o Professors come on air often, for interviews, etc.
 - o Broadcast of all major CU sports games
 - o Live coverage of commencement
- Possibility for undergraduate "Fireside Chat" time?
 - o Depends on content, e.g. news
- Detail about hard disk recording system?
 - o Industry standard equipment, lots of technical detail
- Approaching IGB for funding?
 - o Graduate programmers may be no longer recruited/admitted; they're really good, but they're postdocs, essentially experts in music and such, but aren't undergrads – the goal is to have undergrads learn these skills

Discussion