University of Chicago Student Government

**Graduate Council**

October 28th, 2013

Booth C09

6:00-7:54PM

In attendance

**Bold=In attendance**

**Law School:**

**Gillian Seaman   
Hunter Vance**

**Booth:**

**Kristen Uyemura**

Zeynep Gunay

**Eric Adler**

**Jason Forte**

**Harris:**

**Andrés Pérez**    
Emilio Franco

**SSA:**

**Julia Tier**

**Jamie Hinsz    
Aaron Mallory**

**SSD:**

Tom Worth    
**Misha Teplitskiy**

**BSD:**

**Erin McAuley    
Jeffrey Steimle**

**PSD:**

**Anthony Martinez    
Noumaan Shamsi**

**Div:**

**Ted Good**

**Pritzker:**

**Hannah Roth    
Dominic Catalano**

**Josh Johnston**

**Tyler Kissinger**

Agenda

6:00-6:15 Grab food, review budget situation

6:15-6:30 Booth Healthcare Conference presentation

6:30-6:45 Behavioral Economics and Public Policy (BEPP) presentation

6:45-7:00 “Who’s Who in IL Education” Presentation

7:00-7:30 Debate and voting on Travel Fund rules

**Review Budget**-6:05-615

* Money allocated so far
  + $277 for first meeting
  + $150 Women in Public Policy Event
* New Funding Requests
  + Booth Healthcare Conference-$2,000
  + BEPP Event-$350
  + Who’s Who in IL Education Event-$250
  + MESG Sports Symposium-$3,025
    - Total-$5,625
* Thinking about funding requests
  + Relevant to population as a whole?
  + What other funding sources has the group sought out?
    - If it is an RSO, there might be many other sources of funding for them
  + How does the group plan to market the event to grad students?
  + Does the event make a contribution to the university body in any way?
  + Does the budget seem reasonable?
  + Funding things open to all graduate students
  + Undergraduate students trying to get funding for low graduate student representation

**Booth Healthcare Conference Presentation**-6:15-6:30

* Requesting $2,000 from Grad Council
* Goal is to provide students with
  + Networking Opportunities
  + Promote careers within healthcare
  + Teach attendees about current healthcare trends
* Need $2,000 for funding because Gleacher Center (Booth Center downtown) was booked for every Friday, so went to University Club, which increased cost by $18,000
* Current funding through private sponsors, have raised $18,000 for conference through corporate sponsors, such as Amgen, Bain, Baxter, Booz, CVS, etc.
* Exhausted almost all their other options for funding
* Ticket sales, would rather not increase
  + Students-$10 each, usually 20
  + Community members-$20 each, usually 15
* Deliberation
  + Should be funded in full for being a textbook example
  + Their guests should be charged more
  + Sounds like a twist of circumstances, not poor planning, because it has been
  + Fund in full-11 yea, 1 nay
  + **Funded in full, passed-$2,000**

**Behavioral Economics and Public Policy**-6:30-6:40

* Requesting $350
* John Balz-Behavioral Marketing Manager at the energy company Opower
* Opower uses behavioral psychology priniciples reduce energy consumption
* Interest groups
  + Booth Energy Group
  + Harris Energy Association
  + Chicago Environmental Policy Association
* Deliberation
  + Small scope
  + Food budget seems extraneous
  + Motion to ask them to come back at next meeting, in order to…
    - Have more advertising
    - Look for more funding
    - Yea 7, Nay 5
    - **Passed, coming back next meeting-no funding now**
  + Will come back in 2 weeks

**“Who’s Who in IL Education” Presentation**-6:41-6:56

* Requesting $250
* Education Policy Student Association, a 2-part event
* Introduction and Networking
  + Consulting, government, non-profits, advocacy
* Dinner and drinks to facilitate discussion of panel
* Urban Teacher Education Program (UTEP) invited
* Speakers have not been solidified
* Event to showcase different viewpoints on policy issues
* Guests anticipated-40
* Deliberation
  + Have not solidified speakers
  + Too much of an idea, not fleshed out yet
  + Have not sought outside funding
  + Did not know how many people would stick around for food
  + Small percentage of larger fund that was previously approved
  + Unclear focus of event
  + Well-planned and organized events are more likely to get funding
  + Not an RSO, not open to funding
  + Motion to ask them to come back at next meeting, in order to…
    - Further develop idea
    - Yea 10, Nay 1
    - **Passed, coming back next meeting-no funding now**

**Media Entertainment and Sports Club**-6:56-7:10

* Requesting $3,000
* Event on November 15th for sports industry
* Promoting across campus, sports as being universal
* Total cost is $7,300, asking for $3,000
* In the past has been local sports, now travel costs from outside speakers
* Attendance last year-60, this year hoping for 100
* Ticket prices $25 for members, $40 for non-members, $50 for non-students
  + This year trying to give membership price for all UChicago students
* Law society not able to contribute money
* Sports sponsorships are not receptive, reached out but were not able to make it happen
* Deliberation
  + Be consistent, have only reached out to 1 other school, and we turned down last one for this reason
  + Planning ahead to reach out for RSO partnership
  + Planning to pull a lot of their money from SG fund
  + The scale is not that large, no real indication that there is consistent showing
  + Sports Health would be a great addition
  + Motion to grant $1,000
    - 10 Yea, 0 Nay, 1 Abstention
    - **Passed, funded $1,000**

**Student Government Finance Committee** -7:10-7:12

* Need 2 Graduate Councils
* Meets every Tuesday at 5pm
* Still need 1 more rep, the interim rep is Aaron Mallory

**Travel Fund** -7:13-7:54

* Application is up online
* Can only be received once throughout entire student career at UChicago
* Abstract and a ‘lay’ abstract so everyone can understand
* Can be up to $500
* Where do they stand in their program? Later on in education have priority
* Last resort funding
* Only covers original research that is orally presented
* Provide documentation for reimbursement
* No retroactive funding
* Only travel, no food, drinks, or incidentals
* New funding, but similar programs get many funds
* Almost everyone will go no matter if they have to pay or not, so funding is not much of a barrier
* Literature published on SG website will go up
* Apply 1 quarter in advance, conferences now
* Fall conference, apply in Spring
* Money can go to the person most in need and to keep budgets in order
* Discussion: How to process applications?
  + Rolling admissions versus Set-deadline application
  + 1-10 scale for everyone reading applications
  + Everyone can read, or small council
    - Rotating council of 5 every quarter
    - Literate in different disciplines, so everyone reading over could be useful
    - Application of the talk for the individual not for the larger benefit of the research
  + A fixed deadline excludes people whose conference is before that and they find out within the quarter
  + Always more travel funds requested than are awarded
  + BSD students excluded because often not presenting?
    - Can go both ways
  + Fund is more for individual benefit, less for prestige of conference
  + Motion to approve document as is
    - **Document is approved as it is now**
  + Motion to have rolling admissions
    - **Rolling applications approved**
  + Motion to have a Google Document with rolling admission, and when reached majority of council, automatically passed through highest scores (1-10)
    - **Approved, yea 10, abstention 1**