University of Chicago Student Government

**Graduate Council**

February 3, 2014

Booth C09

5:45-7:42 PM

**Bold=In attendance**

**Law School:**

**Gillian Seaman   
Hunter Vance**

**Booth:**

Kristen Uyemura

**Zeynep Gunay**

**Eric Adler**

Jason Forte

Humanities:

**Ahona Panda**

**Daniel Morgan**

Social Sciences

**Ella Butler**

**Harris:**

**Andrés Pérez**(proxy)  
Emilio Franco

**SSA:**

**Julia Tier   
Aaron Mallory**

**SSD:**

**Tom Worth**Misha Teplitskiy 

**BSD:**

**Erin McAuley**   
Jeffrey Steimle

**PSD:**

**Anthony Martinez**   
Noumaan Shamsi

**Div:**

**Ted Good**(proxy)

**Pritzker:**

**Hannah Roth**   
Dominic Catalano

**Arthur Lundberg**

**Josh Johnston (chair)**

**General notes,** 5:50-5:52

* Approximately $20,000 left in the GC budget, 5 funding meetings to go

**International Immersion Program Fundraising Request,** 5:52-5:55

* Request for $210.38 for a cinnamon roll fundraiser at the Law School
* Motion to fund in full ($210.38) – **Passed**
  + 12 in favor
  + 0 opposed
  + 0 abstentions

**Travel Fund Proposal**, 5:55-6:10

* Request for $500
* Proposal doesn’t reflect what the travel fund was created for
  + Created for people to present their research at conferences, events, etc.
  + Kara Ingelhart has been accepted for a research program abroad, and is trying to get funding for the project
  + Initial recommendation was not to fund because
* Her project may fall into a loophole
  + She would be working with a research institute that is writing an amicus brief for the Indian Supreme Court– she’s going to write a research paper on LGBTQ issues in India for the Indian Supreme Court
* Kara’s proposal
  + Would be working with an LBGT advocacy group in India
  + Amicus briefs would be presented to a judge; legal realm is the only safe venue for this research to be conducted
  + Questions
    - Will you be presenting your research?
      * Best way to present research on this topic in India is through the court system; there aren’t other opportunities like conferences, etc., in India
    - Have you approached GSA (Graduate Student Affairs)?
      * Yes, but they sent her to GC. She seems to be outside
      * Has approached Graduate Program in Health Admin. and Policy, Study Abroad Office, Rotary, GSA, COSAS (South Asian Studies Dept. funding body)
    - Why do you think you have received funding from other bodies?
      * Some bodies have already allocated available funds; it’s also a controversial topic
    - Duration of trip?
      * A few weeks
      * Request is for travel there – the organization is covering cost of living while there
    - Do you think your presentation/research will have an impact on the court system in India?
      * Not immediately, but maybe eventually
    - Will your trip have an impact on the UChicago community?
      * Partnership between UChicago Law and the Jindal Global Law School in India 🡪 UChicago has a fellow there now
* Deliberation
  + She’s pursued every potential funding opportunity; her project just falls outside of the narrow parameters set forth by every funding body
    - Opportunity to build a relationship with the Indian organization she’s working with
  + Concern about setting a precedent; we’ll have to expand the scope of the Travel Fund – it is a pilot program
    - But we are halfway through the year, and we haven’t spent anything out of the Travel Fund; $20,000 left
    - We should maintain a wide scope for the first year of this fund’s existence; the worst thing that can happen is that we burn through the $20k faster than expected
    - And we wouldn’t lose money by not spending it; leftover funds would probably rollover into next year
  + $500 cap on funding via the Travel Fund
  + Funding her through the General Fund is an option too
  + She’s not just going to conduct research in India – her research will be presented while she’s there (though she herself may not have the opportunity to present it)
  + **6:17** Motion to fund $500 from the Travel Fund and amend the language of the Travel Fund to expand the scope – **Passed**
    - 13 in favor
    - 0 opposed
    - 0 abstained

**Alchemy in Color/Intersectionality speaker series** – 6:19-6:36

Rachel Watson, Div School

* Alchemy in Color was founded in 2012 as a network for underrepresented minorities at the Div School
* Both events have initial funding; requesting additional funds to be able to open the events to the entire school
* First event: Christopher Benson Lecture
  + History of Hyde Park; hoping to fund both lecture and refreshments, as well as a small dinner for students who are more interested in his research
  + Requesting $1,140
  + Deliberation
    - Motion to fund in full ($1,140) – **Passed**
      * 13 in favor
      * 0 opposed
      * 1 abstention
* Second event: Intersectionality
  + Primary funding is from GSA ($10,000)
    - For airfare, honoraria, hotel, research costs (to hire students to do ancillary research prior to the event)
  + Collaborative project between students and faculty
  + 3 Women of Color speakers who affiliate with Divinity but are associated with a number of other disciplines, including anthro, sociology, and more
  + GC funding will provide for hospitality costs – receptions, lunches, & dinners with each speaker
  + Requesting $4,800 from GC
  + Questions
    - What if you got less funding than the request?
      * Would probably cut down costs for the events
  + Deliberation
    - Seems expensive for what it is
    - Policy on funding small-scale events?
      * No precedent, really
    - This will be an interdisciplinary event
    - Want a more detailed budget; after all, we’re meeting next week
    - How much have they fundraised? They got
    - Motion to ask her to come back and present a more detailed proposal next week – **Passed**
      * 13 in favor
      * 0 opposed
      * 1 abstention

**Intimacy in Africa,** 6:36-6:58

* Requesting $2,000 for the screening fee and honorarium for the filmmaker of *God Loves Uganda* on May 13th
* Part of a film series, alternating Tuesdays in spring quarter
* Questions
  + What happens if you don’t receive full funding?
    - Confident this will happen, will find funding elsewhere
  + What’s the breakdown between the honorarium and the screening fee?
    - Don’t know, was given a flat fee
  + Expected attendance at the *God Loves Uganda* screening?
    - 250-300 people; expect 85-90% from the University community, but there has been interest from outside the University
    - Also inviting scholars from other universities to attend
    - Max P cinema can accommodate ~400
  + Can you not have the filmmaker come?
    - Film was released in 2013; can’t screen the film without the filmmaker here
* Deliberation
  + Seems like an event that will draw a large audience; 300 people is a lot
  + Potential for ticket sales?
  + Non-University outreach/draw?
    - Reaching out to faculty/scholars at other universities around Chicago
  + She suggested that this event could be held without our funding
    - Should we give her partial funding and tell her she can come back if she isn’t able to procure the rest of the money?
    - We want GC to be a last resort; why is this a criterion?
      * It’s a matter of necessity – we have limited funding, and want to be able to make it through the end of the year
      * Last year, we overspent and couldn’t fund groups significant amounts at the end of the year
  + Motion to fund $1,200, and she is welcome to return to GC if she is unable to procure the remaining funds – **Passed**
    - 13 in favor
    - 0 opposed
    - 1 abstention

**China IIP Program Fundraiser** - 6:58-7:08

* Requesting $500 for a Chinese bun sale at 3 different locations (Law School, Booth, main quad); got GC support last year
* Raising money for an 8-person trip to China over spring break to meet with businesspeople, government officials, and UChicago alumni
  + Goal is to gain awareness of local culture, business practices, and law
  + Attendees are required to present a detailed research project on their area of interest in Chinese law upon their return – open to the entire campus community
    - Plan to advertise as open to campus community?
      * Yes; outreach emails will go out to various student groups and divisions
* Each trip-goer is required to raise/contribute $750 each; substantial support from the Law School; other fundraising efforts
* Deliberation
  + Motion to fund in full ($500) – **Passed**
    - 12 in favor
    - 0 opposed
    - 2 abstentions

**Law School Musical –** 7:08-7:19

* Requesting $795
* Total cost is ~$8,000
  + Has procured funding from I-House, LSA, Dean of Students, IIP
* Requested GC funding would cover one night of the performance
  + Part of the I-House contract – reserving the space costs $795/night
* Free beer
* Questions
  + Last year’s attendance?
    - Sold out the first night (500 attendees), which was a Friday
    - This year the performances will be Thursday/Friday
  + Why would non-Law students attend?
    - It’s funny
    - Themes in the musical are not specific to the law school – applicable to grad students’ experiences more generally
  + Do you charge for tickets?
    - Yes, $10/ticket
  + Advertising methods?
    - Widely distributed posters; list-serv emails
* Deliberation
  + How many non-Law students attend?
    - Approximately 100 non-Law students last year?
  + We should make sure they market it more broadly and send us the promo email & flyer
  + What about the money from ticket sales?
    - If 900 people attend,
  + Ask Ben Hudgens (director of the group) to come present next week
  + Motion to table the request pending information on ticket sales – **Passed**
    - 14 in favor
    - 0 opposed
    - 0 abstentions

**Grad Student Speed Dating Event (REMEDY)**, 7:19-7:42

* Requesting $2,850
* REMEDY is a global health outreach organization that partners with a local health organization in Peru; sends med students to Cusco every September for the last 4 years
  + Trip focuses on providing pap smears and raising awareness of cervical cancer
  + They donate money to the organization every year as well, partly as a gesture of gratitude for partnering with new groups of students every year
* Speed Dating event will be held Saturday at GCIS
  + Tickets cost $28; last year they raised $4,500
  + Capping registration at 180 (currently have 160) – requesting funding from GC so that any money raised can be donated to the Peruvian organization
* Cannot receive SGFC funding because the event is only open to graduate students; med students only make up about 10% of the registered attendees so far
* Question about inclusivity – offering refunds to LGBTQ-identified students who have registered because they didn’t have many LGBTQ students register – underwhelming response
  + Tried to meet with the Office of LGBTQ student affairs, but the meeting was cancelled due to weather
* Deliberation
  + The event is well-attended by non-Med students
  + If we funded this event, we’d essentially be funding a direct donation to the local Peruvian organization
    - This is similar to subsidizing fundraisers for other student organizations, as we have done twice already tonight
    - But, on its own, this event is completely aligned with what GC likes to fund – fun, social events open to all grad students
  + Med school organizations are underrepresented
  + Cost of the event is $2,850
    - If they did have 180 attendees, they would make $5,040-$2,850 = $2,190
    - If they had 160 attendees (the number currently registered), they would make $4,480-$2,850 = $1,630
  + Motion to fund in full ($2,850) – **Passed**
    - 9 in favor
    - 2 opposed
    - 3 abstentions

Questions or comments? Contact Grace Pai, SG Secretary, at [gracepai@uchicago.edu](mailto:gracepai@uchicago.edu).