Associated Students of Claremont McKenna College
Senate
October 12th, 2015
Call to Order: 9:03 pm
Meeting Overview:
Sign in
1. Glip/Voat Update
2. ASCMC 2015-2016 Budget Presentation
3. Open Forum
Adjourn
1. Glip/Voat Update
   A. We discussed various ways we could stay engaged outside Monday night senate meetings.
   B. Glip→ similar to Slack
      i. No one has used it other than campus improvements (used tasking system)
      ▶ Set deadlines which holds people accountable
         • Might work better for groups and committees.
      ▶ It won’t let us register with our @cmc.edu emails, so use longer one.
   ii. This will only work if a critical mass of senate decides to use it.
C. Voat→ senate Reddit
   i. “What topics were trending for the week?”
   ii. This is also empty/no one has used it so far.
   iii. Might send this out to entire student body with the weekly senate email
       ▶ For people who might not come to senate each week.
       ▶ We could do a better job marketing this.
       ▶ Maybe it’s up to us to start discussions that would incite participation from the mass populous.
       ▶ After the senate meeting if there’s something on your mind, post on Voat! Make an effort to create the content that we think is valuable.
       ▶ Do we have the content for these?
          • Student committees do!
2. ASCMC 2015-2016 Budget Presentation
   A. Budget general overview:
      i. ASCMC makes an annual budget where they explain revenues, projected expenses, and budget out specific amounts of money.
      ii. Preliminary budget is proposed in the spring and finalized budget in the fall
      iii. No budget was passed in the spring
      iv. Senate sent it back and there wasn’t enough time to refresh the budget before the end of the year
      v. This is the new budget for this upcoming school year
      vi. Re-visit budget in February and re-budget funds that might need to be adjusted.
   B. Line by line break down
      i. Retained Earnings: we don’t usually end up with a surplus, but last year dorms and clubs didn’t use everything they were allocated, which meant that we rolled over around 30k, but we still have 2014-2015 liabilities to pay off (around 20k, need to calculate an exact amount)
         ▶ End up rolling over 10k in total
      ii. A few clubs and orgz have RE from conferences they host (Model UN and Mock trial)
      iii. Rainy day fund: 30k in here
      iv. Revenues:
         ▶ Student fees, slightly up from last year because more students at this school
Monte Carlo Revenue (approx. 21k)

Wedding party projected (17k)
  • Why is this less than last year?
    • We have to cap ticket sales this time.

Spring Party (10k)

Total Revenue = around 362 k

Administrative Expenses:

General fund = 11k, allocated by exec board
  • This often gets re-budgeted in February.
  • Aviv: “This is growing by certain amounts every year...why? Sustainable?”
  • We’re consolidating different line items and it’s a good place to breakout funds that were previously controlled by one person.

Trying to budget out CFO operations fund (breakdown)
  • Quickbooks, Online voting, checks, etc (total approx. 1.7 k)

Development fund (4k) allocated by General board vote
  • Funding for training for board members (Will + Devon have been having these discussions)
    • Teal dot, diversity training, strongly recommend Ally training
    • Conference funding (NOT networking trips)
  • Why does exec board decide this?
    • Aviv: “Might be a better check on this money to have Senate control this fund.”
    • The original proposal was to have it be administered by the President, but to have more transparency and accountability, Budget committee pushed for that to be controlled by exec board.
      • Push for this to be controlled by Senate.
        • Send this back to Budget Committee, with this provision.

Website expenses/Costco expenses

Compensation Expenses

Stipends have gone up slightly (more people on the board)

Presidents room and board
  • We pay half, and administration paid the other half.
  • DOS accidently made us pay this whole thing last year, so they’re paying for all of it this year.
  • Aviv: “Is there room for this to balance out next year? Where is this money going to come from next year?”
    • Budget committee should expect to have to pay this next year.

Photography and Videography expenses
  • Promotional and school spirit
  • Doesn’t the forum already cover these events?
    • Not all events, and not specifically ones that are wanted by ASCMC.
    • Keep the forum independent.

Event Expenses:

Monte Carlo (around 20k, not finalized)

Wedding party (25k)

Spring party fund (15k)
  • Looks like a big increase from last year, but for some reason we didn’t plan on getting revenue from the event last year. But we should have and we did.

Event damages (5.5k)

Event staff (12k)

Campus Security (26k)
• Thomas: “there was talk of these costs going up, but has this happened?”
  • No. DOS wants us to have more camp sec at our party but we push back on this.

viii Campus Organization Expenses:
▷ We’ve been trying to give a lot more money to the CO chair discretionary fund, and less to clubs upfront, to encourage responsible budgeting and so that CO chair can give that extra money to clubs who have been extra responsible.
▷ Melissa Muller wants to give clubs more money upfront, so there’s a switch towards giving clubs more money upfront.
▷ Budgeting up CMC camp orgz, and budgeting down discretionary fund.
▷ Discretionary fund (8k)
▷ 5C Campus orgz (10.5k)
▷ CMC campus Orgz (78k)
  • Wanted to give an overall increase to CMC campus organizations, came from budgeting down 5C campus orgz (they didn’t spend as much as we expected them to anyway).

ix Dorm Expenses:
▷ Breakdown per dorm
▷ Increase in this budget because increase in students overall
▷ Aviv: “Was there talk of increasing budgets back to where they were 3 years ago (apparently they got cut in half?)”
  • Went down from 15 dollars per student per semester to 7.50 dollars per student per semester.
  • But dorms didn’t use their entire allocations last year, so didn’t feel the need to increase this number
  • But there’s a DAC now? Aren’t they responsible for utilizing this budget?
  • Now the DAC has their own budget/fund.
  • Is there a way for “the super dorm BCB” to combine funds?
  • Would this come from DAC or from dorm funds?
  • Case by case basis

x Board of Directors expenses:
▷ Presidents fund (2 k, down from historical avg of 3k, balanced by new VP fund)
▷ VP fund (1k)
  • Aviv: “Budget committee said that this could come from a senate allocation. Reservation was that the VP really wanted to use it for snacks.”
  • Because we have a VP who has similar powers (outside of senate) and therefore there should be a separate fund for anything that the VP wants to do (new initiatives, flexibility). If the President has one of these, VP should too.
  • VP is elected by entire school.
  • With a budget, you’re pushed to use money in a creative and given the leeway to do so, without having to come up with an idea and then ask for funding.
▷ Senate (12k)
▷ Seniors (20k)
  • Has traditional activities that they’re expected to throw (off campus, expensive, Vegas etc)
▷ Juniors (3k)
▷ Sophomores (3k)
▷ Freshman (2k)
▷ Social Activities chair (0, got rid of this position)
▷ Social Life chair (0, got rid of this position)
▷ DAC (7.5k)
Board of Directors retreat (1k)
- In the past this has been paid entirely from the president’s stipend, but this is unsustainable.
- “Majority of this money in the past that has gone to alcohol.”
- This is contested. Majority might go towards Air BnB/renting the cabin.
- This should be allocated for because the president’s stipend doesn’t go out till the end of the year? Maybe we re-budget this, but this needs to be budgeted out if it needs to be paid upfront (liquidity!).
- Philosophical idea: we shouldn’t be forcing the president to pay for something out of pocket, since we can’t depend on the President having the same financial needs from year to year.
- Don’t want this to be a classist system.
- Stipend paid out every semester?
- It’s the new incoming president in the spring who pays for this. (we could try to talk to dos about having this portion of the stipend paid upfront)
- Is a retreat necessary?
  - A day of meetings on campus is different than a comprehensive group bonding experience.

Mental Health Initiative (1k)

Diversity chair budget?
- Talk about this in the spring and re-budgeting process.

Program expenses:
- Student Activities (30k)
- Student Activities (specifically dry events, 10k)

C. Total Expenses: 339,091.58

D. Total Revenue Less Total Expenses: 23,694
  - This does not count rainy day fund.
  - This will remain separate until spring re-budgeting and then potentially can be allocated to items that might require more funding than initially planned/ unexpected new items. Could go towards rainy day fund, but it doesn’t have to.

E. Budget committee wants to both use these funds effectively but don’t want to just allocate up clubs or any arbitrary group by some absurdly high amount and set a precedent for these higher levels.
  - Want to put this towards things like Mental Health Initiative, and things that will help all students.

F. Event space renovations are being paid for by DOS

G. Office space renovations will come out of general fund, involves a Board discussion.

H. Next Senate meeting we will have a vote on this, and then it gets sent back to Exec Board.

I. Budget gets recommitted to Budget Committee with the provision that Senate gets to control Development Fund.

3. Open Forum

A. Changes in Demonstration Policy
  - Vague language, grounds for disciplinary action
  - “No disruptive protest”
  - “any official person” can disperse these

B. A lot of these tactics they’re referring to were utilized by the Black Lives Matter protest, so people feel that these two things are closely related.

C. Also Students for Justice in Palestine at Pitzer created some issues as well.

D. When is Chodosh going to send this out?
Reach out to admin and ask them to send this out
▷ Iris will do that.
E. Let’s discuss this next senate. Maybe we can bring someone in to talk about this.
F. 5C policy outlines these and creates norm, but apparently this was the policy before this
document got sent out anyway.

Meeting adjourned 10:14 pm
Submitted Respectfully,
Tanvi Gandham
Secretary of the Senate