GUSA Finance & Appropriations Committee

**FY19 Budget Summit**

Student Activity Fee Funding Application

(APPLICATION A - Advisory Boards, GPB, the GUSA Executive-Elect and the Lecture Fund)

Please email this application and accompanying materials to gusafinanceandappropriations@gmail.com by **Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 5:00 pm.**

**PART A.**

Name of Organization:

Georgetown University Student Association

Mission of Organization:

To provide an eye-catching opportunity for freshmen who were involved with student government in high school to get involved with something on campus. Then, it sucks all life, passion, and individuality from most students, and the passionate students that remain are able to create marginal change every year.

Total Amount of Funding Requested:

$18,450

**PART B.**

Please fill out the Application A Financial Information excel document.

**PART C.**

Please attach a copy of the budgeting guidelines used by your organization for any and all purposed.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bbNBkeSxhClrSgvCDhJuIItTwfE_ierPbMqo6aAlbiA/edit>

See section 8.

Informally, our administration would prioritize funding subgroups that most clearly rely on GUSA funding (e.g. Election commission, SAO, What’s a Hoya, Communications team, etc.), and also would fund subgroups which demonstrate that they need all the money they are requesting, that the money they are requesting will directly benefit the vast majority of undergraduates, and that they are coming to GUSA as a last resort.

**PART D.**

Please answer the following questions individually:

1. How did your organization affect student life? Can this be measured?

While GUSA does make marginal gains on behalf of students (and usually only a subset of students), most students feel that GUSA is an ineffective institution, and is usually used by students to be the butt of a joke. However, when GUSA is able to make an issue marginally better, it is usually appreciated by those students. The general apathy surrounding GUSA can be measured through its abysmal turnout rates, general support for joke candidates, and low engagement in policy,

1. How many clubs/groups compose your organization? Please list them, noting especially any clubs/groups added (or planned to be added) within FY18.

Groups Receiving Funding: Executive and Senate.

Executive Sub-Groups: Student Advocacy Office and GUSA Fund.

Non-Executive Groups: Election Commission (receives funding) and Constitutional Council (does not receive funding).

1. What were significant challenges for your organization over the past year? What were significant successes for your organization over the past year?

As mentioned above, GUSA suffers from a severe legitimacy problem - not only among the student body, but especially among underrepresented student groups who feel as though GUSA doesn’t do anything for them, or represent them on their issues. This legitimacy problem prevents GUSA from connecting existing student advocacy to the institutional access they could use to make change on campus.

Successes include the mental health therapy stipend, the unpaid internship stipend through the career center, and other smaller success that different advocacy teams and senators worked on.

1. Do you have any budget concerns for the next 5-10 years?

There seem to be quite a few organizations that go to GUSA for funding that could be going directly to FinApp during the budget summit or seeking funding elsewhere.

1. What level of financial risk does your organization incur?

Our money is overseen through representative democracy.

1. How could the Budget Summit process be improved this year? How could relations with GUSA be improved?

As executive candidates, we would appreciate the meeting in which we can ask questions be done earlier than the night the budget is due. In General, it’d be nice to see GUSA advertise the form B applications beyond one email from FinApp, but there’s nothing FinApp can necessarily do about that.

1. If you are requesting more funding for FY19 than FY18, please explain why.

We are requesting cuts to last year’s budget and a historically low upfront request because we believe that student money belongs to students and the organizations they are part of. Rather than invest money in an institution students don’t believe in, students should have the money invested in the organizations they care about. While we would prefer the money we are not requesting go primarily to SAC, we understand that we do not control the budgeting process. We do believe, however, that GUSA should only get money once it proves that it has earned it.

**PART E.**

Please ensure your organization continues to comply with the 2010 6-Point Reform Plan by **commenting in the affirmative and detailing** how your group is compliant for each of the 6 points individually.

1. The total balance of any advisory board’s reserve account shall not be excessive (as deemed by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs), and boards with surplus funds should provide a plan for their reserves.

We get a very small amount of money, and all leftover money is put into the GUSA Reserve account.

2. An appeals process shall be implemented and publicized, where such processes do not already exist, for clubs that are denied full funding for an activity or annual budget under its advisory board.

We do not directly fund clubs. Clubs can appeal for supplementary funding from GUSA Fund, and all other requests for funding must be approved directly by the GUSA Senate.

3. Clubs shall have the option of requesting a lump sum, annual budget with an opportunity to reapply for additional funding from its advisory board.

Again, there are no clubs that directly apply for money from us.

4. All meetings and recorded minutes of all meetings of an advisory board shall be open to the public, including any and all votes, and that all records are posted online in a timely fashion.

All meeting notes can be found in the GUSA portal at [gustudentassociation.org](http://www.gustudentassociation.org/)

5. Members of the advisory board are, in some way, directly accountable to their constituents or to the student body in general, such as having GUSA Senate confirmation or being elected by the leaders of the clubs they represent.\*

Yeah we’re running for office right now.

6. Clubs have reasonable control over all funds that they fundraise outside of the  normal allocations process.

We honestly want most of the organizations we give money to to fundraise outside of the small funding we give them, and all we care about is that they use their money to serve the undergraduate student body.

\*The committee is aware that the structure of boards has changed in the past eight years; please note ‘such as’ merely indicates examples of how accountability is manifested and focus on the spirit of the Point.

**CERTIFICATION:**

By signing below, I hereby certify that the information enclosed is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

**Funding Request Form Submitted By:**

Logan “Batman” Arkema and Jonathan “Robin” Compo

**Name of Group Student Chair:**

Logan Arkema and Jonathan Compo

**Signature of Group Student Chair (type your name):**

*Logan Arkema* and *Jonathan Compo*

**Name of Group Advisor:**

**Signature of Group Advisor (type your name):**

**Date: 2/13/2018**

**Contact Email: lja39@georgetown.edu**

**Contact Phone Number: (616) 947-4470**