GUSA Finance & Appropriations Committee

**FY19 Budget Summit**

Student Activity Fee Funding Application

(APPLICATION B- For Non-Advisory Boards)

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: Outdoor Education

Mission of Organization: Through wilderness based endeavors, Georgetown University Outdoor Education seeks to teach, to inspire, and guide students, creating a community where learning, personal challenge, reflection, and increased compassion for others and the environment are fostered and upheld as core values

GMS Worktags: cc2395 1701 pp4002 pg001972 & pg000589

**PART B.**

Please fill out the Application B Financial Information excel and attach to your submission email.

**PART C.**

Please answer the following questions in detail and provide any relevant documents:

1. Describe the program/project you would like to fund, implement or enhance.

* **OE Guide Training** – All Outdoor Education trips are run by student guides. These student guides are selected through an interview process and then spend their first year in the programming learning how to run OE trips.

During the Fall semester, new guides spend one night a week in the classroom/around campus learning and practicing outdoor leadership and technical skills. These classroom sessions are supported by three overnight weekend training trips.

The Spring semester requires new guides to spend time with a veteran mentor guide and time in the field shadowing trips. At the end of the semester, new guides participate on a weeklong capstone backpacking trip in which they put all the skills they learned over the course of the year into practice.

* **OE Gear Purchases** – Backpacks, stoves, ropes, etc. are all tools/resources that OE uses to provide quality and safe experiences for the GU community. Outdoor gear is durable and tough, but it does need to be replaced regularly. With support from GUSA, OE will not have to factor gear replacement costs into trip budgets.
* **Spring Break Subsidy** – OE has run Spring Break trips to Arizona and Utah three of the last five years (this includes 2018). OE did not consider a trip this year that required a flight due to the cost. OE was quoted roughly $700 ($8,400 for a group of 12) to fly to both Phoenix and Los Angeles. Running a trip with these flight costs would have pushed the price of a trip for students to well over $1,000.

1. In what ways does this program/project enhance student life at Georgetown  
   University? How many students will it affect?

Outdoor Education, as stated in our mission, is all about creating community. We use trips into nature as a way of connecting students to one another and the natural world. Getting off campus for the afternoon or a weekend is a truly great way for students to relax and recharge. When students return to campus they are prepared to take on the challenges and seize the opportunities that they presented with here on the Hilltop.

Fall 2017 Programming – brief summary

* 23 Open Enrollment Trips scheduled for the semester.
  + 15 of the scheduled trips made it into the field.
    - 133 total students
    - Avg. of 8 students per trip
  + 8 cancelled trips
    - 3 due to poor weather
    - 5 due to low #s (less than 4 registered students)

2017 Guide Training – brief summary

* 38 applications, 14 students selected to be OE guides.
* 10 Class sessions
  + 10 sessions @ 2 hours = 20hrs per guide
  + 20hrs x 14 guides = 280 training hours
* 3 Off-campus training trips
  + Approximately 1,400 hours of field time
  + 1,500 miles traveled

1. What funding sources currently support this program? Will these sources continue to provide funding at the same level this year? What other sources have been explored before coming to GUSA?

Outdoor Education is a department within the Center for Student Engagement and is allocated an annual budget. The vast majority of the budget goes to operating expenses for the program, not directly to OE trips or student training. The funds that are being requested will allow OE to keep costs lower for both students participating on trips and for those students wishing to be guides.

Funding for OE from CSE is expected to be the same for 2018/2019.

1. Will this program comply with all University policies?

Yes

1. What level of financial risk does this project entail?

Low. It does assume that GU students will both a.) continue to participate on trips and b.) continue to want to be trained as guides.

1. In what way will this program/project expand or relieve a financial burden on  
   students participating in this program?

All dollars being requested are to lower the financial burden students face for participating on OE trips or becoming guides for the program.

* OE guides are volunteers, they are not paid. The dollars requested here would significantly lower the cost for students to participate in the training class. It will require them to invest into the program which I do think is appropriate.
* Gear needs to be replaced. The way that OE would come up with the funds to do so would be by passing the cost along to students in their trip fees. Receiving $5,000 from GUSA would allow OE to not do so next year.
* Spring Break trips can be expensive. $5,000 from GUSA would allow OE to decease the cost of trip for students making them more accessible to a wider range of students.

1. How are decisions made about the direction of this program? How are students  
   involved in the decision making process?

Outdoor Education is often referred to a student club. While this is not true, I believe that this mistake speaks to how involved students are in running OE. Without students, OE would not exist. OE guides plan and run all trips. They select locations, create budgets, shop for food, etc. As long as trips are safe, logistically feasible, and have students that want to participate on them, they are good to go as far as OE is concerned. Outdoor Education is truly a student community here at Georgetown.

1. What is the long-term financial impact of this project? Will there be ongoing  
   maintenance costs?

• **OE Guide Training** – students who are selected to be OE guides are expected to be guides for their entire Georgetown tenure. Investing in a first-year student pays off by having that student leading trips for three years.

• **Gear Replacement** – gear always needs to be replaced. Next year it will be different gear that needs to be replaced.

• **Spring Break Subsidy** – students will be excited about OE and continue to go on more trips in the future.

1. Will this program need more money in future years? To the best of your ability  
   provide information on project costs for the next two years.

Yes, Outdoor Education will need more money in the future. I would estimate these costs to remain consist in the next two years. OE is asking for slightly less money this year.

1. Has your organization/group previously applied to the Budget Summit? How much was the organization allocated? How was it used?

Yes. Last year OE was allocated $5,500. All of that amount was used to subsidize the cost of the Wilderness First Responder course that is required of new guides.

**CERTIFICATION:**

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

**Funding Request Form Submitted By: Kris Nessler**

**Name of Group Student Chair: NA**

**Signature (type your name): Kris Nessler**

**Name of Group Advisor: NA**

**Signature (type your name):**

**Date: 2/13/18**

**Contact Email: kwn6**

**Contact Phone Number: 7-8419**