**The Finance and Appropriations Committee of the 14th Senate**

*3rd Meeting of the Summer Session*

Wednesday, June 10th, 2020 | Zoom Conference, 8:00 PM EST

Agenda

1. Call to Order:
2. Attendance:
3. Briefing Topics
   1. Chair’s Briefing
      1. Project Teams
      2. Outreach to Advisory Boards
      3. Fundraising
   2. Vice Chair’s Briefing
   3. News and Updates from the Community
4. New Business
   1. Pending Legislation
      1. [An ACT to Allocate The 2020-2021 Budget for the Georgetown University Student Association](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sRmhd11mnIPtAEXJkYHvDWYtuU53aKmKeU5wwafHjtM/edit?usp=sharing)
   2. Liaising Duties
   3. Partial Student Activities Fee
   4. GUPD Fees/Reform
   5. Presentations from Part A Applicants
5. Housekeeping
   1. Revisiting Meeting Schedule
   2. Photo
6. Good of the Order
7. Adjournment

Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order: 8:05 PM EST
2. Attendance: Sen. Moreland, Salmeron-Perla excused
3. Briefing Topics
   1. Chair’s Briefing
      1. Project Teams
      2. Outreach to Advisory Boards
      3. Fundraising
   2. Vice Chair’s Briefing
   3. News and Updates from the Community
      1. Bazail: Georgetown Law resuming on-campus in the Fall (optional)
         1. Main campus likely to follow (Come on DeGioia)
      2. Dai: Conversations between SAC/CSE on diversity training
         1. Galvan: also seeing this manifest itself in clubs, within in FinApp and GUSA, we should be model for what other groups are doing; should push for increase in that training (and increase more trainings within the organization) and more penalties for missing
         2. Negrete-Retamales: agrees, separate between Exec and GUSA to make it more visible; as member of Exec attended training, shocked to see lack of attendance there. Much bigger push needed to educate about its importance (even if you’ve been to multiple ones already).
         3. Chaudhry: new groups are taking more of an active role, GUSIF statement was uncharacteristic (usually don’t take stances). Working on book club to talk about and discuss anti-racism literature. Seeing positives come out of it.
         4. Tang: noticing changes within the Asian community at Georgetown, collaboration increasing (APILF-AASA-SAS cooperation), leadership forums could play a role in increasing the accountability there. Will help expand its reach.
            1. Bazail: LFs are growing in presence during this time
            2. Tang: definitely trying to become more visible, more cross-forum collaboration
            3. Bazail: how do we incorporate their viewpoints?
         5. Ziac: need to be more focused on our mission as a funding board, training a broader Senate Issue question of can we also extend to how we expand and advance racial justice.
         6. Dai: we do have an interesting vantage point because of our role; need to consult with PAC about this. Ultimately we are a fiscal body, but we can communicate social findings to PAC
         7. Galvan: is there a way for us to hold requirements for training for board applicants?
            1. Bazail: dialogue with boards first.
         8. Chaudhry: Is there a mechanism for these trainings present?
            1. Ziac: remain focused in our capacity as a funding body. Wondering what the vision to
            2. Bazail: Because have some mandate with funding, have some leverage with recommendations.
         9. Chaudhry:
            1. Do an analysis of a process, make sure it is objective as possible, remove any implicit biases
            2. Avoid mandating certain things over other things
      3. Tang: Ziac got a shout-out from the leadership of CSJ-ABSO. Should def be communicative and present in meetings.
4. New Business
   1. Pending Legislation
      1. [An ACT to Allocate The 2020-2021 Budget for the Georgetown University Student Association](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sRmhd11mnIPtAEXJkYHvDWYtuU53aKmKeU5wwafHjtM/edit?usp=sharing)
         1. Introduction:
            1. Bazail: first time we’re doing this, equitable budgeting,
         2. Question:
            1. Ziac: why the funding for the FedRel at 1,044?

Need for more money due to new COVID related lobbying work and activism

* + - * 1. Yacovone: did GUSA spend all of its allocation

Yes

* + - * 1. Chaudhry: walk through budget

FedRel and SAO funded completely, set funding based on wiggle room

* + - * 1. Kleier: can we afford EO in Summer

Yes, Exec isn’t paying for Slack, so money is redistributed

* + - * 1. Volpe: usage of Slack, alternatives considered?

Free Slack, since it has Hey Taco

* + 1. Debate:
       1. Volpe: fair budget, appreciates that all were consulted
       2. Ziac: good budget, should not stop here, should monitor this to make sure the earmarks are honored
       3. Dai: roll call vote?
          1. Bazail: should, since it’s a SAF allocation
       4. Ardoin: first time there’s been a comprehensive internal budget, commends Chair for putting this together
    2. Ardoin motion to vote
       1. Passes
    3. Vote
       1. Motion passes 10-0-1. Bazail as Chair abstains.
  1. Liaising Duties
     1. Bazail: uncertain territory, what do we do and what requirements do we set?
     2. Yacovone: set realistic expectations given everything going forward
     3. Volpe: much of it will be ad-hoc depending on when we’re needed, potentially monthly check-in with some of the leaderships to build rapport
     4. Chaudhry: setting clear expectations in first meeting, identify areas to tackle together before next transition, make sure no projects will be started that’ll suffer from continuity issues
     5. Bazail: ultimately you all are the points of contact first and foremost, need to be in lockstep
     6. Ziac: important to not be overbearing, serve at their pleasure and work on a case by case scenario
     7. Ardoin: important to consider how individual boards operated during the year as well; Media Board is pretty disorganized and spontaneous. Shouldn’t try to restructure our relationship with them right now
     8. Bazail: threshold will be once a month, two weeks between I’ll send an update about projects and BSum timeline.
     9. Tang: concerns about SAF. Ask them about previous FinApp support and whether there is the need for more, and relations building.
     10. Bazail: In email feel free to introduce yourself, set up meeting, ask about previous Budget Summit, need any support. Before meeting, read their report, application for funding for Fiscal Year 20-21, constitution. Work better rebuilding relations to reconsider previous Budget Summit work and keeping it open.
  2. Partial Student Activities Fee
     1. Bazail: Is it fair for students not on campus to play SAF? Modified version to pay distanced-programming? Or Not. Advisory Boards, Dr. Olson, it’s being discussed.
     2. Winston: How would SAF change, recognizing organizations might not have the same events to the same extent as before? Club engagement might be virtualized. Taking away potentially a lot of food events, huge space costs, due to social distancing.
     3. Bazail: Erika Cohen Derr said that they’ll reduce price-differentials on spaces (ie Gaston, Copley, etc). Prices will go down. Would fees rollover to the second semester?
     4. Amaan: Great opportunity to use leftover funds for SEF.
     5. Winston: I’d say wait to see if the university spells out its spring plans .
     6. Bazail: Leftover funding doesn’t go back to FinApp.
     7. Amaan: Institutional problem. Maybe push underspending -> keep it in SEF.
     8. Negrete-Retamales: Strongly suggest pushing for reducing the fee, especially with hybrid and not everyone on campus. It’s inherently unfair. If we don’t push for the activities fee to be reduced, activists will push for it. Could be a problem for FinApp later if we don’t advocate for this now.
     9. Bazail: Agree, there might not be enough programming right now to support full programming needs for student organizations. Disadvantaged students are disproportionately hurt. It makes sense to work to help alleviate burden now with SAF.
     10. Olivia: Isn’t SAF part of tuition?
     11. Bazail: There is still a fee that is charged over as a separate thing. Definitely hurts all students if SAF is high.
     12. Sofia: Even for students on full financial aid it might affect them. If the cost of attendance increases then the percentage you pay increases, thus still affects final expected contribution for students. Also for students who have to pay for the expected contribution for themselves.
     13. Amaan: There's also a grey area that a lot of students fall in that don't quite qualify for aid but still have significant financial constraints that prevent them from writing blank checks .
     14. Bazail: Lots of admin want to reduce cost of attendance. Something to reconcile.
     15. Tang: Olson brought up conversations about the Student Activity Fee: direct quote about it doesn’t make sense for students off campus to pay the fee; need to follow conversations. Need to follow up with and engage before a decision is made. Doesn’t make sense for the vulnerable populations to pay if they’re prioritized in housing.
     16. Yacovone: Tuition primary focus in financial aid, other costs like board come into play there. Something to keep in mind in terms of socioeconomic status and housing and approval to return.
     17. Ziac: A treat people the way you want to be treated situation; a lot of money cycles around, and not making everyone pay could double the financial pain with regards to clubs.
     18. Bazail: Keeping that in mind but also supporting students. Convo has to remain open as we get more information
  3. GUPD Fees/Reform
     1. Tabled
  4. Presentations from Part A Applicants
     1. Tabled

1. Housekeeping
   1. Revisiting Meeting Schedule
      1. Bi-Weekly
      2. Call another meeting if needed
   2. Photo
      1. Shoutout to Senator Ardoin’s background: an icon, Peppa Pig
2. Good of Order
3. Adjournment
   1. Ardoin motions
   2. Kleier second
      1. Unanimous vote
   3. Meeting adjourned: 9:26 PM EST

**Next Meeting: June 24th, 2020, 8:00 PM EST\***