The Finance and Appropriations Committee (FinApp) has typically allocated about 3-5% of the Student Activities Fee allocations to the Performing Arts Advisory Council (PAAC). This amount ranges from $37,000-$55,000; however, with a large reserve account and lack of student involvement in the council, PAAC has received only about on average 50% of the funding they requested.

This disparity began in the budget summit for Fiscal Year 2019, when PAAC requested $113,000 yet only received $37,000. This was due to PAAC’s lack of attentiveness to their budget, large reserve account, and need for transparency for students. In the FY 2019 Student Activities Fee Budget Report, FinApp listed five key points of improvement for PAAC to institute.

1. Student involvement in every allocation decision.

2. Increased meetings of PAAC, all of which shall be formally considered ‘open to the public.’

3. Student representatives on the Council be directly involved in the formation, review, and

approval of the budgets of their coverage groups.

4. All leadership positions on the Council are held by students.

5. The creation of comprehensive budgeting guidelines.  
 **FY 19 Student Activities Fee Budget Report**

Since then, PAAC has dedicated the time and commitment to address the concerns proposed by FinApp through improvement of their budgeting guidelines, expansion of student involvement in the council, and an increase in the frequency of meetings.

PAAC has one of the oldest reserves, in which a majority has been generated from interest on the account. Prior to Fiscal Year 2019’s allocation, PAAC had on average received $70,000-$80,000. With time PAAC’s allocation has steadily increased because of the improvements; however, PAAC is still underfunded. For the past two fiscal years, PAAC has had to dip into their reserve account for significant amounts rising to about $26,000 for only one year.

With the information presented, FinApp is in need to improve communications with PAAC. Unlike many universities, Georgetown lacks a Performing Arts major, thus students are only able to express their artistic needs through organizations and events put on by PAAC. Supplies, technology, and cost of spaces continue to rise. In the previous fiscal years, PAAC has reduced the amount requested in comparison to FY 2019, yet still did not receive the amount requested. PAAC also had a reduction in income and a significant increase in expenses. FinApp for the school year of 2020-2021 needs to have a serious discussion and evaluation on the allocation of the Student Activities Fee to PAAC.