

In the course of this season, some investigation surfaced a few links across several Mission proposals, ultimately resulting in a few revelations. There's been discussion on one of these revelations throughout several threads, so I'd like to centralize that here.

Here is the background:

General Magic, led by [@Griff](#), has been connected to several mission proposals, some of which Griff himself voted to advance. Examples of these connections are as follows (all direct quotes)

1. General Magic [provides grantwriting services](#) to many of these proposals, [charging 7-50% of the total grant ask to e.g., DAOstar, Unitap, BrightID, Metagame, Fair Data Society, and Dappnode](#) – often conditional on the grant's passage
2. Although the claim has been that part of this is to help add capacity for an onerous grant process, the pitch also states that part of the value added is “our vast network of connections from the Giveth Galaxy, and Public Goods space.”
3. General Magic provides contract work to grant proposers:

[Season 4 Feedback Thread](#)

The hard part is, that General Magic is a for-hire consultant,

and has contracts with over 20 different teams in the space to do work for them (everything from accounting to solidity development). GM is usually hired when teams have short term projects that need extra support, and many of these Optimism proposals really fit that use case.

1. Griff, a delegate with approval power, is providing upfront funding to several of these proposers in anticipation of grants being approved.

[Season 4 Feedback Thread](#)

This is probably the most important thing to mention, and what enabled the projects I founded to apply for a larger percentage of the grants than other teams. I am working with those teams to loan them funds and take the OP that is locked as collateral so that they can have the short term liquidity they need to pay their employees. Honestly, this is a huge risk on my part, but it's ok, I'm an Optimist. I want all of my teams to work with Optimism.

1. Griff is directly a team member of several proposing projects, almost all of which put in proposals this round.

[Season 4 Feedback Thread](#)

I started/cofounded:

- Giveth in 2016
- Dappnode in 2017
- Commons Stack in 2019
- Token Engineering Commons in 2019
- Praise in 2020
- Trusted Seed in 2020
- General Magic in 2021
- Pairwise in 2022
- Griff used his status as a delegate to put forward to a vote the following selected proposals, several of which (not all here) are affiliated:

[Giveth](#)

[Unitap](#)

[REGEN Score](#)

[Pairwise](#)

[ITU Blockchain](#)

[Rumbo Optimista](#)

[Bankless Dao](#)

[Bankless Academy](#)

[ThriveCoin](#)

[Optimistic Womxn](#)

[Espacio Crypto](#)

[DAOStar](#)

[Bankless Academy 2](#)

So there are a few questions to ask:

1. Does Griff or General Magic have a financial interest in getting all of these applications approved? If so, what are the implications with regard to the Code of Conduct and general governance practices?
2. If there is a financial interest, has it been properly disclosed to Optimism Governance?
3. What are the terms of this upfront lending to these projects? Do the lenders have an opportunity to capture financial gains through these structures?
4. Are affiliated proposals whose approval for a vote depends on him actually eligible for voting?
5. What sort of policy do we / ought we to have regarding this type of third-party work and disclosure?
6. Do such pay-for-propose schemes impose a 'tax' on governance distributions, effectively inflating governance asks?