

**University of Chicago Student Government**

Student Government Finance Committee

December 04, 2025

7-8:00pm

Summary:

| RSO Name                               | Event  | Requested  | Recommended |
|--|--|------------|-------------|
| Midway Radio                           | 1. Learn to DJ with Midwave Radio and WHPK<br>2. Frostpunk                                     |            | \$0         |
| Rhythm & Jews                          | Rhythm & Jews Hanukkah Tour Food   | \$1,416    | \$1,050     |
| Classical Lecture Society              | 1. Classical Lecture Society Annual Lecture 1<br>2. Classical Lecture Society Annual Lecture 2 | \$2,900    | \$2,180     |
| Gargoyle Consulting Club               | Archer Career Consulting Prep: Ascent Series   | \$4350     | \$0         |
| Taiwanese American Student Association | 1. TASA Lunar New Year Formal<br>2. TASA Presents: Sean Wang                                   | \$10,748   | \$4,933.75  |
| Asian American InterVarsity            | AAIV Winter 2026 Retreat   | \$2,222.90 | \$2,222.90  |
| Go Club                                | Funding Request for Go Club Equipment, AGA Memberships, and                                    | 914        | \$674       |

|  |                       |  |  |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|
|  | End-of-Quarter Snacks |  |  |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|

|                               |                                    |          |          |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Hong Kong Student Association | HKSA Winter Quarter Welcome Dimsum | \$798.50 | \$798.50 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|----------|

Attendance:

|   |
|---|
| Name Attendance Caitlin Mooney - Chair Absent |
| Liya Luk - Vice Chair Present                 |
| Cambron Bice - CLI Advisor Present            |
| Andy Lin - Member Absent                      |
| Grace Cheng - Member Present                  |
| Addison Marshall - Member Present             |
| Grace Beatty - Member Present                 |
| Kevin Guo - Member Present                    |
| Carsten Chow - Member Absent                  |
| Leonardo Quai - Member Present                |
| Fred Lee - Exofficio Member Present           |

**Classical Lecture Society**

**Presentation**

The Classical Lecture Society explained that they elect two candidates each year and invite them to campus to give formal lectures. In addition to the lecture, each invited speaker also participates in informal meetings with graduate students to discuss aspects of the field and postgraduate training. The organization covers as much of the speakers' travel as possible, one night of accommodation, and provides a small honorarium. The lectures themselves are open to everyone, including undergraduate and graduate students.

They explained that the honorarium is kept under \$1,500 per speaker. One speaker is a senior professor with a higher honorarium, while the second is a more junior faculty member at a lower rate. For each speaker event, they cap the dinner attendance at six people total, including the speaker. The club clarified that the dinner is only open to graduate students because it is held at a restaurant, while the lectures are open to everyone.

## **Q and A**

Liya asked if the organization applied for annual allocations.

The presenters said they did not because the president changes each year and this year's president did not have access to clear records from the prior year.

Kevin asked how the honorarium is negotiated.

They responded that they try to keep the honorarium under \$1,500. The senior professor is receiving a higher amount to reflect rank, while the junior faculty member receives less.

Fred asked how many people were expected to attend the dinners for both talks. They said the cap is six people per dinner, including the speaker.

Fred asked how those six people were selected.

They explained that it is based on interest expressed by the graduate student body.

## **Deliberation**

The committee discussed that SGFC can fund honoraria but that dinners which are only open to graduate students cannot be funded. Members also raised that ground transportation should not be funded when there are public alternatives.

For **Talk 1**, members agreed to remove both dinner and private transportation from the request because:

- The dinner is restricted to graduate students only.
- Private transportation is not funded if public is available.

Kevin stated that honoraria can be funded.

Fred agreed to remove dinner and transportation.

Kevin made a motion to fund **\$1,040** for Talk 1 on the basis that:

- Dinner is only open to graduate students.
- Private transportation is not funded.

Leonardo seconded.

Motion passed.

For **Talk 2**, members noted that the second talk had slightly different costs.

Fred stated that the total should be **\$1,140**.

Liya made a motion to fund **\$1,140** on the basis that the dinner is not open to everyone. Motion passed.

## **Rhythm and Jews**

### **Presentation**

Rhythm and Jews presented their request for funding for a winter tour taking place from December 13 to December 20. During this period, they are planning to perform seven concerts around communities in Chicago. The purpose of the tour is to explore the city, connect with Jewish communities, and spend extended time bonding as a group.

They stated that they have done extensive fundraising and have already covered more than half of their expenses through outside sources. They are only requesting SGFC funding for food during the week-long tour. They expect to reach roughly 1,000 total audience members across all seven performances.

### **Q and A**

Liya asked how they calculated expected attendance.

They said it is based on the number of group members traveling and prior attendance estimates for each event.

Kevin asked whether the places they are going are accessible by public transportation. They said that whenever public transit is available they will use it. When it is not, (like going to suburban places), they'll need private transportation.

Kevin asked for clarification on whether they were requesting transportation funding. They clarified that they are not requesting transportation funding at all, only food.

Leonardo asked why breakfast is sometimes being eaten off campus instead of on campus. They explained that on days with early performances they need groceries for breakfast rather than dining on campus.

### **Deliberation**

The committee discussed that this is a multi day cultural performance tour, which allows for a higher per person food cap under cost guidelines.

Fred noted that because this is a cultural performance tour, the daily food allowance can be boosted.

Leonardo made a motion to fund **\$1,050** on the basis that:

- Food costs are fully cost guided.

Motion passed.

### **Gargoyle Consulting Club Presentation**

Gargoyle Consulting Club presented a request for **\$4,350** to fund their consulting prep program called Archer Ascent. The program is run by the CEO of Archer Career, a former consultant with advanced degrees. The program is designed for non MBA master's students and advanced degree candidates seeking to enter consulting.

They explained that the program has run in previous years and has received positive feedback. They are keeping the student ticket price at **\$50 per student** to keep the program affordable. All requested funding is primarily for the speaker fee. They stated that they also have funds in their account but those are already budgeted for other events. Expected attendance is about **30 people**, based on past participation.

They clarified that Archer Ascent was previously called Apex and has gone through rebranding.

### **Q and A**

Fred asked if the event is open to undergraduates.

They said the content is targeted toward graduate students but technically undergraduates could apply.

Fred asked about expected attendance.

They said about 30 people, based on prior years.

Kevin asked what year of the program this is.

They said this is the second year of this series, but the Archer partnership has existed for 10 years.

Kevin stated that SGFC cannot fund events that are not open to the entire school and told them they would need to open it to everyone.

They agreed that undergraduates would be allowed if needed for funding eligibility.

Grace asked if she was an undergraduate that was interested and applied, would she be accepted?

They said given that the event needs to be open to everyone for funding, then yes.

Liya asked if this event was previously known as Apex.

They said yes and confirmed the name change.

### **Deliberation**

The committee raised several concerns:

- The written request states the event is for graduate students.
- The organization already received **\$675** in annual allocations for food.
- The speaker fee is very high.

Members were uncomfortable with funding a request that appears to primarily serve graduate students. It was also stated that organizations cannot be funded twice for the same type of expense that was already funded through annual allocations.

Addi made a motion **not to fund** on the basis that:

- The event is only open to graduate students as written.
- They already received food funding through annual allocations.

Motion passed.

Request denied.

### **Taiwanese Student Association**

#### **Presentation**

The Taiwanese Student Association requested funding for multiple events for next quarter, including:

- Lunar New Year Formal
- A speaker event

They stated that they understand they are requesting a large amount and are actively seeking alternative funding sources. The speaker event has been held for the past four to five years and consistently draws a lot of attendees (roughly 400). They explained that for a previous similar scale event, they received funding from SGFC as well as external academic centers.

They stated that the speaker fee is approximately **\$6,000** and that the quote from the speakers they have found have ranged between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

#### **Q and A**

Fred asked where the speaker event would take place.

They said previously it was in the East Lounge at Ida Noyes. This year, they are considering

Max P Cinema.

Fred asked what the speaker fee was.

They said roughly \$6,000, with multiple speaker options all asking around \$5,000-\$6000.

Kevin asked if the Taiwan Night event had already occurred.

They confirmed it had already happened.

### **Deliberation**

For the Lunar **New Year Formal**, Kevin recommended reducing poster printing costs to **15 cents per page** given that printing prices have changed.

Kevin made a motion to fund **\$1,411** on the basis that printing was reduced by \$20.

Motion passed.

For the **Speaker Event**, members debated:

- Uncertainty about projected attendance of 400 given that the event is the Saturday before campus closes for the holiday
- Whether a venue here at UChicago could realistically hold that many people.
- SGFC's \$500 honorarium cap.

Kevin made a motion to fund **\$3,522.75** on the basis that:

- Honorarium is capped at \$500.
- Private transportation is not funded where there is a public option.

Motion passed.

### **Asian American InterVarsity**

#### **Presentation**

Asian American InterVarsity is a student run, non church affiliated Christian organization. They requested **\$2,292.90** for their annual winter retreat, a three day, two night retreat focused on spirituality, worship, and relationship building with God. The retreat was moved from spring to winter because most of their student leaders will be studying abroad in the spring quarter.

They explained that 36 people are signed up and that transportation will be done by charter bus due to the three hour distance to Lake Geneva. They also charge a **\$150 participation fee**, and some members are receiving full scholarships funded through their RSO account. Alumni funding is provided through the national InterVarsity network.

#### **Q and A**

Fred asked why the need for a bus.

They explained it is the most feasible way to transport 36 students three hours away.

Fred asked if they could break down the \$190 per person cost.

They said it is a package deal and not itemized, but includes food, lodging, and activity space.

This was negotiated down from \$225 per person.

Kevin asked if the retreat is open to anyone in the university.

They said yes, though a participation fee applies.

Fred asked about alumni funding.

They clarified it comes from InterVarsity's alumni network.

## **Deliberation**

The committee debated whether funding a retreat is appropriate. Members discussed:

- Fred and Kevin argued that this is not reasonable to be funded because the retreat can happen at a different location such as a church
- Liya said the retreat appears integral to the organization's purpose.
- Students are already paying a large portion out of pocket.
- Alumni are also contributing funds.

Addi made a motion to fund in full on the basis that the retreat is integral to the mission of the organization.

Motion passed.

## **Go Club**

### **Presentation**

Go Club requested funding for:

- American Go Association memberships for new members.
- Supplies for their final end of quarter event to celebrate accomplishments.

They explained that the American Go Association membership is required for official gameplay and that they are purchasing the \$10 membership level. They also requested snacks for the final event.

### **Q and A**

Fred asked about the membership type.

They said they are purchasing the \$10 membership.

Grace asked if they could explain the game.

They explained that Go is similar to chess.

## **Deliberation**

Members noted that:

- College Council will not meet in time to approve snack funding.
- There is also uncertainty about whether the location qualifies as a private residence.
- Snacks therefore cannot be funded.

Kevin made a motion to fund **\$674** on the basis that:

- Snacks are not funded.

Motion passed.

## **HGSA**

### **Deliberation**

Kevin made a motion to fund HGSA in full for **\$798.50**.

Motion passed.

## **Midway Radio**

### **Frostpunk**

Kevin made a motion to **defer** the Frost Punk request on the basis that:

- No representative was present.
- The committee still has outstanding questions.

Motion passed. Deferred.

### **Learn to DJ with Midway Radio**

Discussion

- The committee discussed that the DJ is a professional service and they could get a student to do it

Addi made a motion **not to fund** on the basis that:

- The request involves professional DJ services.
- The club could seek alternative student DJs.

Motion passed. Request denied.