

University of Chicago Student Government

Student Government Finance Committee

February 19, 2026

Summary:

RSO Name	Event	Requested	Recommended
Kappa Theta Pi	Annual semi-formal	\$800 in funding	\$0 in funding
UChicago Space Program	Aerospace conference	\$2,630	Need to answer questions and come back
Latino Medical Students Association	Regional conference	\$2444.19	\$1539.60
Computational Biology Outreach	Four outreach events	\$160	\$160 in full
Furries at UChicago	Bunny-petting event	\$240	\$240 in full
Bhangra	Event	\$6685	Denied on the basis that event is Saturday
Blockchain	Event in Bartlett	\$424	\$380.07

Attendance:

Name	Attendance
Caitlin Mooney	Present
Liya Luk	Present
Cambron Bice	Present
Andy Lin	Present
Grace Cheng	Present
Addison Marshall	Absent
Grace Beatty	Absent

Kevin Guo	Present
Carsten Chow	Absent
Leonardo Quai	Proxy
Fred Lee	Present
Nikolai (Nick) Kopaliani	Present

Kappa Theta Pi

Presentation

- Pre-professional technology fraternity
- Annual Semi-formal: seeking \$800 in funding, 80 attendants, they are taking 20 each and seek funding to make up the difference
- Club and other events open to all students at the university

Q & A

- *Kevin* questions if they have already finished selling tickets
 - *Presenter:* We have already 80 registered but the deadline is this Sunday
- *Kevin* inquires who is eligible to attend to buy tickets
 - *Presenter:* KTP members are eligible and they can bring guests, and guests are capped
- *Liya* inquires about the “theme house package”
 - *Presenter:* That is the venue where we are having the formal, it is in Chinatown
- *Caitlin* asks if this include alcohol
 - *Presenter:* Yes, but we are checking ID at the door and have wristbands
- *Kevin* inquires about the current \$1300 in their Blueprint balance and what it is going towards
 - *Presenter:* That is going to other more professional events and club fees like catering food for meetings
- *Caitlin* asks if there is any money that is not ear-marked for an event in Blueprint
 - *Presenter:* He is not sure
- *Liya* asks him to clarify the guest cap
 - *Presenter:* There could be more people who register. The original plan was 2 guests per member max, they haven’t reached that yet. They have 50 members registered right now and the venue can host up to 100. If they do get those extra 50 or so guests, then they will need less funding.
- *Caitlin* asks about who can buy tickets again
 - Members and their friends, and then they can bring guests
- *Andy* asks if someone with no friends in the club can attend
 - *Presenter:* That is correct.

Deliberation

- ***Kevin* moves to fund \$0 on the basis that they are not open to all people**
 - **Second by *Nick***
 - **All are in favor, vote is unanimous**

UChicago Space program

Presentation

- Aerospace conference in Montana from March 8th - 14th
- Request of \$2,630
- Open for everyone regardless of club membership, and club is open to anyone
- Currently five members want to attend
- Total cost is \$11,450
 - \$2,500 for flights, \$500 for rental car, \$3,750 for registration fees, and \$4,700 for an Airbnb (cheaper than hotel)
- Original form they submitted said \$8,000 reduction, this is a mistake– they have \$4970 in outside funding from the school
- Food is included in the conference

Q & A

- *Caitlin* asks about the \$640 allocation in AnAll for “conference registration” and if it is separate from the registration fees
 - *Presenter*: I included that as part of the \$4970
- *Fred* asks how the registration fees amount to \$3750, but the amount they requested is \$960 in AnAll
 - *Presenter*: I think that is because we registered early and got a discount
- *Kevin* asks if Space Vision 2025 is the same thing they are requesting for here
- *Caitlin* asks if then the \$640 and funding from other sources are not from AnAll?
 - *Presenter*: I do not know the exact treasury status, but Space Vision 2025 is a separate conference, and we shouldn't be pulling from its funds.
- *Fred* then asks who wrote the submission
 - *Presenter*: Our treasurer. The budget for the people who are going was written by the people who are going.
- *Fred* asks if it is then not true that they will be spending the \$640 from AnAll
 - *Presenter*: Not for registration fees, perhaps we will spend \$640 of our general club budget for lodging
- *Fred* clarifies that he is asking because on the budget submitted it states that the \$640 from AnAll will be spent on the registration fees for Space Vision 2025
 - *Presenter*: This is a different event.
- *Fred* summarizes that this is an entirely different event that was not requested for in AnAll?
 - *Presenter*: Yes. I didn't submit the AnAll, but these are different events.
- *Caitlin* asks them to explain the account balance of about \$121,500
 - *Presenter*: A lot of this money is internally allocated for one of the big projects of the club. It is also internally allocated to the rocketry and instrumentation division. A lot of this money comes from donations from Giving Day, and is specifically for the big club project, not for the conference. Additionally, although there is a lot of funding for this big project, it is currently in a deficit because it is not enough for the project and there have been a lot of defunding cuts.
- *Kevin* asks if they are planning to advertise this event outside of their membership.

- *Presenter:* We can put it on Blueprint and Instagram or fliers. We are happy to advertise it to anyone.
- *Kevin* asks how someone who wants to attend reaches out if they are not in the organization.
 - *Presenter:* We have an active Instagram account with over 2,000 followers on LinkedIn
- *Kevin* asks if they have to DM through these platforms
 - *Presenter:* They could, we have our email on our website. We have a discord that's open for anyone to join and is also advertised on Instagram. They can reach out to an officer.
- *Kevin* asks if SGFC were to ask the club to promote this on their Instagram saying people who are interested can come, would they comply?
 - *Presenter:* Yes we can do that.
- *Fred* asks presenter to clarify the amount they are putting into this event and how much they have fundraised
 - *Presenter:* I wouldn't say we have fundraised. We have \$1000 from quad conference funding, \$1000 from career advancement funding, and then each spending \$1165 of stamps money (two times for two students), a club contribution of \$640 (not from AnAll) coming from donations of various sources.
- *Fred* them to talk a bit more about these various donations and how much they have left of it.
 - *Presenter:* It's not a singular donation, we get money deposited into our account throughout the year through Giving Day and consistent donations through our Instagram and LinkedIn. We are pulling \$640 from that money.
- *Fred* how much is that money
 - *Presenter:* I don't know how much has been donated in total. I know we received \$60,000 from Giving Day. I don't know how much has come in in total but I know it is more than \$640
- *Fred* if the other donations have been ear-marked for something else
 - *Presenter:* I think most of them have been ear-marked for our big project.

Deliberations

- *Fred* says he thinks if you have \$120,00 in your account balance, you need someone who knows about how much is allocated
- *Caitlin* would like the record to reflect that she did ask for that in a separate email to the treasurer earlier in the week
- *Cambren* asks if there is an expectation for RSOs to immediately ear-marked gift transfers
- *Caitlin* explains that with the legality of gifting, a private donor can give money for something specific, and legally it cannot be spent on something else
- *Kevin* says his opinion is that RSOs should not be punished for getting more money than they expect to, and that the normal fundraising deductions should be applied, but that might be too generous.
- *Caitlin* explains they don't know much they fundraised
- *Kevin* proposes that however much they are required to fundraise by the cost of the budget request, they should just apply what they would normally apply for the fundraiser deduction
- *Liya* says that can be done, or they could be deferred
- *Fred* Says that the problem he sees with the RSO is that they have so many subservient teams within the organization that anyone who comes to present doesn't know about the overall
- *Caitlin* says the \$640 is definitely for AnAll

- *Fred* says she just contradicted that
- *Kevin* proposes to write a list of questions they can answer over email
- *Proxy for Leo* explains that *Leo* sent some information indicating the airbnb and flights could be cut down in price. *Leo* is saying that he would fund at most \$1460
- *Caitlin* explains that a motion to deny for reapplication would mean they have to submit by Friday noon. She argues that they should just come back next week to further explain.
- *Kevin* proposes to take a minute to write down questions they will email the club before they move forward.
 1. The specific breakdown of how it is ear-marked
 2. What fundraising they have done for this
 3. How much money they are actually asking for
 4. Is this the same thing as the AnAll conference that they requested
- **No motion is had, RSO has to return later or emailed for clarification**

Latino Medical Student Association

Presentation

- \$2444 to fund a Midwest conference in Milwaukee
- Registration fee and gala ticket fee will be covered by outside funding from fundraising from office at Pritzker
- They are requesting more funding for the transportation and hotel costs

Q & A

- *Fred* asks if the hotel is for one night
 - *Presenter*: Three rooms for two nights, two people per room
- *Fred* asks if they will go by car to Milwaukee
 - *Presenter*: Yes.

Deliberations

- *Math* is done between all members, deciding not to pay for tolls (as toll-free drive is feasible) and parking, and not taking out fundraising because it will not cover the whole thing
- **Andy motions \$1,539.60 when everything is cost guided, not funding tolls and parking**
 - ***Kevin* seconds**
 - **Motion passes unanimously**

Computational Biology Outreach

Presentation

- Four events occurring in the Spring
- Outreach events for four schools
- Requesting \$160 for craft supplies to put on more hands-on workshops to demonstrate computational biology concepts

Q & A

- *Fred* asks if they are four separate events

- *Presenter:* Yes. We visit schools during instructional hours. Three of the events will be during school hours, and the last one is a booth during an after-school science fair
- *Kevin* asks if they have heard of the Community Service Fund
 - *Presenter:* I have a request pending with them right now, I haven't heard back. I requested transportation in an attempt to diversify funding sources.
- *Caitlin* recommends in the future that they go to CSF for more funding, as SGFC does not fund giveaways. She says they will consider the request either way and fund what they can.
- *Kevin* asks if there was a reason why they requested from these two sources, wondering if in the past CSF has only partially funded events
 - *Presenter:* We are a brand new RSO, so I am learning the ropes of these funding bodies. It was my impression that SGFC tends not to fund rideshare transportation, which is our preferred method.

Deliberations

- *Liya* asks how much money SGFC has
 - SGFC has just shy of \$68,000 left for the remainder of the school year, about 1/3 of the yearly SGFC budget (inclusive of all four quarters)
- *Liya* believes they should fund items 1-10 in full
- *Kevin* questions whether they would have enough time to go to CSF if SGFC denies
 - Members explain it could be heard next week, and they wouldn't get it
- *General debate between members about funding in full vs. not funding stickers*
- ***Kevin* moves to fund it in full**
 - ***Liya* seconds**
 - **All are in favor, motion passed unanimously**

Furries at UChicago

Presentation

- RSO seeks funding to plan an event for de-stressing before finals and giving a chance to engage in furry culture by petting bunnies
- Location to pet bunnies is in Lakeview

Q & A

- *Fred* asks how they are planning to market this event
 - *Presenter:* I already made posters, and we will put it on Blueprint.
- *Liya* asks how they found the expected attendance calculation
 - *Presenter:* Since we haven't advertised yet because we wanted funding first, in the group there are already 6 people, so it seems reasonable to find 6 others.

Deliberation

- ***Andy* motions to fund in full**
 - ***Kevin* seconds**
 - **All are in favor, motion passes unanimously**

Taiwanese Student Association

Presentation

- Assassin, flag-capture event, plus catered dinner

Q & A

- *Fred* asks if the presenter is Kingston B. and if the statement he has for this document is entirely true?
 - *Presenter*: Yes.
- *Caitlin* asks how they are advertising for this event and who can sign up
 - *Presenter*: Board members spread the word through the messages chat and such. Theoretically anyone can sign up as long as they have the form, but the form is closed and was only distributed within specific groupchats.
- *Kevin* asks if anyone outside the organization has had the chance to sign up
 - *Presenter*: Unfortunately no. Only people within the organization have signed up so far.
- *Kevin* asks if they are paying out of pocket for a portion of the dinner, the math on the budget for dinner is not making much sense (\$12 for dinner per person)
 - *Presenter*: Most likely. We want the opportunity to fund as much as possible, but if not they will have to pay out of pocket.

Deliberation

- *Fred* asks if he was not clear in asking if the document was true
- *Fred* thinks it is a sort of TASA board, highly-involved member event, as he is not in this group chat and is involved in TASA.
- *Andy* notes that this was not posted on the TASA Instagram.
- ***Liya* motions to fund nothing as it is not open to all in the organization**
 - ***Nick* seconds**
 - **All are in favor, motion passes unanimously.**

Bhangra

- *Caitlin* says they need to vote not to fund Bhangra because it is Saturday, falling outside of the timeline which SGFC can fund
- ***Kevin* moves not to fund Bhangra on the basis that it is Saturday**
 - ***Andy* seconds**
 - **All are in favor, motion passes unanimously**

Blockchain

- *Fred* feels like this is just for food
- *Kevin* notes that Bartlett lounge does not fit 60 people
- *Fred* notes there is no representative to clear this up
- *Caitlin* notes that if SGFC denies they need a valid reason
- *Members perceive that the event is open to all*
- RSO has \$13.93 in their account
- *Kevin* wonders what happens if they fund it and then audit
- *Kevin* says that since it is a new RSO he would be fine funding it
- *Cambron* notes that at the end of the year if an RSO doesn't have their remaining funds ear-marked for a specific thing, then SGFC deducts the entirety of it
- *Kevin* wonders if only 50% could be deducted to incentivize saving and honesty

- *Kevin* wonders if supplies can be deemed giveaways
- *Kevin* says this can be denied on the basis that what they have said is not true; it is not on the Instagram or the website
- *Caitlin* notes they only claimed they “will” post
- *Fred* proposes that Kevin can fund, and then check if they have posted, and if not deduct it to \$0 at CC
- *Caitlin* notes that otherwise there is no reason not to fund it, but that they would deduct the \$13.93 from the RSO account
- *Kevin* emphasizes he will show up to Bartlett to make sure the event exists
- ***Liya* motions to fund \$380.07 on the basis that the food is cost-guided to \$6, subtracting the RSO balance**
 - ***Kevin* seconds**
 - **All are in favor, and the motion passes unanimously**

Deliberation of Resolution Proposed by Kevin and Fred

- *Kevin* explains that the other funding committees are currently not mentioned in the bylaws. Him and *Fred* have proposed a change in the wording of the section of the bylaws from “SGFC” to “Funding Committees”
- *Fred* explains that this practically does nothing to SGFC
- *Kevin* moves to be okay with this change on CC
- *Fred* consents
- *Cambren* notes that this impacts all of the other committees, and wonders if conversations have been had with these groups and their advisors
 - *Fred* has reached out to all of them and they are convening their committees
- *Fred* says these changes would significantly impact how these committees operate
 - *Kevin* wonders how so, arguing the impacts are very non-controversial
 - *Fred* points out a specific line in the bylaws that is relevant here
 - *Kevin* says this could just be removed
- *Andy* wonders if this is a line that should remain but just indicates further conversations that must be had
- *Fred* proposes that this be used and then sports club and CSF to go CC as well
- *Cambren* wonders how Brian and the members of his committee feel about their relationship with USG, as this resolution could be a big shock to them if they consider themselves autonomous to USG
- *Kevin* also notes that Brian sort of runs the committee himself and appoints people he likes
- *Kevin* proposes that they chat with Brian, and notes that this is not urgent.
- **Let the record reflect everyone voted in favor of giving consent to this resolution (occurred at very end of meeting)**

On the topic of Gavin’s proposal

- *Caitlin* explains what has been going on in CC: Gavin (member of CC) has introduced something that essentially would take SGFC’s autonomy away in terms of amending their guidelines and cost guide.

- *Caitlin* notes his math for his other proposition is incorrect in terms of what he believes SGFC to be doing in calculating travel funding. She thinks this is sparked by the fact that sometimes when calculating amounts they get a negative number. Caitlin says the committee should consider the issue (she believes) he is supposed to be looking at.
- *Caitlin* explains on board: SGFC deals with funding as an external thing. Anything internal they deduct (membership fees, club contributions, etc.).
- *Fred* notes that Gavin refuses to understand the way funding actually works.
 - *Caitlin's* proposal is an alternative understanding of what the cost guide is, instead of deducting ticket sales, they should 'pretend' they do not exist, not subtracting them from funding, but instead having this amount cover what cannot be funded by the committee. She is in support of the same interpretation across all events for equality-sake.
- *Fred* clarifies except in the case where they do consider the tickets and it is more than what they asked for.
- *All members speak on RSOs that try to use the cost guide to their advantage*
- *Caitlin* is concerned about when this change is applied to other things and wants to hear the committee's concerns and opinions
- *Kevin* thinks that they should only count it when if they don't deduct it, it is more than their requested amount
- *Caitlin* proposes that if a cap is present on funding, then ticket sales should be ignored
 - Further elaboration: The issue is people come to SGFC with many events where they can't fund the line items. Essentially the incentive for having tickets in this scenario is to cover the things SGFC cannot. Fundraising is a checkbox, not a deduction (unless it is greater than the total amount of the request). Ticket sales then should not be deducted when there is a cap imposed (travel cap or otherwise).
 - **Caitlin will write this up and ask people to change verbiage if necessary**