

University of Chicago Student Government

Student Government Finance Committee

March 26th, 2026

Summary:

RSO Name	Need	Requested	Recommended
Student National Medical Association	Annual Medical Education Conference	\$1,500	Funded in full \$1,500
Game Music Ensemble	Study break	\$119.50	Funded in full \$119.50
Women in Science	End of the year party	\$840	Partially funded \$810
Nigerian Student Association	Wedding	\$10,000	\$8438.87
Ballroom and Latin Dance Association	Irish Dancesport Gala	\$1223	\$1223
OUTpatient	Paris is Burning Showing and Fundraiser	\$200	\$200
Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Student Committee	The Tenth Chicago Graduate Conference in Hispanic, Luso-Brazilian, and Latinx Studies	\$604	Denied

Attendance:

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

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

Members begin meeting by clarifying AnnAll logistics and scheduling.

Student National Medical Association

Presentation

- Requesting \$1,500 in funding for Annual Medical Education Conference
- Raised funds from medical school but amount was insufficient in covering the total cost of attending the event
- Requesting funds for food for each day, transportation for each day, and catering for Gratitude of Service Celebration club event during conference
- Lodging is an Airbnb

Q & A

- *Lia* asks if undergraduate students can attend the event.
 - *Presenters:* Absolutely.
- *Grace C.* clarifies that the cost for the Gratitude of Service Celebration is for food.
 - *Presenters:* Yes it is for dinner. We got a quote from the restaurant that is about \$24 per person.
- *Caitlin* inquires how the event was advertised and how people could sign up to attend.
 - *Presenters:* The event is a National event so anybody could find it. We are advertising through emails and groupme. Basically internal advertising. I'm sure other students know about it as well, not just within the medical school.
- *Liya* asks how she could find out about the event if she was an undergrad pre-med student.
 - *Presenters:* This is a widely advertised and very well known event, anybody who is into medicine knows about it.

Deliberation

- *Kevin* inquires about what SGFC does when taking off the 50% travel cap (reduction from total cost vs. amount requested). He states he would do it to the overall amount.
 - *Caitlin* notes that SGFC has always done it to the overall amount. She brings up advertising before continuing to discuss the travel cap.
- *Caitlin* notes the RSO has not advertised externally.
 - *Cambren* explains that there is an undergraduate chapter of the organization on campus, a separate RSO (in regards to SNMA's outreach for this event being limited to internal).

- *Grace C.* states that they have posted the event on their Instagram, and members deem this sufficient advertising.
- *Kevin* makes a case for funding them in full, explaining that he views the travel cap as stating the maximum SGFC will pay is 50% of whatever travel costs there are, and the club must find some way to get the rest of the money. He notes that SNMA found a way to get the rest of the money and is requesting even less than the 50% they would be capped for.
 - *Caitlin* notes that what *Kevin* has suggested is in line with past precedent.
 - *Kevin* and *Caitlin* note to codify this later.
- ***Kevin* moves to fund the Student National Medical Association in full \$1,500.**
 - ***Nik* seconds**
 - **5:1:0, motion passes, *Grace B.* abstains**

Game Music Ensemble

Presentation

- Requesting \$119.50 in funding for social events: group concert attendance and a study break

Q & A

- *Liya* asks if the study break is only happening once.
 - Presenters: Yes.
- *Cambron* clarifies that the concert attendance event will be heard by an advisor on upcoming Friday based on SGFC's timeline.

Deliberation

- ***Liya* moves to fund in full**
 - ***Kevin* seconds**
 - **All are in favor, motion passes unanimously**

Women in Science

Presentation

- Requesting \$840 in funding for their end of the year party
- Funding for food and AV

Q & A

- *Grace C.* inquires about the type of microphone listed
 - *Presenter:* I looked at what SGFC had listed for *Ida Noyes'* costs.
- *Kevin* inquires about club membership.
 - *Presenter:* We let anyone join, everybody is welcome.

Deliberation

- *Liya* inquires about covering the delivery fee for food.
 - *Caitlin* notes public transportation can be taken to pick up the food.
- ***Liya* motions to fund \$810 on the basis of removing the delivery fee.**
 - ***Kevin* seconds**
 - **All are in favor, motion passes unanimously**

Nigerian Student Association

Presentation

- Requesting \$10,000 in funding for club wedding
- Have done more funding since last meeting

- Have further specified their line items, the amount requested will go towards the items highlighted in yellow

Q & A

- *Liya* asks if the paid deposit was subtracted from line items #1 and #10.
 - *Presenters*: Yes.
- *Liya* asks about the free performers listed under line item #5
 - *Presenters*: The Performers are a UChicago dance group but the non-UChicago drummer is requesting \$500.
- *Caitlin* asks whether the advertising cost refers to posters.
 - *Presenters*: Yes.
- *Caitlin* asks about the transportation cost under the decorators services line item #3.
 - *Presenters*: It's part of the cost they quoted us for bringing the decorations over.
- *Caitlin* clarifies that the tickets and fundraising apply to the non-highlighted portions.
 - *Presenters*: Yes

Deliberations

- *Members* conduct math according to the cost guide.
- *Caitlin* writes on board:
 - Total cost of the highlighted portions minus the deposits: \$11,205.23
 - Fundraising added: \$11,955.23
 - Fundraising minimum: \$3,697.73
- *Kevin* asks if ticket sales should be ignored entirely.
 - *Caitlin* affirms, explaining that the purpose of ticket sales is to significantly reduce the fundraising minimum.
- *Kevin* notes they are willing to apply their RSO budget, but that it hasn't been applied yet.
 - *Caitlin* responds she believes it was used to partially pay the deposit.
- *Caitlin* points out their fundraising sponsorship explanation and states she is willing to waive part of the fundraising minimum. She justifies this as they spoke to multiple organizations in an attempt to obtain fundraising, and that the cost guide specifies leniency when significant effort is shown in attempting attaining the fundraising minimum.
 - *Members* agree.
 - *Caitlin* asks if members want to waive or reduce the fundraising minimum.
 - *Grace B.* suggests a 50% reduction of the fundraising minimum
 - *Caitlin* conducts math on board: reduction to \$1,848.86, with a fundraising penalty of \$780 deducted, resulting in a total of \$1,098.86
- *Caitlin* points out the decor supplies are not cost-guided.
- *Members* note the incorrect math on the request, and decide to cost-guide line items as a result.
 - New cost-guided figures mapped out on board:
 - (1) \$3500 - deposit = 1754
 - (2) \$395
 - (3) NA
 - (4) NA
 - (5) \$500
 - (6) NA
 - (7) \$3763.1 - deposit = 2508.73

- (8) \$20
- (9) \$3460
- (10) \$1500 - deposit = \$800
- (11) \$100
- Total: 9537.73 - 1098.86 = \$8438.87
- *Caitlin* notes that according to the cost guide, SGFC would subtract the ticket sales unless there was a percentage cap applied to any of the line items.
- *Kevin* suggests that line items 3, 4, and 6 could be added back to the budget and then ticket sales could be deducted. The three line items would technically be covered by ticket sales, as they requested that be what their ticket sales would go towards.
- ***Kevin* motions to fund \$8438.87 on the basis that everything is cost-guided and the funding requirement was slightly waived by 50%, which when adding back line items 3,4, and 6, results in an amount greater than the ticket sales they were going to get. This results in a return back to the amount of \$8438.87**
 - *Liya* seconds
 - All are in favor, motion passes unanimously

Ballroom & Latin Dance Association

Presentation

- Requesting \$1223 in funding for Irish Dancesport Gala
- Requesting funding for registration fees, snacks, lodging, rental cars, gas prices,
- Have fundraised for a total of about \$1850, teaching dance lessons to further meet the minimum, will charge dancers a small amount for lodging
- Took many routes to find the cheapest rental car fees and have landed at the figure listed on the request.

Q & A

- *Caitlin* inquires about a possible toll-free route when driving.
 - *Presenter*: That would be 20-30 minutes longer and people will be leaving right after school.

Deliberations

- *Members cost-guide items on the board (they fund toll fees, add a 50% cap to line items 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, and there is no fundraising minimum):*
 - Insert things on board here - *Caitlin* i'm guessing you took a photo
 - Total: \$1,364.50
- ***Nik* motions to fund in full on the basis that everything is cost-guided and the 50% amount is applied to items 3,4, 5-6, and 7-6**
 - *Liya* seconds
 - All are in favor, motion passes unanimously

OUTpatient

Presentation

- Requesting fundraising for Paris is Burning Showing and Fundraiser.
- Requesting \$200 to pay speaker.

Q & A

- *Caitlin* asks if the community leader is a member of the UChicago community.
 - *Presenter*: No.
- *Kevin* asks who the community leader is.
 - *Presenter*: They are the Senior Director for Programs at an Alliance.

Deliberations

- ***Nik* motions to fund in full.**
 - ***Grace C.* seconds.**
 - **All are in favor, motion passes unanimously.**

Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Student Committee

Deliberations

- Members note that the request is for a closed event, undergraduates cannot attend.
- ***Nik* motions to fund \$0 as it is a closed event.**
 - ***Grace B.* seconds**
 - **All are in favor, motion passes unanimously**

On the topic of fundraising minimums

- *Caitlin* asks committee members to read over her addition to the cost-guide which incentivizes ticket sales and outside funding. She asks if people have objections to the verbiage.
 - *All members are in favor of formally adding the line to the cost-guide. The vote is unanimous.*
- *Caitlin* asks members to look at another indented paragraph which clarifies verbiage and codifies procedure. Members have no questions or concerns
 - *All members are in favor of adding the paragraph. The vote is unanimous.*

On the topic of penalties for failed audits

- *Caitlin* mentions that when the committee last spoke on this topic her concern was that the penalties that SGFC wanted to impose were missing an agreed-upon logic free of personal opinion. She wants to remove the possibility of this becoming an issue for discussion for future committees. She suggests finding a middle ground for both sides of the spectrum.
- *Different propositions are mapped out on the board:*
 - First Strike
 - (1) No funding for 3 months
 - (2) No funding for the remainder of the quarter
 - (3) No funding for 1 month
 - (4) No funding for the remainder of the quarter + a subsequent quarter
 - Second Strike
 - (1) No funding for 9 months
 - (2) No funding for the remainder of the quarter + a subsequent 2 quarters
 - (3) No funding for the remainder of the quarter + a subsequent 3 quarters
 - (4) No funding for 3 months
 - *All members are in consensus with a training module as part of the punishment for failing an audit.*

- *Caitlin* notes SGFC had deterred from the fourth option because it focuses more on penalizing the individual rather than the organization.
 - *Members agree and the fourth option is eliminated.*
- *Caitlin* wishes to clarify the date upon which the penalty would be enacted. The two options are after the event date or after the penalty after the event date.
 - *Grace B.* notes that if it is after SGFC finds it, it is worse for the RSO as it is longer, but it is SGFC's fault for not doing it earlier.
- *Members discuss the training module proceedings for first and second tries.*
 - *Kevin* proposes increasing the number of questions for the second attempt and requiring a 100%.
- *Grace C.* states she believes three months is too short for the second strike.
- *Andy* proposes that the second strike should be three subsequent quarters.
 - *Kevin* agrees with the exception of AnnAll.
 - *Members agree.*
- *Members discussing including vs. excluding summer quarter, how board changes at the end of the year would impact penalties, and the resetting of strikes.*
 - *Caitlin* argues that resetting the strikes (not punishment) makes the most sense at the end of the year as this is when the majority of board changes happen and when SGFC changes.
 - *Grace C.* makes a case for three quarters including the summer quarter.
- *Grace B.* suggests the first strike having a punishment duration of the rest of the quarter plus an additional quarter.
- *Caitlin* notes the punishment might be too harsh, as they would have to suspend programming for this duration of time.
 - *Grace B.* notes AnnAll should cover this. She also points out that the chances of two strikes occurring would be very low.
- *All members are in favor of no funding for the remainder of the quarter plus a subsequent three quarters as punishment for two strikes, given Summer counts as a quarter*
 - *Caitlin* will write this verbiage.

On the topic of ticketing and outside funding

- *Caitlin* clarifies that members decided that ticketing was not to be deducted, but is wanting to discuss if there are other circumstances in which it is not to be deducted. She notes that there is incentivization for both ticket sales and outside funding in terms of the fact that it drastically lowers the fundraising minimum.
 - *Grace B.* notes it would be prudent to write this out somewhere to make it clear to others.
- *Caitlin* writes up this verbiage and asks members to read over it.
 - *All members are in favor of the verbiage. The vote is unanimous.*