**Budget Committee Meeting**

Sunday, October 3, 2021

“On Zoom”

5:00 pm

Katherine Almendarez

Sam Harrison

Desmond Mantle

Caroline Bullock

Jon Joey Telebrico

Peyton Ogasawara

Amadeo Cantu

Michael Gadinis

Absent: Cindy Lay and Theo Siasat

Non-voting Budget Committee Senate member: Jackson Aldrich and Amelia Opsahl

Desmond: Amadeo wants to talk about funding events, and one issue we need to talk about is ticketing for revenue generation

Amadeo: How comfortable are we for asking for money- selling merch, asking students or other 5c event heads to fund things. I was under the impression that we were only allowed to host one 5c event, but after getting clarification, we are required to host one. I think it would be a good way to get money to request money for the other schools since we always front the most cost. I am a fan of getting the most money from outside. We are going to have to maximize the budget with what we have, but I don’t think we should just be pulling from general fund- especially if the party is exclusive or only for one grade.

Sam: I think historically in budget committee we do charge other schools to cover some costs for events. If other students are coming to our events, they should help cover the cost. I think going forward eliminating ticketing is inclusive, for senior events if we ticket or sell merch we really need to get after it. General fund is for everybody. We need to start raising money in a whole bunch of different way.

Katherine: I have spoken to the 5c presidents, and they seem to be happy to contribute money for shared events. They will be willing to pay and help with some of the production. Moving on, I was talking to Sobe and I personally think 200 days party is much too expensive. We spend all our money on the venue and the busses. We could spend more money on 100 days. Caroline is hoping to set up a shop which the procedes could help with front event costs. We can also alter traditions since many do not understand tradition given COVID.

Desmond: As long as the merch pertains to school spirit it is valid. The Senior class budget is already large, but if needed I do believe we could pull from general fund, but it is already $20,000 which is huge in comparison. Revenue generation specifically for our senior class is all we have left.

Jackson: What fundraising events have been successful?

Amadeo: We have never really had a direct fundraiser from what I can remember.

Desmond: If dorms sell merch the funds go to the dorm.

Amadeo: I would love to do the selling of the shirts, but the organization of the duties should be allocated in a way that is manageable for all.

I do want to see how comfortable we are in asking our students to pay for things. Yes, our students do pay us money in their student fees, but only 30% of their fees go to my events. Basically each student pays about $10-$15 bucks per event which is a great deal in comparison to a night out in LA. The best ways to get the most money out of student fees is joining those clubs. How we do we go about students who are not in the position to pay for things- could they work or help set up- we need to get creative so all our students can be included.

Desmond: There is no ticketing thing that has binded us. We cannot bind future exec boards or budget committees. In terms of ticketing too, we need to look at the issue of rationing. We need to make sure that our events are contained but also inclusive. Event access must have a system, if not price, to regulate the flow of ticketing or people involved. We do need to have some method of not having a flood for every event.

Amelia: How much are tickets generally?

Desmond: Anywhere from $15-$25 generally. Upwards of $50 for high quality events.

Michael: Another way to mitigate the onslaught of people instead of ticketing is the lottery system.

Desmond: If we combined general fund, senate, senior class budget, advocates, and affinity groups have half of our budget. Those are the groups we prioritize most. Amadeo is correct that the portion going to events is well under half.

Katherine: How much did the TNC cost you, and is that a sustainable amount for the rest of the TNCs?

Amadeo: Traditionally they cost about $400-$600. Recently, we had to have public safety there, so it was about $400 for decorations, $300 for pizzas, and $229.68 from confetti cannons, and then public safety and story house fees on top of that. Our goal is to keep it under $3k, but realistically I think we kept it under $2500. The line item for it was $3,500. I am asking DOS what needs to stay at our events. I am looking to hold more niche events, which allow us to be more creative and appealing to different groups of students. We cannot throw that budget costly event every week going forward. My events team mapped out the rest of the semester, after this week there will be one event hosted by either us or the 5cs hosted every week from here on out excluding fall break and finals week.

Desmond: I think we all agree some form of revenue generation will be the most helpful for both Sobe and Amadeo. This related revenue we won’t have to pay taxes on. The t-shirt or merchandise store will have to be an Exec conversation, as how we represent the school is something Exec needs to sign off on.

Amadeo: We need to make sure we are not undercutting our students. If we ticket, we should throw in a t-shirt. If we are selling stuff, they should get stuff in return.

Katherine: We can talk about this in Exec today, our agenda today is pretty small. Desmond if you could give approval from this committee about revenue business that would be cool.

Desmond: As a committee we don’t have any authority over something that is not budget lines. But we are the brainstorming organization for revenue building- so it is good we had this conversation. In terms of designs we can give kids joint rights as long as they do not infringe on our ASCMC design. We could credit them our merch- but we cannot pay them a cut of their funds. They could get a token gift, and hope the revenue far exceeds it.

Amadeo: Maybe we can create a waterfall system or something so that way students who really support us are not going to be turned away from our events. To do what we want to do we are going to have to bring in some kind of money from somewhere- hopefully not our students.