Spring 2017 GPSA Finance Committee  
Meeting Minutes

Date: 2017 February 14  
Location: Student Union Building, Trailblazer/Spirit Room  
Presiding Committee Member: Travis Scholten  
Present Committee Members: Travis Scholten, Brian Mackie-Mason, Hahn Nguyen, Joe Raborn  
Absent Committee Members: None

1 Opening

Meeting called to Order at 1246  
Roll call of committee members was taken.  
Agenda Approval: Agenda approved unanimously.  
Approval of Minutes: The FC unanimously approved the minutes of its 2017 January 17 meeting.

2 Preliminary Business

2.1 Media and Gallery  
No media and gallery.

2.2 Chair Reports  
Rep Scholten provided a brief report on the Finance Working Group, and its progress to date.
2.3 Budget Revisions

No budget revisions were discussed at this time.

3 Business Items

3.1 Appropriations Request: SP 2017-002 - Iranian Student Association

The Iranian Student Association presented a request to help offset the costs associated with holding a traditional new year celebration on March 26th. The event will be held in the SUB ballroom. The Association verbally requested an amendment to their request as submitted to the Committee, in the amount of $500 for “Food and Refreshments”, and $300 for “Honorarium”.

Rep Nguyen moved to reduce line item 1, “Advertising” to $50, per the Standing Rules. Seconded by Rep Raborn. Motion passed unanimously.

Rep Nguyen moved to approve line item 4, “Copying Services”, as requested. Seconded by Rep Raborn. Motion passed unanimously.

Rep Nguyen moved to approve line item 6, “Food and Refreshments”, at $300. Seconded by Rep Raborn. Motion passed unanimously.

Rep Nguyen moved to create line item 7, “Honorarium”, funded at $250. Seconded by Rep Raborn. Motion passed unanimously.

Rep Nguyen moved to approve line item 11, “Other”, at $100, conditioned in the Iranian Student Association providing positive verification of their ability to use storage space in the SUB. Rep Mackie-Mason seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Rep Raborn moved to approve the request as amended. Seconded by Rep Nguyen. Motion passed unanimously.

3.2 Appropriations Request: SP 2017-003 - Women in Computing

The Women in Computing group presented a request to help them co-sponsor a Computer Science conference at UNM. Normally, this conference is funded by the Computer Science Graduate Student Association. To help increase attendance, the CSGSA has partnered with WIC, which necessitates the use of more funds. The conference will take place over one day, with a keynote speaker in the morning, lunch and dinner provided, and an evening demo session.

Rep Nguyen moved to approve line items 6 and 7, “Food and Refreshments” and “Honorarium”, as requested ($300/$250). Seconded by Rep Raborn. Motion passed unanimously.

Rep Mackie-Mason moved to approve request as amended. Seconded by Rep Nguyen. Motion passed unanimously.

3.3 Appropriations Request: SP 2017-004 - Spanish and Portuguese Student Association

A representative from this group was not in attendance, so the FC chose to defer action on its request until its next meeting.

3.4 Determination of A Second Appropriations Hearing in April

Rep Scholten informed the FC that the remaining deadlines for submitting an appropriations request are February 28 and March 31. Citing the fact Council will be meeting on April 29 and May 6, Rep Scholten inquired as to whether the Committee wanted to hold two appropriations hearings in April. After discussion, the FC declined to do so.

3.5 Determination of March and April Meeting Times

The FC decided to set the remaining dates for its appropriations meetings as March 7 and April 11, both at 10:00 AM. Rep Scholten will coordinate with the GPSA Chief of Staff to find a room to meet in.

4 Discussion Items

The FC discussed several topics, detailed below. As discussion items are for discussion only, no official committee action was required.

4.1 Update on FY 2018 Budget Process

The FC met with Ivy Duewall, of SGAO, to discuss the FY 2018 budget process. Ivy indicated they would like access to the budget applications; Rep Scholten said he is managing that documentation through the OneDrive account associated with the Finance Committee Chair’s UNM email address, and would share the link with SGAO once the deadline has passed.
Rep Scholten asked whether SGAO holds spending workshops during the summer, and Ivy indicated they did.

Regarding the budget hearings, Ivy suggested the FC prepare a document for student groups to take with them after the deliberations, outlining how the remainder of the process. Further, telling groups when FY 2018 starts would be useful.

Rep Scholten told the FC that the hearings schedule would be finished between the 17th at 5:00 PM and Monday the 20th. Student groups will have 2 days to suggest any changes, at which point the schedule will be finalized.

5 Closing

5.1 Chair Comments and Future Meetings

No comments. The next FC meeting is scheduled for 2017 March 7, at 1000, room to be determined.

5.2 Committee Member Comments

No comments.

5.3 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1422.

6 Appropriations Summary

At this meeting, a total of $3153 dollars was requested (including SP 2017-004; $1750 excluding) and spending in the amount of $1400 was recommended by the Finance Committee. From correspondence with SGAO, the most recent estimate of the General Fund’s balance through 2017/06/30 is $48,680.50. This estimate was computed as of 2017 February 7.