

## COSAF Meeting, April 21, 2017

### Summary of Comments

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#### **THE GREEN INITIATIVE FUND (TGIF), Annual Report**

Please provide your feedback regarding **The Green Initiative Fund** Annual Report and presentation:

- I agree that it could be a concern that they had the funds before they were ready to distribute them. But as long as we have oversight over them over time, we can still keep them accountable
- TGIF is a wonderful program, however because it is a new program on our campus it took the first year to set up. No funds were allocated, yet ~\$200,000 was collected. Therefore it would be great if for future student fees a graduated model was used (similar to that employed by FACE and the ARC), where a percentage of the first fee was collected until the governing committee was set up and the money could actually be used. This would prevent student paying the full fee, then graduating without receiving the benefits.
- The TGIF should announce the awardees' list to the students and the awardees should provide the reports to student and explain how these awards benefit to students.
- The planners seem to be doing well in setting up a process for gathering applications and distributing awards for TGIF, including the professional fund manager. One thing not focused on that much in the presentation was advertising; though it was mentioned, I hope that they make use of as many campus organizations as possible to help spread the word.

#### **STUDENTS OF COLOR CONFERENCE - PRESENTATION**

Should the **Students of Color Conference** receive funding from the Division of Student Affairs in order to support their event?

- Yes, because they are doing something very important for the community. However, the funding should not be permanent because the budget is discretionary, and we cannot promise them funding for sure until we know that we will have enough every single year. Also, their request for eventual increase in funding due to increased participation is a concern as the Student Affairs budget is not as large as expected.
- **Yes** I think SOC should receive funding. But I recommend taking fewer students to the conference. The ill effects of taking fewer students could be offset by having debriefing spaces with SOC participates (after the conference) that include student government representatives. The debriefing spaces on campus could focus on how to translate what participants learned at the SOC conference into the UC Davis campus community and greater community. I do support this issue but find it unreasonable that costs associated with taking ~100 students
- Yes, but not the full amount. The SOC conference is a wonderful way for our campus community to get involved and support a large identity of our campus. However, they request of over \$14,000 to send 56 students to a conference. It would not be sustainable for Student Affairs to fund this each year. The cost of 10-20 students is more reasonable for a recurring funding. Also, it would be wonderful if a proportional number of grads and undergrads were funding to go to such conferences.
- Yes. Make the participant selection process transparent for applicants.
- Considering that Student Affairs has funded almost all (save for a few thousand dollars) costs for the conference in the past years, the increase requested is reasonable.

### **MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE AND AWARENESS MONTH - PRESENTATION**

Should the **Mental Health Conference and Awareness Month** receive funding from the Division of Student Affairs in order to support their event?

- Yes, but they should also be required to match funding from other sources including sponsorships. The Native American Symposium is a great example of that as they only need \$1000 instead of needing Student Affairs to cover the whole cost. Again, the Student Affairs is still not a sustainable source of funding for them. If they are looking for a secure pipeline, Student Affairs can perhaps look into guaranteeing a minimum amount and the rest of have to be raised through alternative means.
- **Yes**, mental health is an important issue. The potential life saving power of having an event like this that seeks to destigmatize mental health far outweigh the costs associated. More objectively, the organizers of this event have shown they have exhausted fundraising efforts, maxed out with using personal connections, and engaged in interesting club finance opportunities – this effort should be rewarded with at least 1/3 permanent funding.
- Yes, but not the full amount. Mental Health is extremely important to emphasize on campus. However I am concerned that the conference (1 day) only serves 150-200 students, but is 4 times as expensive as the whole awareness month (30 days) which serves ~4,000 students. I do not think it is sustainable for SA to fund \$22,00 dollars each year from discretionary funds, but think a one time grant is a good idea. The future structure of the event and where the budget comes from should be discussed by Adela and the board putting on the event. I suggest it becomes an annual event that the University is responsible for financially.
- Yes. They should develop the strategies to identify the students who have the mental issues.
- The conference seems to have made good progress considering that it began so recently. From what we have seen they have shown that they would make good use of the funding requested. The total amount is a fair amount, though, so scrutiny should be maintained. Perhaps feedback, such as how many people have heard about the conference and how people view the efficacy of the conference, can be collected independently and reviewed.