



# Students Making Funding Decisions for Students

A Love Story

April, 2017

# Student (Em)powerment

- Student Government Association (SGA)
  - Based on the American system of government's three branches
  - Over 90 officers of the SGA, majority of which are in the Senate
    - Every undergraduate student at the university is a member of the SGA
- What does SGA actually achieve on campus?
  - Represents student interests and concerns to administration
  - Also acts in an administrative function to all ESO's, and as a service provider to students

# Shared Governance

- We are administrators too?
  - SGA builds itself on meeting the needs of over 250 different organizations on campus
    - 12 agencies that have large financial needs
    - Fluctuating (but growing) number of Registered Student Organizations
    - SGA serves as the ultimate authority on issues concerning these groups
- And a service provider
  - New Academic Oversight service (through the Senate)
  - Bike share service
  - Conduct advisors

# Student Activities Trust Fund

- Every undergraduate pays into the fund through a mandatory fee
  - This fee is the primary funding source for most groups
    - Fee is currently \$131, has not increased in two years
    - Means the fund is replenished at a rate of around \$2.8 million per year
    - Funds that are not spent by groups in a given year carry over to the next fiscal year
    - Last year, \$3.1 million allocated by the Senate Ways and Means Committee

# Where does the money go

**\$3.1 million**

## RSO's

- \$800,000 (Larger this year)
- Over 200 separate groups
- Average RSO receives between \$3,500-\$4,000
- Split between 9 separate councils

## Agencies

- \$1.3 million
- Largest spender of SATF money
- Provide services to the student body
- Notable examples: SLSO, Daily Collegian, WMUA

## Administrative

- \$800,000
- Finance Reserves
- Spring Concert Fund
- Pays for salaried employees of certain ESO's
- SORC (New agency this year)

# Allocation of funds – Senate Ways and Means Committee

- Considers all budget requests from eligible Agencies and RSOs
- Goes through a standardized budgeting process where:
  - Groups submit budgets that SAI advisors approve
  - Club councils oversee and create recommendations for funding
- From here, Ways and Means..
  - Cut restricted budget line items (T Shirts, food, firearms, etc)
  - Make a percentage cut on every group based on voting criteria
  - Choose category cuts to ensure SATF solvency (Creates S-1)
  - SGA Senate votes on and approves the S-1 Budget Act

# Revenue

- Student groups spend more than \$3.1 million a year
- Groups raise their own revenue
  - Many groups achieve this via club dues
    - Especially relevant in our Club Sports council, which raise/spend more than any other council
  - Other groups fundraise (Think Campus Center Concourse & Crowd Sourcing)
  - This revenue money is still spent through the university system, through revenue accounts
  - Ensures responsible spending, safety under the University umbrella, and tax breaks
  - Allows for certain spending on food, clothing, and giveaways items

# Emergent situations

- Finance Committee
  - Allows for groups to meet emergent needs, both large and small
  - Allocated \$40,000
  - Is the budget request professional, use revenue, and achieve their mission
  - Account usually runs dry at the end of the year
- Grants
  - ECSA Grants (provided through SAI)
  - Art Council Grants
  - RHA, NRHH, other student organizations
  - Assistance from academic departments



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