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
    o 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