76TH Student Senate
Resource for Travel Allocations Committee

Call to Order:
Members Present: Chair Bevis, Vice Chair Vandermeulen, Lydiah Gracia, Senator Goldstein, Senator Lansdale
Members Tardy:
Members Absent: Kory Gehring, Tory Kim
Guests:

Opening Remarks:
- Chair
  - Land Acknowledgement
    - The Student Government of Florida State University acknowledges that it is located on land that is the ancestral and traditional territory of the Apalachee Nation, the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida, the Muscogee Creek Nation, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. We pay respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to their descendants and to all Indigenous people. We recognize this land remains scarred by the histories and ongoing legacies of settler colonial violence, dispossession, and removal. In spite of all this, and with tremendous resilience, these Indigenous Nations have remained deeply connected to this territory, to their families, to their communities, and to their cultural ways of life. We recognize the ongoing relationships of care that these Indigenous Nations maintain with this land and extend our gratitude as we live and work as humble and respectful guests upon their territory. We encourage all to learn about and educate others on the contemporary work of the Indigenous Nations whose land we are on and to endeavor to support Indigenous sovereignty in all the ways that we can.
- Vice Chair
- Members

Committee Business:
- Medical Brigades FSU
  - Application Link:
  - Name of Event: Medical Brigades FSU
  - Preliminary Remarks:
    - Asking for
      - Registration: $0

- Car Rental: $0
- Mileage: $100
- Airfare: $739
- Lodging: $1400
- Other: $0
- Total: $2239
- Date of Event: 3/10/24-3/16/24
    - Number of Active Members: 64
    - Number Traveling: 64
    - RSO Presentation:
- Questioning/Notes
    - Medical Brigades is an international nonprofit organization with over 200 chapters around the world
    - FSU will be doing two brigades since there is so much interest for one in Panama
    - Almost all the volunteers are FSU students, with related majors
    - The Greece brigade flight price has decreased
    - Goldstein: Can you clarify the fundraising deadline?
        - Rep: January 3rd was more of a deadline for letting us know who is going on the trip.
    - Goldstein: If you were not to receive full funding, how would you pay for it? Would each volunteer be paying?
        - Rep: Each volunteer pays for the flight, and they have been doing their own fundraising efforts.
    - Goldstein: What is the total amount of fundraising?
        - Rep: I do not off the top of my head but I can send it after the meeting. Probably around $500 to $800.
    - Bevis: You're only asking for funding for FSU students, correct?
        - Rep: Yes.
    - Bevis: Can you clarify the lodging price?
        - Rep: Our lodging is paid for through our donation goal.
    - Goldstein: If we funded any of this, would that go towards the donation goal?
        - Rep: We paid for everything altogether. Whatever is funded from you guys, would go toward reducing the prices.
    - Gracia: The total funding you requested was for 58 people, not 64?
        - Rep: Two people actually left, so now it's 62. There are four independent volunteers.
    - Gracia: The $2239 that you're asking for, is that for the entire group or is that an individual price?
        - Rep: That's the individual price for each volunteer.
    - Goldstein: Is there anything in particular that you would prefer we funded?
        - Rep: Whatever you guys fund, I'm going to distribute evenly among the volunteers.
- Motion: Goldstein motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Vandermeulen seconded.
- **Deliberations:**
    - Goldstein: That all adds up really quick. It would end up around $4350.
    - Bevis: I agree, and I don't know if we have the money to do that today.

- - - Goldstein: I don't know if we can fund them at all. The impact doesn't seem like very much.
    - Vandermeulen: It definitely seems like too much. I don't see it.
  - Goldstein motioned to fund $0. Gracia seconded.
  - Goldstein motioned to call the question the line item. Gracia seconded.
  - Vote to fund $0
    - Yay: Goldstein, Gracia, Vandermeulen
    - Nay:
    - Abstain:
    - **PASS**

- American Society of Civil Engineers
  - Application Link
  - Name of Event: ASCE Southeast Student Symposium
  - Preliminary Remarks
    - Asking for
      - Registration: $3655
      - Car Rental $0
      - Mileage: $0
      - Airfare: $0
      - Lodging: $6274.18
      - Other: $0
      - Total: $8196
      - Date of Event: 3/21/24-3/24/24
    - Number of Active Members: 70
    - Number Traveling: 43 (FSU), 3 (FAMU)
    - RSO Presentation
  - Questioning/Notes
    - This is a three-day competition between southern engineering schools
    - We plan to do better than just the top 5 out of 19 schools this year
    - It allows students to build technical skills, and there are many companies present for judging
    - We had a lot more people participate when we hosted a few years ago
    - Goldstein: It says you're requesting for 36 registration fees but that 46 are coming, can you explain that difference?
      - Rep: I submitted it last semester, but the person in charge said that they didn't have money left and that we should reapply this semester. Later on that week, we had six more students say they wanted to attend.
    - Goldstein: I know this is a joint club, so is this just going to be for FSU students?
      - Rep: There are three FAMU students.
    - Bevis: Are those part of the people you're seeking funding for? Because if you are, I don't think we can provide funding for them.
      - Rep: Yes, just for the 43 FSU students.
    - Bevis: Can you walk us through some of the updated costs since what you last gave us?
      - Rep: We needed to add two hotel rooms, and the price of those was $1140.75, as well as six more registrations at $510. So taking

away the FAMU students would be $255 added for the registration.

- Goldstein: For those hotel rooms, are you also including the rooms the FAMU students are staying in?
  - Rep: Yes.
- Bevis: Can you walk me through the numbers I need to change on the line item?
  - Rep: The total would be $9029.18. The registration would be $3655. Lodging would be $6274.18.
- Bevis: How much would your hotel room cost per night?
  - Rep: It was $159 plus a $10 destination fee, so $169.
- Goldstein: What types of fundraising have y'all been able to do yourselves?
  - Rep: We get speakers to sponsor our chapters. Companies reach out to us and come to our general body meetings.
- Goldstein: Do you require SGA funding right now to make this trip happen?
  - Rep: We do not have the funding to be able to pay for this trip.
- Goldstein: Is this the cheapest hotel you were able to find?
  - Rep: After considering destination fees and overnight parking, the total cost ended up being much higher.

o Goldstein motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Vandermeulen seconded.
o **Deliberations:**
  - Goldstein: What are your thoughts on funding maybe half the registration fees?
  - Bevis: I'd be willing to give them a little bit of registration fees.
  - Goldstein: I'd be willing to pay for a portion of something.
  - Gracia: It would bring us to around $1700 if we were to pay for half their registration fees.
o Goldstein motioned to fund $40 per person under registration ($1720). Gracia seconded.
o Gracia motioned to fund $0 in lodging. Vandermeulen seconded.
o Vandermeulen motioned to call the question the line item. Gracia seconded.
o Vote to fund $1720 in registration and $0 in lodging.
  - Yay: Goldstein, Gracia, Vandermeulen
  - Nay:
  - Abstain:
  - **PASS**

- North Florida Chapter of the American Meteorological Society
  o Application Link
  o Name of Event: American Meteorological Society Annual Conference
  o Preliminary Remarks
    - Asking for
      - Registration: $4955
      - Car Rental $0
      - Mileage: $0
      - Airfare: $0
      - Lodging: $0
      - Other: $0

- Total: $4955
- Date of Event: 1/27/24-2/1/24
  - Number of Active Members: 66
  - Number Traveling: 26
  - RSO Presentation
- Questioning/Notes
  - This is the world's largest yearly gathering for the weather, water, and climate community
  - We have many members presenting their research
  - The funding is being requested to cover just the conference registration
  - Goldstein: Is every person going on the trip doing the basic $70 registration price?
    - Rep: Everyone wanted to do either just the student or both the student and the annual conference.
  - Goldstein: Would it be beneficial if the total $1820 was funded for just the base registration fee?
    - Rep: Yes, $165 is obviously a lot of money and a lot of our members can't pay that, especially on top of flights and hotels.
  - Goldstein: You guys got full funding last year?
    - Rep: We did.
  - Goldstein: Was it similar cost?
    - Rep: Yes, it was right around here. But we have more members attending this year.
- Goldstein motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Vandermeulen seconded.
- **Deliberations**
  - Goldstein: I'm not sure if the $165 is going to make or break whether or not they go on the trip. It sounds like they could still go on the trip if we funded $0.
  - Bevis: I agree. Also, I'm for funding them since we do have some money to spare.
  - Goldstein: Do you want to fully fund them or partially fund them?
  - Bevis: Definitely not fully fund. I was thinking somewhere around the $2000 range.
  - Goldstein: Our only bet is the fund some of the $70 registration fees.
  - Gracia: I agree with Jonus.
- Goldstein motioned to fund $70 per person ($1820 total). Vandermeulen seconded.
- Goldstein motioned to call the question the line item. Vandermeulen seconded.
- Vote to fund $1820 in registration
  - Yay: Goldstein, Gracia, Vandermeulen
  - Nay:
  - Abstain:
  - **PASS**

- Golden Anchor Society
  - Application Link
  - Name of Event: Mardi Gras Drill Meet
  - Preliminary Remarks
    - Asking for

- Registration: $270
- Car Rental: $0
- Mileage: $0
- Airfare: $0
- Lodging: $10,023.67
- Other: $0
- Total: $10,293.67
- Date of Event: 2/8/24-2/11/24
    - Number of Active Members: 38
    - Number Traveling: 14 (FSU), 14 (FAMU)
    - RSO Presentation
- Questioning/Notes
    - NROTC from both FSU and FAMU represent FSU at a large scale competition
    - It's an observable demonstration of discipline and teamwork
    - We're bringing about thirty people, so any funding would help
    - Gracia: How many did you say you were taking? The form said 28.
        - Rep: Thirty.
    - Goldstein: Can you clarify if the estimate is for just FSU students or for everyone?
        - Rep: That's for everyone.
    - Goldstein: Did you guys have any money set aside for this that will pay for this?
        - Rep: We don't fundraise through FSU. It's more through working the concession stands.
    - Goldstein: How much money do you have to spend on this?
        - Rep: Currently, we have around $20,000.
- Goldstein motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Gracia seconded.
- **Deliberations**
    - Bevis: Obviously, we can't do the registration fees because that would help some FAMU students. But I think we can fund any hotel rooms for FSU students.
    - Goldstein: Do you think with the way we're going, we'd be able to fund all of their lodging?
    - Bevis: It sounds like they have a decent amount of money.
    - Goldstein: I think we should fund about half of their lodging.
- Goldstein motioned to fund $0 in registration. Gracia seconded.
- Goldstein motioned to call the question the line item. Gracia seconded.
- Vote to fund $2505.92 in lodging and $0 in registration.
    - Yay: Goldstein, Gracia, Vandermeulen
    - Nay:
    - Abstain:
    - **PASS**

- SISTUHS, Inc
    - Application Link
    - Name of Event: SISTUHS ATL Service Trip
    - Preliminary Remarks
        - Asking for
            - Registration: $0

- Car Rental: $0
- Mileage: $0
- Airfare: $0
- Lodging: $1445
- Other: $4800 (bus transportation)
- Total: $6245
- Date of Event: 2/23/24-2/25/24
  - Number of Active Members: 65
  - Number Traveling: 56
  - RSO Presentation
- Questioning/Notes
  - We are mostly focused on improving the black community, especially women
  - We do lots of service and work with scholarships
  - From a financial standpoint, we are asking for a quarter of the housing
  - Bevis: How much fundraising have y'all done this year?
    - Rep: We did a lot of concessions at football games, so I believe we made about $4-5000. From regular programming, we probably made around $300.
  - Bevis: Where are you going to allocate the money that y'all fundraised?
    - Rep: $75 of each person's $85 in dues goes toward our national board. We pay $320 for our rental storage. For each of our committees, there're a budget. Community service is the highest, so we have $150 allocated to that.
  - Bevis: What area of your funding would you like us to prioritize if we're not able to fully fund?
    - Rep: Definitely transportation.
  - Goldstein: Was the opportunity to go on this trip spread to the public or is it just within your organization?
    - Rep: Just within the organization.
- Goldstein motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Gracia seconded.
- **Deliberations**
  - Gracia: We won't be able to do the entirety of transportation.
  - Bevis: I was thinking about half of the transportation.
  - Goldstein: I kind of want to fund $0 because of how much their organization sounds like Greek life, which I know it's not. But I'm fine with funding part of their transportation.
- Gracia motioned to fund $2400 in transportation. Goldstein seconded.
- Goldstein motioned to fund $0 in lodging. Gracia seconded.
- Vandermeulen motioned to call the question the line item. Gracia seconded.
- Vote to fund $2400 in bus travel
  - Yay: Goldstein, Gracia, Lansdale, Vandermeulen
  - Nay:
  - Abstain:
  - **PASS**

- Big Sister Little Sister
  - Application Link
  - Name of Event: Community Service Trip
  - Preliminary Remarks

- - - Asking for
      - Registration: $0
      - Car Rental: $0
      - Mileage: $0
      - Airfare: $0
      - Lodging: $8000
      - Other: $8000 (charter bus)
      - Total: $16,000
      - Date of Event: 3/29/24-3/31/24
    - Number of Active Members: 103
    - Number Traveling: 50-70
    - RSO Presentation
  - Questioning/Notes
    - We are a mentorship program teaching people to be self-sufficient
    - Anyone is welcome on this trip, members and non-members
    - We wanted to do our trip to Atlanta this year
    - Bevis: If we weren't able to fully fund you, would you still be able to do this trip?
      - Rep: I believe we could since we've had successful fundraising opportunities.
    - Bevis: How much fundraising have y'all been doing?
      - Last semester we did a lot of concessions and internal fundraising. We made around $2000 from concessions.
    - Bevis: Are y'all planning to allocate this or save it or what?
      - Rep: We have to allocate it to our banquet this semester. Also, each committee has two events a month, so we need it for that too.
  - Goldstein motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Lansdale seconded.
  - **Deliberations**
    - Bevis: I was going to suggest maybe $4000 to their lodging.
    - Lansdale: Yes, I was thinking funding a third of it.
    - Goldstein: Can we just put $2500 toward it then? So that it's a clean number.
  - Goldstein motioned to fund $2500 in lodging and to fund $0 for the rest. Lansdale seconded.
  - Goldstein motioned to call the question the line item. Lansdale seconded.
  - Vote to fund $2500 in lodging and fund $0 for the rest
    - Yay: Goldstein, Lansdale, Vandermeulen
    - Nay:
    - Abstain:
    - **PASS**

- Pre-Veterinary Club at FSU
  - Application Link
  - Name of Event: American Pre-Veterinary Medical Association Symposium
  - Preliminary Remarks
    - Asking for
      - Registration: $925
      - Car Rental: $0
      - Mileage: $0

- Airfare $2585
- Lodging: $492
- Other: $0
- Total: $4002
- Date of Event: 3/8/24-3/9/24
  - Number of Active Members: 65
  - Number Traveling: 5
  - RSO Presentation
  - Questioning/Notes
    - This year it's at North Carolina State
    - It's meant to expose veterinary students to the diversity of the profession
    - They provide networking opportunities
    - Lectures and labs are included throughout the event
    - Any student enrolled at FSU can be enrolled in our club
    - Anyone interested in finding a vet school is encouraged to attend
    - Flight to Raleigh prices change roughly every day, and there are options out of both Tallahassee and Orlando
    - Goldstein: If we weren't able to fund you, do you have any alternative like fundraising that would pay for this?
      - Rep: We did let members know it was possible we might not receive funding. But we are planning to do the share-it nights and the animal events that we did previously. Any funding would be beneficial to lowering the cost in general.
    - Goldstein: Is there an area you would prefer we prioritize?
      - Rep: Airfare.
    - Goldstein: Since only five students are going, was there a process of choosing these five or is that everyone who was interested?
      - Rep: It was just whoever was interested.
    - Bevis: How many people are staying per room?
      - Rep: For the lodging, it was going to be three and two.
  - Goldstein motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Lansdale seconded.
  - **Deliberations**
    - Lansdale: The airfare pricing out of Tallahassee is pretty expensive, so not very easy to put funding toward.
    - Bevis: Anyone have an idea of a range they would like to fund?
    - Goldstein: I don't really want to fund them. Plus, it's only five students, which doesn't seem fair.
    - Lansdale: The other groups did have a lot more people.
    - Goldstein: We also don't have a veterinary program at this school, so I don't know what we're trying to boost.
  - Goldstein motioned to fund $0. Lansdale seconded.
  - Lansdale motioned to call the question the line item. Goldstein seconded.
  - Vote to fund $0
    - Yay: Goldstein, Lansdale, Vandermeulen
    - Nay:
    - Abstain:
    - **PASS**

- MTNA @ FSU
  - Application Link

- o Name of Event: MTNA@FSU
- o Preliminary Remarks
    - ▪ Asking for
        - • Registration: $900
        - • Car Rental: $0
        - • Mileage: $0
        - • Airfare: $0
        - • Lodging: $3600
        - • Other: $0
        - • Total: $4500
        - • Date of Event: 3/16/24-3/20/24
    - ▪ Number of Active Members: 25
    - ▪ Number Traveling: 10
    - ▪ RSO Presentation
- o Questioning/Notes
    - ▪ We were first registered as a nonprofit professional organization
    - ▪ We have 27 members here at FSU, and there are 2000 nationally
    - ▪ We were voted the Collegiate Chapter of the Year
    - ▪ This event provides limitless opportunities for professional networking
    - ▪ Bevis: Do you know how much it would cost per night for your hotel?
        - • Rep: Including tax, it would cost $185 for one night.
- o Goldstein motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Lansdale seconded.
- o **Deliberations**
    - ▪ Bevis: The one thing for me is that they're all graduate students.
    - ▪ Goldstein: Can we put some proviso language on the funding that says we want at least one undergrad student to go?
    - ▪ Bevis: It sounds like COGS should be able to help them out.
    - ▪ Goldstein: Are we able to overfund them?
    - ▪ Bevis: Technically yes, but I don't recommend we do.
    - ▪ Goldstein: Well, I mean so they can bring an undergrad. Or maybe we can fund about 75% of what they're asking.
    - ▪ Bevis: Also, I don't think we can pay for parking, which they're asking. But we can fund their hotels.
- o Lansdale motioned to approve the funding of $3255. Goldstein seconded.
- o Lansdale motioned to call the question the line item. Goldstein seconded.
- o Vote to fund $3255 in total
    - ▪ Yay: Goldstein, Lansdale, Vandermeulen
    - ▪ Nay:
    - ▪ Abstain:
    - ▪ **PASS**

- • National Association for Business Economics
    - o Application Link
    - o Name of Event: 40th Annual NABE Economic Policy Conference
    - o Preliminary Remarks
        - ▪ Asking for
            - • Registration: $0
            - • Car Rental: $0
            - • Mileage: $0
            - • Airfare: $2400

- Lodging: $800
- Other: $0
- Total: $3200
- Date of Event: 2/14/24-2/16/24
  - Number of Active Members: 35
  - Number Traveling: 8
  - RSO Presentation
- Questioning/Notes
  - We have a local FSU chapter here, and we are one of two economic organizations on campus
  - Guest speakers from different sectors in economics come in
  - NABE hosts two conferences each year
  - Flying out of Tallahassee is generally more expensive, and the alternative in Jacksonville
  - Bevis: How much is the hotel cost per night?
    - Rep: Normally, it's $319 a night, but they offer a $50 a night NABE discount.
  - Goldstein: What's your alternative if we cannot provide full funding?
    - Rep: I suppose we can request funding from the department of economics. If not, our main source would be out of pocket for the students.
- Goldstein motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Lansdale seconded.
- **Deliberations**
  - Goldstein: Their financials are really confusing to me. It seems like only a small portion of members pay dues.
  - Bevis: What funding do y'all have in mind?
  - Goldstein: I would like to fund them but they're not giving all the information I need, even though I know NABE does a lot for their mission. We should at least fund them something.
- Goldstein motioned to fund $1600. Lansdale seconded.
- Lansdale motioned to call the question the line item. Goldstein seconded.
- Vote to fund $800 to lodging, $800 to airfare
  - Yay: Goldstein, Lansdale, Vandermeulen
  - Nay:
  - Abstain:
  - **PASS**
-

Closing Announcements:
- Chair
  - Thank you for taking the time out of your day to step in and for being patient
- Vice Chair
  - None
- Members
  - None

Adjourned at 8:34pm

Signature of RTAC Chair: *Parker Bevis*