



**76TH Student Senate
Resource for Travel Allocations Committee**

Call to Order:

Members Present: Chair Bevis, Vice Chair Vandermeulen, Members Jose Collantes, Kelsey Strigler, Avery Cronin, Lauren Mayo

Members Tardy:

Members Absent: Lydiah Gracia, Tory Kim, Mario Zeron, Kory Gehring (Excused)

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:

- LEGO: Laboratory for Emotions in Groups and Organizations
 - Application Link:
 - Name of Event: European Congress of Sport and Exercise Psychology
 - Preliminary Remarks:
 - Asking for
 - Registration: \$6160

- Car Rental: \$0
 - Mileage: \$0
 - Airfare: \$18,080 (including \$480 train to Innsbruck)
 - Lodging: \$35,328
 - Other: \$0
 - Total: \$59,568
 - Date of Event: 7/13/24-7/21/24
- Number of Active Members: 30
- Number Traveling: 16
- RSO Presentation:
- Questioning/Notes
 - We are an organization all about sport psychology and trying to help athletes get to their optimal performance
 - FEPSAC is an international non-profit organization promoting scientific, educational, and professional work in sport psychology all tailored toward sport psychology
 - They used to have a conference every four years but now it's every two years to get more students to go
 - This year's theme is "performance under pressure"
 - It's held in Innsbruck, Austria this year in the middle of July for five days
 - They offer a lot of activities like city tours, which they had in Italy last time
 - Activities are options tied into the conference fee
 - Flights to Munich ended up being cheaper than going directly to Innsbruck, so it ended up at roughly \$1500 per person per flight
 - Unfortunately, the only option is two people to a room at European hotels
 - Right now, we have roughly 10 people willing to go
 - We did an info meeting and put it on Nole Central to get people to understand what sport psychology is and how this can help them
 - We are currently in the middle of a fundraiser, a phonathon
 - All of us wanting to go are PhD students
 - Strigler: In the files you submitted, there was a quote from Jacksonville to Munich and then Innsbruck for \$913.50. Is there a reason that option wasn't chosen?
 - Rep: I looked at the prices again today and unfortunately they have increased. Flying to Munich does seem to be cheaper and it's only a two-hour train ride from Munich so we're actually saving some of that money. Innsbruck has a smaller airport so it would've been more expensive. I wanted to make sure we would have accurate numbers for this meeting.
 - Vandermeulen: You said you had 10 people interested and going and the request was for 16. Did the number recently go down? Could it go back up? Can you give me a picture of what that looks like right now?
 - Rep: For our intro meeting, we had 16 people interested. Because it is a reimbursement, a lot of people can't afford to fork out that money right away. So, from that 16, it went to 10. It may go up or down by one or two, and I can let you know as soon as possible. Some of us are planning on presenting our research and showing what FSU is doing. A lot of the people that are going are more PhD students because we have the funding and the research potential to explain everything that we're doing.

- Vandermeulen: For the lodging, how many people would be staying in each room?
 - Rep: Two people. They say it's a double but the beds are so small so we just thought it would be awkward if a student had to be that close to someone they don't know very well.
- Bevis: Is everyone going on this trip a graduate student?
 - Rep: For the majority, yes. I think we had some undergraduate interest, but unfortunately, they had to drop out.
- Bevis: How much money does your RSO have in its account?
 - Rep: We are a very new RSO. We just got started last year and haven't really understood how to do everything, so we haven't done fundraising to get resources for anything. So currently, we don't have any money in our account right now. But we are planning on significant fundraisers moving forward to help everyone who wants to go on this trip.
- Bevis: If you are not able to get the amount of funding you need (to be honest, we won't be able to fully fund), would you be able to walk with receiving a small portion of what you're requesting?
 - Rep: We recognize we're asking for a lot. Anything that you can give us would be helpful. We know it's an expensive trip. It would probably take some people out of consideration for going. But we are pretty committed to going.
- Bevis: If we do give you funding, are there areas you would like us to prioritize?
 - Rep: I would say transportation costs. The flights keep rising. Priority number two would be lodging and the conference fees would probably be last.
- Bevis: The transportation cost per person is all just for your flights, right?
 - Rep: Correct.
- Mayo: I had technical difficulties so I might have missed this, but what is the fundraising you guys have tried to help with the fees?
 - Rep: We're waiting on the go ahead from our director regarding phone numbers from alumni for our phonathon. I know that we have to get approval from Landis Green to do a fundraiser there. We're also wanting to do one potentially in April, like a "pie in the face." There's going to be multiple fundraisers we want to engage in. A phonathon can only get so much.
- Mayo: If you've done previous fundraising, do you have the numbers for that?
 - Rep: We're a newer RSO and we only became one last year. We're really just a lab. We don't do events or need money most of the time, so our fundraising doesn't really happen. The only reason we're asking for money now is because we want to go on this international conference and represent FSU. In the past, we haven't fundraised because we haven't felt the need to. So this is kind of a newer building block.
- Bevis: How did you pick who is going on this trip?
 - Rep: We don't really have an elimination process. It's more based on if someone shows interest in sport psychology, we're happy to have them. There were no dues to be paid. We just opened it up

to all FSU graduates and undergraduates to make sure everyone had the opportunity. Of course, it is a little biased toward sport psychology students. And if someone needed to drop out due to financial reasons or timeline reasons, we totally understood.

- Motion: Vandermeulen motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Mayo seconded.

- **Deliberations:**

- Bevis: You all saw my mock resolution. It's a very expensive trip and we might not be able to do a whole lot for them.
- Strigler: It kind of hit me in the wrong way that they've been an RSO for two years and they haven't tried to fundraise money at all. Knowing that they went on this trip before and saw the cost, came back from it, want to go on it again, and starting fundraising would make sense. We just didn't see that happening.
- Mayo: I'm going to second that a little bit. The fact that they haven't done fundraising and are asking for this much money is a little concerning. Fundraising is hard, but I feel like if there was some effort being shown on their end, it would've been less concerning given the amount.
- Vandermeulen: Overall, it does seem fiscally irresponsible because this is one of the biggest requests we've seen from what I can remember.
- Bevis: I'm pretty sure it's the biggest.
- Vandermeulen: The other thing I'm wondering is how low is too low for them to be able to afford it. On the application, the per head cost is already very high. To even go just a little bit lower than that, that's still a lot that's coming out of pocket.
- Mayo: Considering that it's now 10 people and dues aren't being charged, is it possible that they can come back to us with a different number?
- Bevis: Yes, they can come back with a different number for us. But now, you guys can give them a little money if you want to, but you can also zero fund if you feel more comfortable doing that.
- Vandermeulen: And it's in July so —
- Mayo: And there's no selection process to narrow it down?
- Bevis: There didn't seem to be a selection process. It seemed like if anyone wants to go they could. They did say they did have a preference for people doing the research they're presenting. Other than that, they did leave it open for the student body, which is a requirement to get funding.
- Mayo: I just feel worried that if we were to give them anything, out of \$60,000 it would basically be next to nothing.
- Collantes: I'm curious if we funded a small portion of such a big chunk of money, if they have a goal and if they think they can reach it.
- Mayo: I feel like I would want to know that no matter how much money we gave them, they would still go on this trip. It's just not a sense of security they gave me.
- Collantes: Exactly, that's what I was thinking.
- Mayo: Is there a way for them to have a better, more realistic breakdown? Some of the total costs for the categories just seem high.
- Bevis: The application was a little off from their presentation. I'm going to send you all a picture of the actual cost per person. You can see that would make it a lot lower.
- Mayo: That would bring the total to \$30,350, which is a decrease by half. I don't know, I feel like we need to come back to this to see what it's going

to look like with ten people. We should make it clear we'd be happy to hear them again with a better presentation.

- Motion: Mayo motioned to fund \$0. Strigler seconded.
- Motion: Strigler motioned to call the question the line item. Collantes seconded.
- Vote to fund \$0
 - Yay: Strigler, Mayo, Cronin, Vandermeulen
 - Nay:
 - Abstain:
 - **PASS**

- Sigma Tau Delta
 - Application Link
 - Name of Event: Sigma Tau Delta Centennial Convention
 - Preliminary Remarks
 - Asking for
 - Registration: \$0
 - Car Rental: \$0
 - Mileage: \$464.58
 - Airfare: \$0
 - Lodging: \$1496
 - Other: \$2088 (food), \$210 (airport parking)
 - Total: \$4218.58
 - Date of Event: 4/3/24-4/7/24
 - Number of Active Members: 80
 - Number Traveling: 14
 - RSO Presentation
 - Questioning/Notes
 - I'm asking to help fund 12 of our members in getting to this convention
 - This is an English convention where a bunch of fiction, poetry, nonfiction is presented together
 - We had 11 members submit papers and get accepted to present, but there are others who were not accepted and just attending with us
 - It's a four-day convention and we'll be flying out on the fifth day because of scheduling conflicts with the flights
 - We have already received some lodging, so you would only be funding lodging for 8 people
 - We have been marketing to the entire student body with Market Wednesday for the past two weeks, passing out flyers
 - Bevis: Could you clarify again what categories you're asking for?
 - Rep: We're asking for gas mileage, airport parking, lodging, and the food estimate.
 - Bevis: I just wanted to let you know that we can't fund parking and food. How much money does your organization have in its account?
 - Rep: We have \$400 in a separate account.
 - Bevis: If you don't get funding from us, what is your plan to still be able to attend this event?
 - Rep: We have all our undergraduate members applying for SCURC funding for the flight and registration. That will just be individually funded. I think there are also scholarships people are

receiving funding for. Our graduate students are also applying for funding from COGS.

- Bevis: Looking at your spreadsheet, you are taking three cars?
 - Rep: Yes.
- Bevis: Did you submit the quote for your hotel?
 - Rep: I believe so, yes.
- Strigler: Since we can't do the lodging and the food, you're asking for the lodging which is \$1496 and the mileage at \$464.58?
 - Rep: Yes. And I do want to make a quick note about the lodging. Originally, we were going to be in the Hilton because that's where the convention is, but their block filled up and we were moved to the Drury Inn as overflow. That's why the price changed from this week to last week.
- Motion: Collantes motioned to enter roundtable discussion. Strigler seconded.
- **Deliberations:**
 - Strigler: I did the math. They're only asking for \$1960.58, which is a lot less than they came with last week. They are working to fundraise. Two thousand is not very much for 14 people.
 - Vandermeulen: Did they say that two of the 14 were getting funding from elsewhere? I was a little lost on that part.
 - Bevis: They do have some graduate students on this trip who are getting funding from COGS.
 - Vandermeulen: Okay, and those students are part of the 14 then?
 - Bevis: Yes, but we're paying for them.
 - Vandermeulen: Right, so they're not included in the total. That makes sense now.
 - Mayo: How much is left of the budget?
 - Bevis: I calculated it earlier and it was just a little over thirty thousand, so we would still be doing pretty good.
- Motion: Mayo motioned to fully fund the \$1960.58 to lodging and mileage. Strigler seconded.
- Motion: Strigler motioned to call the question the line item. Vandermeulen seconded.
- Vote to fund \$1960.58 in lodging and \$0 in both mileage and registration
 - Yay: Strigler, Collantes, Mayo, Cronin, Vandermeulen
 - Nay:
 - Abstain:
 - **PASS**

Closing Announcements:

- Chair
 - I got texts a couple hours ago from people who couldn't make the meeting. It's all good if you can't make a meeting, but I am going to need to know more in advance. Because if we can't meet quorum, then I have to reach out to senators to take the spot of those who can't make it. So in the future, if you can't make it, I would prefer to know 24 hours in advance at the latest. If an emergency does come up, I get that. But if you can let me know beforehand, that's what I need and expect.
- Vice Chair
 - None

- Members
 - None

Adjourned at 8:05pm

Signature of RTAC Chair: *Parker Beris*