



**72nd Student Senate
Budget
February 25, 2020**

Call to Order: 8:06PM

Members Present: Dean, Diaz, Durham, Fahey, Haslett, Pedroso, Rowan, Schaler, Uddin

Members Absent:

Members Tardy: None.

Guests: Ryan Villacorta, Daniella Murcia

Announcements: N/A.

Committee Business: Bill 45, 46

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- **Bill 45.** A transfer of \$2000 from Senate Projects to RTAC
 - **Opening:** This bill is simple, our funding board is way over advertised, the average amount of requests is 5-7 this year, in prior years it was only 3-4. RTAC has not been given the budget boost it needs, to keep up with the advertisements. RSOs have gotten better at requesting, they have their data and reasonable requests. RTAC has \$9890 currently. They'll have \$2471 left over after the consent resolutions pass this week. These conferences that students go to offer them jobs, internships and many great opportunities. It is important that they have what they need. Yields 1:35.
 - **TNDQ:**
 - Durham:** How much is senate projects? \$11,000
 - Fahey:** How much money was given from central reserves? \$4000
 - Lavender:** How much will be left over from this week if the resolutions pass?
 - Villacorta:** \$2471

*Long moves to enter Roundtable Discussion
Fahey Seconds*

○ **Roundtable:**

Rowan: So there would be \$2471 left after the consent resolutions from this week pass.

Murcia: Point of clarification-Dani got 7 requests this week, she heard 3 requests this week. Murcia will have 3 next week.

Durham: I understand where yall are coming from. There should be a better way of dealing with this. This has been a discussion all year. Senate projects will use this money in another way.

Villacorta: I do wish senate projects could be used by senate projects. Senate projects money gets swept every year. One group getting \$2000 is very rare. We could get equal final information.

Haslett: How much total money was used by RTAC in the fall semester?

Villacorta: We are not sure.

Durham: Would you say that it's over 65%?

Rowan: How many requests do you think you'll get at the end of Spring?

Murcia: Looking historically, anywhere from 10-15. This transfer will make a difference, RTAC has definitely started to cut back a lot. The most we have given to one RSO is \$1600.

Durham: How much did RTAC start with at the beginning of the year?

Murcia: \$70,000.

Durham: This money would not enable you to run for another 14 weeks on \$2000.

Schaler: Can we take it out of PAC?

Murcia: PAC is having similar budgetary issues. We could take it out of PAC, but I wouldn't recommend it.

Rowan: If you could do the year over would you fund a lot of groups less, or the same?

Murcia: The decision is up to the committee. As the chair, I can not give my input.

Uddin: To address the PAC idea, it would not be helpful.

Villacorta: To be clear, I'm not a fan of going into senate projects. We are already in this situation, what's important is students going on their trips. I don't think students should be punished.

Uddin: When RSO's come in, some fundraise and some don't.

Lavender: The issue I have with this, is that if we take money from senate projects, we limit what senate projects money can do. Many new senators can do work, and if you limit the monetary pool, then they are not able to do their work.

Villacorta: I'm at RTAC every week, and I can see what \$2000 can do. They have been doing a lot of work to get things done. I don't think that the Budget committee should consider the work of the senate-elects who have ideas for senate projects. The work that RTAC is vitally important to these student groups. Every year and the previous year, groups are coming in and asking for money that will better their communities.

Durham: The argument I am hearing you all say, is that RTAC is being used at a much higher rate, but I can use the same argument for Senate Projects. Either way, you are taking from one pot or another.

Fahey: Is there a plan to make sure the money will be used in a fiscally responsible way?

Murcia: I write the number on the board, and then I subtract the number of the request so that all members can see the remainder on the board. Committee members will look on the board during deliberation.

Haslett: On the subject of accountability, I brought up these concerns before in Finance through legislation, and did not pass. It's clear RTAC is not prioritizing fiscal responsibility. RTAC is not supposed to exceed 50%, and they are around 70%. I proposed a bill that would have fixed this, and it did not go through Finance. Now is too late, they should have prepped months ago. This is irresponsible.

Murcia: The 50% rule only took place this semester. 1. Financial manual. 2. Communication, 3. Taking power away from students and given to senate

Villacorta: The PAC and RTAC consent resolutions go through Finance and then through Senate, it is the job of Finance and Senate to verify it is fiscally responsible. I would invite you to come to RTAC and tell the students to their faces and tell them the money was allocated differently. I think this is the best way to ensure that RTAC is functioning properly. This bill should not be used as a statement piece.

Schaler: At the end of the day, yall made your bed and now you need to lie in it. I'll go in there and tell them that while I haven't gone to RTAC meetings, RTAC also wasn't fiscally responsible.

Villacorta: If you haven't been doing that. The students pay us and we reallocate it. I personally think that this is disgraceful. Go to Pac and RTAC

Fahey: I move to call to question

Rowan Second.

- **Closing:** Thanks guys for hearing the bill, it was a great debate. I have said everything that I need to say. Feel free to talk to the students directly. Make sure you interact with your funding boards and the students directly. PAC and RTAC have direct interaction with the student body. We help make sure that students have. I look forward to hearing proposals. *Yields remainder of time.*

Vote

Y - Diaz, Scahler,

N - Durham, Fahey, Haslett, Pedroso, Lavender, Long, Rowan

A - Uddin

Bill fails.

- **Bill 46.** A transfer of \$750 from OGA food category to expense.
 - Opening: Durham: Hey guys, I am on the board for OGA. Every year we help put on FSU Day at the capitol. OGA has to give money for OGR. We went from giving \$6000 to \$5000. We do not have \$5000 in expenses. We are not paying the vendor, we are paying the Office of Governmental Relations. We are supplying a letter. Yields 3 minutes to question

- TNDQ:
Lavender: Just to clarify this is money that has already been allocated?
Haslet moves to roundtable
Rowan seconds
Haslett: I don't have an issue, but I do not like the pre of promising money and then figuring out the money later.
Durham: I understand that, It was not OGA promising them money, OGR needed \$5000 to put on the event.

Fahey: Move to call the question
Rowan: seconds

Bill Passes.

- **Closing:** Thank you guys!

Vote

Y - Diaz, Fahey, Haslett, Pedroso, Lavender, Long, Rowan, Uddin, Schaler

N - N/A

A - N/A

Bill 46 passes.

Fahey moves to adjourn.
Long seconds.

Unfinished Business: None.

Final Announcements:

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Budget will meet next Tuesday, March 3rd in Globe 2600 at 8:00 PM.

Adjourned: 8:57 PM