

Funding Committee Meeting 3/18/24

Present: Precious Batubo [GSO-T/Geoscience], Mary McMahon [Communicative Disorders], Kevin Torgersen [Biology], Morgan Burroughs [Music], John Miller [Physics], Abdel Garbie [Mechanical Engineering], Sabreelyn Villalpondo [Counselor Education], Sohel Ahmed [Industrial Technology], Ahmed Hossain [Civil Engineering], Silver Damigoru [Petroleum Engineering], Tyrone Wilson [Architecture], Bilal Khan [English], Monzur Murshed [Mathematics]

Began at 2:56

Review Budget Spreadsheet

- Precious reviewed the applications GSO received to be voted upon at the second GSO meeting.
- We reviewed the amount we currently have and the amount we could add if we choose to vote on a supplemental budget.
- Precious proposed a vote to include a supplemental budget (50% of the total encumbrance). It was voted upon to add a supplemental budget with a vote of 11 in favor and 1 opposed.
- The Tier System was discussed, and one representative mentioned that although the Tier System came from the State of Louisiana, the State no longer uses this system. He proposed that we look into updating our system to match the State's current system at the next general meeting.

Funding Opportunities – Grad school doctoral grant

- Discussion occurred regarding the possibility of excluding doctoral students from applying for the travel grants since doctoral students can access specific doctoral grants. It was discussed that in some departments, only PhD students are travelling to present research, and a request was made to investigate the numbers of PhD versus master's students who apply for GSO funding from year's past. It was proposed to look into ranking the master's students above the PhD students at each meeting to give priority to master's students. Further discussion throughout this semester will continue regarding this matter.
- The fact that some graduate students are not assessed the GSO fee was discussed regarding that anyone can apply for funding regardless of if they pay a GSO fee.

Funding Opportunities – Funding ideas Google form

- Raising the GSO fee was discussed as a form of increasing our funds.
- Fundraising.

Q/A

- A representative asked about Graduate Student Appreciation Week regarding the past year's provision of donuts by the Graduate School.
- There will be a Trivia Night on Friday hosted by Graduate School in celebration of Graduate Student Appreciation Week.

Adjournment was proposed by John Miller and seconded by Abdel Garbie.

Meeting adjourned at 3:49.