GSO Funding Committee Meeting #3

Meeting Minutes

1) Opening Remarks
    a. Introduction and meeting objectives
2) Discussion of Applications
    a. New Applications for Meeting 3.
        i. 9 applications were received for travel category.
        ii. Mehren Moghadam's application(s)
            1. He requested ~3000 dollars, which was unique but very useful.
                a. We need to understand how much a student actually needs, when it comes to travelling. We get comments about how even 500 dollars isn't enough for registration let alone for lodging.
            2. Supplies applications: some good some bad.
                a. Received applications that can be funded; field supplies.
                b. Received applications that cannot be funded; dissertation books without evidence of the book unavailability.
            3. Dissertation printing applications
                a. Approved for all (2 applications).
            4. No professional development applications were received.
            5. Katarina's application for Programming or "Events".
                a. Her event in regards for disability awareness was agreed by the funding committee to be valuable for graduate students.
                b. However, given her previous travel application which was approved earlier in the semester, she is not to be funded.
                    i. Disagreements arose from this decision. However, funding committee agrees that the Katarina's "events" application will not be funded, as the by-law states that a student is limited to $500 a semester.
    b. Old Applications
        i. 12 applications from meeting 2 that were not initially funded are now funded by the supplemental budget of 8000 dollars; 5400 dollars of which is allocated to travel category.
        ii. However, 14 applications from meeting 2 were not funded.
        iii. Complaints received:
            1. Delay of communication: Given the supplementary budget inclusion, delay of communication is expected. Working better on it.
                a. We needed to make a list of applications that could be funded via different sources. Extra screening was required.
    c. Bylaw Change Review
        i. Renaming and Details of the "Events" category.
            1. Talked further about it. No changes from the previous discussion in Funding meeting #2.
        ii. Application Procedures for Funding Categories.

1. Making sure that applicants submit separate applications for each funding category they are requesting. Wording changes but the funding committee still agrees on this emphasis change in the bylaw.
    d. Let's talk.
        i. Open discussion.
            1. I want to hear about any complaints and comments.
                a. Some complaints received about one rep was the first-come-first-serve basis that we have for our applications. This is a rule that we need to have to ensure fairness. Furthermore, priority of "fund the small applications first then fund the large ones" and vice versa.
                    i. Ex: fund $100 first then fund the $500, regardless of which one came first.
                        1. Some can argue the other way around.
                            a. First come first serve is the only way to make the application process simple and fair.