**Budget Committee Meeting**

Sunday, September 6, 2021

“The Bubble”

5:00 pm

Sam Harrison

Desmond Mantle

Caroline Bullock

Jon Joey Telebrico

Theo Siasat

Peyton Ogasawara

Cindy Lay

Amadeo Cantu

Absent: Katherine Almendarez

Non-voting Senate member: Jackson Aldrich

Desmond: First order of business, I am working on some transparency things so clubs can access their budget easier. I am improving that access. We have yet to do the 5c club allocations. Normally 5c club funding is typically done in June, but this year it will be done this week. It should be a relatively straightforward experience for me. Pomona has some new rules which may mean that I am taking up some of the ‘riskier’ expenses.

I have just given Caroline the link to the budget which will be posted onto the website.

Amadeo: Over a meeting with DOS this summer, I was doing budget analysis. I was looking at our costs and on average 25-33% of the events budget for the year goes to security and EMTs. My budget is about 26% of the ASCMC event. Students end up paying about $95 dollars for 10 or more events, making it less than $10 an event. Where do you guys think I can pull money from? Campus security wages went up. Sharon said that the college cuts ASCMC a check for the security costs, but I have not heard of that at all. I have been brainstorming other ways to make money from external sources, but students might not be happy about that considering they already have to pay a student activities fee. After I take out public safety costs, I am left with minimal money to throw parties that are supposed to be grandiose.

Desmond: There is a new expense here which is the increasing cost of public safety and EMTs. I will bring this up in my next meeting with MK, we can talk with them about how much we need to absorb. In terms of maximizing stuff, COVID has made things not happen, so by selectively cutting down or toning down things, we can make other events more grandiose. We cannot increase your budget right now because it is unconstitutional and would take money away from clubs.

Amadeo: I can name more than 8 clubs right now that have had either double or triple their budget. So what is the explanation why so many clubs got 60-120% budget increase? 40k increase in club spending.

Desmond: One big thing that happened is that we were directed by DOS to stop funding affinity groups based off of population and club members. I am proud of that; CMC is an inclusive place. Affinity groups are the big thing. The other big thing is that Jon Joey got a double discretionary to help with new clubs being chartered as we move back on to campus. If budget committee choses to, we can rescind the increase of his discretionary. Tell your team that it was an imperative from DOS.

Sam: We came up with these numbers last year and now they are set in stone. We can get creative with where you can pull money from. Draw money from a lot of different sources. That is how we have voted to set the budget in the past. Creativity is key.

Cindy: I think one thing we can do is that people can pull from discretionary funds. Now it sounds like there is no way to add more to the activities budget. One way for TNCs is to partner them with clubs, or just let them happen naturally.

Amadeo: In terms of our first TNC, I made the executive call to not buy alcohol. Since we doubled the club fund, we should dip into their funds. I have the lowest budget I have ever had with the greatest number of students in recent history. So many students have all of these crazy expectations about the CMC parties. We need to save our budget for things we can’t get it funded from other places. We have to get creative, selling shirts. I understand that I should have spoken up more in April, but I was not going to do that regarding our political culture. At the end of the day, I am trying to have all the students get the bang for our buck, it is my victory lap.

Cindy: I need money for supplies for elections.

Desmond/Sam: We can probably find that from infrastructure.

Desmond: What do we have for Amadeo?

Sam: I can follow up with the yearbook guy and squeeze some money from him. It is really variable as to how much we are going to get from that.

Theo: Since we doubled funding for affinity groups, I think affinity groups should cosponsor some TNCs.

Desmond: Good point, SAGA could do a disco night, APAM could do a K-Pop night.

Amadeo: How do you guys feel about charging for shirts?

Sam: I think it is fine as long as they are aware.

Cindy: They could also go through DOS so students could get their shirts paid for if they cannot afford it.

Desmond: Just let me know how much revenue you earn and how much money you spend, so I can alter our taxes accordingly. I need itemized receipts for everything. Venmo works, so does other sources so long as I have an itemized receipt that shows money was spent on the approved request.

Anything else we want to tackle?

Jackson: Can we dip into the surplus?

Desmond: I want to do some rollover budgeting to keep funding clubs and keeping the student fee low. You can overrule me, but I want to try to work with the budget we have.

Sam: Partnering with Clubs is a good idea. That way you can pull from ADHOC and general.

Amadeo: Our team is talking about meshing together the first TNC and 601. Toga has been dissolved. It is frustrating because we have no control over whether or not we have to pay for EMTs. That is up to DOS.

Desmond: Without Toga you have an extra $6k, and you have ADHOC. Tap into affinity groups and Advocates because they have a ton of money. Have them front some other costs like table set up, food costs, not just the typical water they distribute. I will support you in that as you try to come to negotiations with the clubs.

Amadeo: Motion to adjourn

Sam: Seconded

Meeting ends at 5:42 pm