Project Description: ASUA Club Funding Budget
Student Services Fee Application

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How this supports student priorities

Club Funding was identified by 1142 respondents in the 2009 survey as on of the top five choices for funding by the Student Services fee, and was also ranked in the top five priorities of 2007 surveys. However, the greater role of club funding lies in the actual application of current club funding allocations. ASUA has contributed to causes ranging from cadaver dissections for Anatomy Enthusiast Society to cancer advocacy with Relay for Life.

Our mission is to measure funding contributions based on their proposed benefit to the campus community, as determined by the application process and the evaluation of the ASUA Appropriations Board.

Anticipated impact

Audience: ASUA serves 500+ recognized graduate and undergraduate clubs and organizations, and has heard 131 funding applications this fiscal year so far. Unfortunately, we will soon face a reality late spring that funding budgets will be exhausted, and we will once again be limited to serving only about 150 clubs total for 2008-2009. There is a dire need for increasing funding for clubs on campus, as identified through these existing surveys, and through the actual demand seen by Club Resource Center, who turns away countless groups late spring and summer months.

Demand: Thus far, ASUA has granted $69,256.69 in funding of the $234,387.59 total requested so far. This disparity indicates that $165,130.90 of requested club funding was not given to clubs and organizations, because of our limited budget. $165,130.90 was deprived from projects that our club leaders needed to have successful events. This amount only refers to groups that processed applications, and as previously mentioned, many more are turned away once budgets are exhausted.

My favorite way to illustrate this injustice is with my experience at the 2008 COSGA student government conference. I had attended a breakout session on club funding and the challenges faced with budget policies, and the 20 some other universities represented complained about the strains on their million dollar budgets for campuses half our size. I challenge the board to consider any other peer institution, as I promise you will find budgets that far exceed our current resources. Even ASU boasts a budget of $500,000 for undergraduate clubs.

Overlap: Overlap is minimal since ASUA is the primary source for club funding. While smaller student councils such as the Rec Advisory Board, Engineering Student Council, and GPSC do provide some funding, ASUA by far serves the most organizations each year. We have a successful and efficient system built on our strong relationship with clubs and organizations. Most importantly, our process is transparent and backed by an appeals process that is supported by our constitution and the ASUA Supreme Court.

Outcome: All funding allocations are carefully measured and tracked through funding requests and minutes of the Appropriations Board. I’ve attached this year’s allocations to help demonstrate the careful record keeping that is maintained to ensure that allocations are effective and consistent with our policies.

Thank you for your consideration, my email is asuaevp@email.arizona.edu if you have any further questions or require any other information.