

Finance Committee Minutes

9-28-2009

11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

ILS Request

ILS wants \$275 for an event they held on September 8, 2009 entitled, "ILS: Lecture on Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the US". They also requested \$175 for an event they held on September 1, 2009 called "Introduction to the International Law Society". The expected number of attendance was 90 and 75, respectively.

The main concern with these two requests was the precedent that is being set for future requests. Organizations are supposed to submit requests before they hold an event. There is a large amount of money this year set aside for speaker events and travel. We decided that when an organization requests funding for an event they held in the past, we are going to ask for copies of receipts to ensure that the amount of money requested was actually spent. We are also going to ask that organizations provide us with the actual amount of students who attended. We also discussed guidelines for expenditures on food. We are going to wait until our next finance committee meeting to discuss food expenditure guidelines. We went ahead and recommended the full amount for both requests, but in the future we are going to ask organizations to provide us with proof and expenditures and an actual amount of people in attendance. This will only be for speaker requests that occur after the event was held.

Federalist Society

Their first request is for a mentorship reception they are having in partnership with BLS and they are asking for \$200. The request is for alcohol at the event and they are spending \$100 of their own money. They are expecting 60 people and the event will take place on October 22, 2009. We are going to recommend the request, but we are concerned with a precedent being set on the amount of money being spent per person on alcohol. We are going to set some guidelines at our next finance committee meeting concerning the ideal amount that should be spent per person on alcohol. We plan on looking at exactly what Sodexo charges.

They have another request for \$500 for an event in which Attorney General John Suthers is coming to talk about the role of the Attorney General. The event will take place on October 22, 2009. We are recommending \$300 because they have co-sponsorship with DU Law Review and Business Law Society. They also have a balance of \$1,799.64 in their account, with nothing major planned this year. The only events they plan on having (according to their request for funds at the end of last year) are a debate each semester and a welcome back event in the fall. Their proposed costs for these events do not come close to their current balance.

ABA Regional Conference – Cassandra Fava

She is requesting \$259.81 to go the ABA Regional Conference in San Francisco from October 9-11. She is conserving costs by staying with a friend. We recommended the full amount because SBA normally sends the president and the ABA representative to this meeting. However, this year, the president cannot attend. Also, Cassandra is the Lt. Governor for the 15th Circuit of the ABA and is contributing to the conference.

International Commercial Arbitration Association

They are requesting \$1,000 for an event that will take place on November 21, 2009. This event is to prepare them for the international moot competition in the spring. They plan on having 20 students and 15 judges/local practitioners so this will also be a networking opportunity. ICAA became a student organization last year. We are going to recommend \$290 for this event. The reason being is that we \$1,000 is a very large amount of money for food. We are working on official guidelines, but in the meantime, just going off of past funding, we usually allow up to \$4 per person for food. This goes for all events. In this case, this caused us to lower the amount they are providing for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

They have another request for \$10,320 for two international competitions taking place in the spring. These competitions are taking place in Vienna, Austria and Hong Kong, China. We tried to get a hold of the president of the organization to get clarification and also to inform him of our travel funding policies. This request is going to be pushed to next week. We are going to talk to him about alternative spending and find out why they did not make a mid-year request for funds this past spring. We also are unsure of whether the Vis Moot Team is a part of ICAA or if it is something totally separate from their organization. Tabled until next week's meeting, where Coren Hinkle can hopefully attend.