

IRA Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 21st, 2017 — 8:00-9:00 AM

Meeting Objective: To prepare to review proposals and solve unfinished matters from last semester

Attendees: Paul Murphy, Sean Kelly, Debora Ehrich, Elizabeth Heim, Natasha Pillai, Leticia Cazares;

Staff Present: David Daniels, Kate Harrington, Anna Tovar.

1. Welcome back
   1. Meeting called to order at 8:05am. Agenda approval postponed due to missing quorum
2. Presentation of Budget
   1. D. Daniels estimated about $445k available for IRA proposals for Fall 2017 activities; N. Pillai asked what our carryover fund balance ended up to be, D. Daniels replied approximately $40k, and is reflected in our combined estimate for total funds available; N. Pillai further asked about the history of carryover balance, D. Daniels responded that in the first couple semesters he’s been the IRA coordinator, there was no carry-forward due to more requests than funds available; the last few semesters we’ve had a carry-forward due to a few large trips (e.g. UNIV 392s) being cancelled; the carry-forward was significantly reduced last semester due to a record number of requests (65);
3. Question from IRA#830 Noche de Fiesta
   1. Javier Gonzalez requested permission to reallocate $3000 to cover catering for Noche de Fiesta because he says he inherited a club with no budget because no proposal was submitted last year for the club; original proposal included a band but is no longer available and booked a different band for much cheaper, will have money left over; D. Daniels observed that this may be a bit high for catering; P. Murphy agreed, recalled that many years ago the IRA committee would say no to food, but would be in favor of allowing the change because it’s a great event and would like to see it supported and broadly attended; S. Kelly was sympathetic of the circumstances presented by J. Gonzalez, could see how this could have happened; D. Ehrich agreed that it’s possible that the process of gaining funding via ASI wasn’t followed; K. Harrington added that we could ask him what steps or measures have been taken to take advantage of these resources;
4. Pending
   1. Faculty Pay
      1. D. Daniels noted that Faculty Pay is in progress, D. Wakelee has information on the topic and is currently reviewing;
   2. Roadrunner Expenses
      1. P. Murphy asked about the figures presented in the Roadrunner report authored by A. Tovar; A. Tovar reviewed the figures and noted that since Foundation funds are not part of campus, N. Pillai asked how much it would cost to support vehicles and drivers, insurance, etc.; S. Kelly added that he believes we need to look further into this because students and professors may be put off from traveling because of transportation costs; P. Murphy recalled that S. Kelly asked a question about rising Roadrunner costs in the Academic Senate meeting, but did not get a very useful response; asked K. Harrington where to proceed from here, to which she replied that she will check with D. Wakelee and report back to the committee;
   3. Catering discussion
      1. S. Kelly shared that there is a policy that permits the university to only use the University Glen Corporation for catering, will search for the policy and share; P. Murphy added that we may ultimately have to push it through the President’s Policy and Planning Committee (PPPC); S. Kelly noted that he is on the PPPC and will be meeting with them soon; P. Murphy asked if we could contact the PPPC on our own and inform them that we’ve noticed an increase in food requests over the years, and ask if we can use other options; D. Daniels observed that we may then want to modify our language currently displayed on our webpage, which says that food is generally discouraged but that we allow it for SRI trips; if we add a full list of resources for food, we may want to modify the rest of the paragraph to maintain consistency; committee agreed; N. Pillai added that she believes that because of the Chancellor’s incentive that policies might be inclined to change because by lowering the cost of food, it invites event planners to include food in their events and therefore invites students and general participants to attend the event and stay longer. P. Murphy added that we could make the case that this policy conflicts with student success initiatives;
   4. Swipes Donations
      1. N. Pillai asked L. Cazares who we would ask about donating swipes; L. Cazares indicated that it begins with the student’s voices; with her PATH program they are now cracking down on spending the state’s money; recalled that we started as a grant-based program, but now has to juggle funding sources; S. Kelly suggested that the Senate Executive Committee (Exec) could probably come up with a resolution, can’t imagine that anyone would be against it; asked if we were to donate these swipes where would they go; L. Cazares replied that it may be for students in need who would self-disclose and go through an application process; S. Kelly sent an inquiry to Exec via email;
5. New Business
   1. Travel Ban
      1. S. Kelly recalled new CA state law that prohibits state funds to be used for travel to MS, TN, KS, NC; this will at a minimum relate to an issue with NCUR being in Memphis this year; P. Murphy suggested that we put information on our IRA website; committee agreed; K. Harrington added that if we have a link, then we could post this instead of having to regularly update the page if and when other states may be added to the list; D. Daniels agreed and offered to do so, recalled a good link with the Department of Justice containing concise summary information;
   2. Charlie Parker Jazz Festival (proposed)
      1. P. Murphy recalled meeting with Nichole Ipach and S. Brogden to plan to team up to do a Charlie Parker jazz festival; didn’t think it was too controversial, but some are pushing back, due to some in the community wanting to distance our campus from its previous use as the state mental hospital where Charlie Parker was a patient; our proposal has more to do with Charlie Parker’s success after leaving the hospital (e.g. getting off drugs, cleaning up his life); L. Cazares recalled that some of the students she sees overcome huge challenges, could see that others would be interested in the Charlie Parker story, perhaps by shining a light on mental illness it would be good for our own students dealing with mental illness; N. Pillai added that is seems unusual that an institution of higher education would deny it’s history; further asked what if you got NAMI on board (National Alliance of Mental Illness); S. Kelly recalled that the actress Glen Close is their president, could potentially even partner up with them; L. Cazares agreed to send P. Murphy and others a video that our PATH program did with Ventura County, which may help to capture that these are real students attending CI that face similar issues; S. Kelly commented that the whole movement is to get away from stigmatizing mental illness, our history is part of the story; K. Harrington asked about how this was planning to be funded; P. Murphy was planning on putting in an IRA proposal for it, other task force members are all in favor; asked if he would be able to mention in his future meetings with Advancement that our IRA committee is ok with this moving forward; committee agreed;
   3. Meeting Adjourned
      1. Quorum not met. Meeting dismissed at 8:56am