



Student Assembly R. 15: Fall 2013 SAFC Appeals

*Sponsor: Sarah Balik on behalf of Geoffrey Block
Propose on October 9th, 2013*

1 The Touchtones:
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3 Whereas, the Appropriations Committee voted that the SAFC did err in denying funding to the
4 SAFC for housing and mileage expenses for their production company by a 10-0-0 vote. The
5 Committee felt that, provided the expenses were in line with guidelines for funding speakers,
6 the expenses were in line with SAFC funding guidelines
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8 Cornell Sitara:
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10 Whereas, The Appropriations Committee voted that the SAFC did not err in denying funding to
11 Cornell Sitara by a vote of 0-10-0, and therefore, the SAFC's funding decision will stand.
12 Cornell Sitara did not provide proof that their advisor ever approved their budget through
13 Orgsync and there was not proof that the SAFC erred in their funding decision.
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16 Cornell Ski & Snowboard Club:
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18 Whereas, the Appropriations Committee voted that the SAFC erred in denying funding to
19 Cornell Ski and Snowboard Club by a vote of 10-0-0. The Committee believed that the
20 inclusion of a comment by an SAFC Commissioner that "No further documentation needed. All
21 expenses approved" could have reasonably been believed to indicate that no further action
22 was required by the group. Therefore, the failure of the group to receive advisor approval could
23 reasonably have been caused by this error by the SAFC.
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26 Thread Magazine:
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28 Whereas, the Appropriations Committee voted that the SAFC erred in denying Thread
29 Magazine SAFC funding by a vote of 9-1-0. Thread magazine did include a comment by their
30 advisor through a direct message within the Orgsync system and the Appropriations
31 Committee believes this could have reasonably been expected to constitute proof of advisor
32 approval.
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35 JV Alpine Ski Team:
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37 Whereas, the Appropriations Committee voted that the SAFC did not err in denying the JV
38 Alpine Ski Team funding by a vote of 0-6-0. There was no evidence of advisor approval in their
39 budget and no indication of any error on the part of the SAFC. Unfortunately, without advisor
40 approval anywhere on the budget, the budget is not complete and therefore the SAFC did not
41 err in denying the funding request.

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Just About Music/Musicom:

Whereas, the Appropriations Committee voted that the SAFC did not err in denying funding to JAM by a vote of 0-6-0. JAM requested that their budget be released back to them and the SAFC did so in a timely manner. JAM had nearly 8 hours in which to resubmit their budget and their failure to do so indicates a failure on the part of JAM, not the SAFC.

Cornell International Affairs Society:

Whereas, the Appropriations Committee voted that the SAFC did err in denying CIAS funding by a 6-0-0 vote. CIAS included an email from their advisor signaling budget approval. While this normally would not be sufficient to constitute evidence of advisor approval, CIAS received a comment from an SAFC commission saying “no further documentation needed, all expenses approved” which could have reasonably been interpreted to indicate that the email message provided was sufficient.

Mountains for Moms:

Whereas, the Appropriations Committee voted that the SAFC did err in denying Mountains for Moms funding by a 6-0-0 vote. Mountains for Moms was told they needed officer approval of their budget, but were subsequently told that all expenses were approved and that no further documentation was needed, leading them to believe they did not need to take any additional steps. The Appropriations Committee believes it reasonable that due to the timeline in which Mountains for Moms was told that they needed officer approval and then immediately told that all expenses had been approved, that it was reasonable for them to believe all appropriate actions had been taken.

Be it therefore resolved that, the Assembly adopt the following recommendations of the Appropriations Committee:

- The SAFC did err in denying funding to The Touchtones for the mileage and lodging of their production company
- The SAFC did not err in denying funding to Cornell Sitara
- The SAFC did err in denying funding to Cornell Ski & Snowboard Club
- The SAFC did err in denying funding to Thread Magazine
- The SAFC did not err in denying funding to the JV Alpine Ski Team
- The SAFC did not err in denying funding to Just About Music/Musicom
- The SAFC did err in denying funding to the Cornell International Affairs Society
- The SAFC did err in denying funding for Mountains for Moms

Be it further resolved that, the SAFC shall only allocate money if all other funding criteria not considered by the Appropriations Committee are met, including funding caps or other guidelines issues.

1 Respectfully Submitted,
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3 Geoffrey Block '14
4 Vice President for Finance