Student Services Fees Committee
Student Groups and Organizations
Final Recommendations

Compiled and edited by SSFC-SG/O Chair, Katharine Saphner, on March 23rd, 2013

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Chair’s Preface

To all involved parties and students,

The final recommendations that follow are the result of countless hours of work by the Student Services Fee (SSF) Committee. This year, the Committee reviewed the funding requests of more than seventy student groups and organizations. These groups represent the diverse community that the University of Minnesota seeks to foster. In order to approach each of the various student groups from the same viewpoint neutral perspective, the Committee considered each funding request by applying pre-determined, viewpoint-neutral criteria to each group’s funding request. These criteria, called the Guidelines for Decision Making, can be found on the page immediately following the chair’s preface, as well as in the SSF handbook.

Though the Committee is always required to apply each of the criteria to each group’s request, the Committee maintains the authority to weight the criteria. This year, the Committee gave significant consideration to guideline 6: “Demonstration of benefits of programs and services to students who pay the student services fees but do not participate in the programs and services,” and guideline 9: “All organizations ... must fully justify their fees request, including any financial reserves.” These guidelines were weighted most heavily because the Committee is mindful that the purpose of the Student Services Fee is to use student money to provide programs and services for students. If such a benefit cannot be demonstrated, funding should be obtained via other sources.

It should be noted that a lack of SSF funding for a given expenditure does not necessarily mean that the group in question cannot or should not incur that expense. Especially in the cases of stipends and conference attendance, the Committee believes that benefits can come from these expenses. The Committee’s reasoning for cutting these expenses is that they do not have a visible/direct benefit to all University students. The Committee encourages groups to fund these expenses through other sources (fundraising efforts, member dues, donations) if the expenses are deemed necessary.

The Committee has worked for many hours to produce these funding recommendations. Ample time was provided for each group and no group received special treatment. For the sake of transparency, funding rationales include detailed explanations for the recommended dollar amount, and minority opinions are presented alongside those of the majority.

If any group believes that the SSFC’s recommendation is not satisfactory, a written appeal can be submitted. The Appeals Committee will review and address all appeals. Information on submitting appeals can be found in the SSF handbook beginning on page 13.

The Committee thanks all student group leaders for their hard work during this process as well as their commitment to making the University of Minnesota a better place.

Sincerely,
Katharine Saphner
Chair of the Student Groups Student Services Fee Committee
Guidelines for Decision-Making

Fulfillment of the following does not guarantee approval for funding:

1. Extent of contribution to one or more of the following:
   a. Providing a service to the student body.
   b. Supplementing the academic curriculum.
   c. Helping to foster a sense of community on the Twin Cities campus.

2. Quality and quantity of programs and services provided to the student body, consistent with the mission of the organization.

3. Extent of and demand for the programs and services provided. Groups must quantify their answer by such things as attendance numbers at events, number of phone calls / office visits, inquiries, etc. Groups must specify the method of tabulation and provide specific documentation upon request.

4. Breadth of service to students across academic departments or academic units.

5. Targeting of programs and services to the largest number of students consistent with the need.

6. Demonstration of benefits of programs and services to students who pay the student services fees but do not participate in the programs and services.

7. Efforts to secure funding in addition to the student services fees.

8. Demonstration of financial need that cannot be fulfilled with alternative sources of income.

9. All organizations (student groups and administrative units) must fully justify their fees request, including any financial reserves.

10. Student groups must fully justify their use of staff to the SSFC, but a maximum percentage of fees income to fund staff is not imposed.
   a. In response to its own needs, operating risks (i.e. fluctuations in enrollment) and budgeting practices, organizations should establish an internal requirement for reserve funds.
   b. This requirement is not translated into an arbitrary SSF rule, i.e. 10% of operating funds. It is recommended that operating reserves for student groups be between 0-10%, but a minimum reserve is not required.
   c. Administrative units are not required to maintain minimum or maximum reserves.
   d. The SSFC has the ability to reduce financial reserves for any organization – administrative unit or student group – if proper justification is not found for the requested amount.

11. Demonstration of compliance with the audit/agreed-upon procedures performed by audit firm designated by the Student Fees Committee.

12. Written justification of significant deviation from the proposed budget outlined in the prior year’s student services fees request.

13. Previous access to funding from student services fees shall not be considered when evaluating requests.
African Student Association (#399)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

**Requested Allocation:** $19,230  
**Recommended Allocation:** $18,930

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The committee has reviewed the requested amount of $19,230 and voted to approve $18,930 for the student organization, African Student Association. This amount allocated for the following fiscal year has been reached after a careful and thorough review of all projected expenses expected to be incurred by this organization for the 2013-2014 school year. The committee was particularly impressed with the group’s efforts to partner with other organizations and make their programs relevant and accessible to a wide audience. Despite the potential for a narrow focus, the group has used connections to others and a variety of activities to appeal to the broader student body. Areas that the SSFC felt were outside of student organization SSF funding guidelines were only two expenses, under the operational travel breakdown: $200 for Other African Nights and $100 for Volunteering for a total deduction of $300.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $200 deduction for Other African Nights under the operational travel breakdown. The SSFC feels that this travel expense using the student services fees funds does not help to benefit students who do not participate in the group, but still pay the student services fee.

   GDM 6

2) A $100 deduction for Volunteering under the operational travel breakdown. The SSFC feels that this travel expense using the student services fees funds does not help to benefit students who do not participate in the group, but still pay the student services fee.

   GDM 6

*Directives:* Continue to partner with other organizations and continue to balance fees request with other funding sources. Consider cost per student at some meals and explore alternative or cheaper rooms when the event allows.
All-Campus Elections Commission (#369)

Committee Vote: 8-1-0

Requested Allocation: $9,427  Recommended Allocation: $9,427

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Committee has approved the full amount requested by All-Campus Elections Commission. The Committee found that many of the events that the group was planning aimed at engaging a larger number of students in the election process. The committee looked favorably on the advertising budget and the plans that were associated with that budget.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The Budget requested was justified. The group presented strong arguments that were in lines with the guidelines for decision making.  
   GDM: 1a, 1c, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9a, 9b, 9c, 9d, 10a, 10b, 11, 12, 13.

Directives: Build a stronger sense of student community by encouraging student engagement with the elections process. Reach out to students in the key areas of and around campus.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $9,427  Recommended Allocation: $7,105

Comments: The Minority did not feel that the All-Campus Elections Commission justified its stipends, given the personal benefit of the positions.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Deduction of $2,322 for stipends and wages. The stipends and wages could not be justified as necessary for the group to operate.  
   GDM: 10

Directives: The Minority encourages the All-Campus Elections Commission to cut stipends.
Al-Madinah Cultural Center (#612)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $66,550  Recommended Allocation: $64,550

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Majority recommends that Al-Madinah receive $64,500 in SSF funding for the next fiscal year. The Majority commends Al-Madinah for the quality of its programming, and for its policy on stipends and leadership. The Majority also appreciates the educational programming Al-Madinah provides to students. However, certain events and expenses were not found to provide a service to the greater student body, as detailed in the deductions below.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Deduction of $300 for operational food at meetings. This food expense does not draw in students, and is not integral to the organization in any way.  GDM: 1, 2, 6

2) Deduction of $1,200 for operational food at board/community discussion meetings. Again, these food expenses clearly fall outside funding guidelines.  GDM: 1, 2, 6

3) Deduction of $450 for various gifts and prizes at programming events. These gifts/prizes benefit only a small number of students.  GDM: 5

4) Deduction of $100 for retreat travel. This event does not provide a service to the greater student body.  GDM: 1, 5

Directives: The Majority recommends that Al-Madinah finds outside sources of funding. SSF currently funds nearly all of Al-Madinah’s budget.
Alpine Ski Team (#939)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

*Requested Allocation*: $22,612  
*Recommended Allocation*: $10,308

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments*: The committee appreciates the Alpine Ski Team’s dedication and commitment to the sport. Therefore, we have decided to fund the Alpine Ski Team $10,320 for 2013-2014. On that note, however, this will only be temporary funding until the Department of Recreational Sports opens up their funding application. Student Services Fees do not usually fund such sports teams. We hope that this will lessen students’ burden in participating in the sport.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) For the Alpine Ski Team, the majority has decided to take the approach of funding what seems essential to the team as the programs of the Alpine Ski Team mostly benefit the particular individuals who participate in the events. Hence, we are providing $2,500 for a coach, $6,440 in timing and supplies, and $1,368 in MCSA fees to enter the competitions.  
   GDM: 4,5,6

*Directives*: The committee highly encourages Alpine Ski Team to seek Department of Recreational Sports funding as well as other outside resources. In addition, the committee would like to see more advertising for this team.
American Indian Student Cultural Center (#274)

Committee Vote: 6-2-0

Requested Allocation: $33,727  Recommended Allocation: $23,250

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fee Committee heard the presentation by the American Indian Student Cultural Center requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. In particular, the SSFC recognized the group’s breadth and depth of programming and efforts to bring together all American Indian students on campus. The SSFC wants to commend the American Indian Student Cultural Center for doing a good job taking responsibility for missing money in last year’s budget. That being said, the SSFC did take issue with several line items within the American Indian Student Cultural Center’s request during initial deliberations, upon a more thorough review. Areas that SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines were: $3,250 for student worker(s), $250 for parking validation, $400 for board meetings, $25 for SUA registration fee, $1,000 for printing, $5,302 for overall food, and $250 for contest prizes/fall round dance.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $3,250 deduction for a student work from Salaries, Wages, and Stipends. AISCC did not demonstrate that the financial need for student workers cannot be fulfilled elsewhere. The majority believes that the salaries for student workers can be filled by student volunteers.  
GDM: 8

2) A $250 deduction for parking validation. The majority does not feel that parking should be funded through SSF funds, as it does not benefit the campus or students.  
GDM: 1, 6

3) A $400 deduction to board meetings from Operational Food. The majority does not feel that the board meetings need food to be successful.  
GDM: 1, 6

4) A $25 deduction for SUA registration fee. All organizations have to pay this fee, even ones who do not have large enough budgets to qualify for Student Services Fees. Therefore, the majority believes it is not within the responsibility for SSFs to pay these fees.  
GDM: 6, 8

5) A $1,000 deduction to printing under Operational Supplies. The majority does not feel that the AISCC needs to offer free printing.  
GDM: 1, 4.
6) A $5,302 deduction in overall food budget. The majority does not feel like the U of M student participation overall in AISCC programs warrants such a large food budget. There was an overall 30% cut in food since many events have larger community participation. This 30% reduction brings the food costs back to the 2011-12 level. GDM: 6

7) A $250 deduction in contest prizes fall round dance. The majority does not feel that prizes are necessary at events. GDM: 6

Directives: Please look into funding the above expenditures with money from other sources.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $33,727  
Recommended Allocation: $23,145

Comments: The Minority did not feel that the American Indian Student Cultural center should have SSF cover check expenses.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Deduction of $105 for Bank Fees-Checks. Many groups have to pay a similar fee, even ones who do not have large enough budgets to qualify for Student Services Fees. Therefore, the majority believes it is not within the responsibility for SSFs to pay these fees. GDM: 6, 8

Directives: The Minority encourages the American Indian Student Cultural Center to not ask SSF to cover check fees in the future.
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $6,161  
Recommended Allocation: $5,136

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee has reviewed the requested amount of $6,161 and voted to approve $5,136 for the student organization, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. This amount allocated for the following fiscal year has been reached after a careful and thorough review of all projected expenses expected to be incurred by this organization for the 2013-2014 school year. Areas that the SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines and were deducted from the requested allocation are: $103 untitled/unexplained under the insurance, benefits and taxes breakdown, $100 for travel expenses under the operational travel breakdown, $70 for coffee under the operational food breakdown, $392 deducted from the General Meetings program from food expenses, and $360 deducted from the Paper Conference program with $100 taken from the food expenses category, and $260 deducted from the travel expenses, in which, the committee is helping to fund 2 students at 50% of the costs.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $103 deduction for the untitled/unexplained under the insurance, benefits and taxes breakdown. The SSFC found no justification as to what the $103 is used for.   GDM 3

2) A $100 deduction for travel expenses under the operational travel breakdown. The SSFC feels that this travel expense using the student services fees funds does not help to benefit students who do not participate in the group, but still pay the student services fee.   GDM 6

3) A $70 deduction for coffee under the operational food breakdown. The SSFC feels that this expense for coffee using the student services fees funds does not help to benefit students who do not participate in the group, but still pay the student services fee; thus, the SSFC recommends funding this expense with other sources.   GDM 6

4) A $392 deduction from the General Meetings program was made from the food expenses category. The SSFC is funding food for only some meetings and not all meetings and recommends seeking funding from other sources.   GDM 1, 6

5) A $360 deduction from the Paper Conference program with $100 taken from the food expenses category, and $260 deducted from the travel expenses, in which, the committee is helping to fund 2 students at 50% of the costs, expecting that the two students can help co-pay for their travel from outside funding. The SSFC does not feel it is necessary to pay for food for
participants attending conferences because it does not help to benefit students who do not participate in the group, but still pay the student services fee. The funds for food for participants attending conferences can be funded through other sources.

Directives: The SSFC encourages AIAA to continue to seek outside funding sources, and to advertise meetings and events to the student body at large.
American Medical Student Association-Pre Med (#54)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $58,545

Recommended Allocation: $25,911

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fee Committee heard the presentation by the Pre-Med AMSA requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. The SSFC did take issue with a few line items within the Pre-Med AMSA’s request during initial deliberations, upon a more thorough review. Areas that SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines were: $500 for board meeting food, $15 for registration fee, $5,344 for the Chicago Conference, $5,250 for the San Antonio Conference, $4,000 for the DC Convention, $15,000 for the International Volunteer Program, and $2,525 for the Leadership Forum.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $500 deduction to food for board members. The majority does not feel that the board meetings need food to be successful. GDM: 1, 6

2) A $15 deduction for SUA registration fee. All organizations have to pay this fee, even ones who do not have large enough budgets to qualify for Student Services Fees. Therefore, the majority believes it is not within the responsibility for SSFC to pay these fees. GDM: 6, 8

3) A $5,344 deduction for the Chicago Conference, $5,250 deduction for the San Antonio Conference, $4,000 deduction for the DC Convention, $15,000 deduction for the International Volunteer Program, and $2,525 deduction for the Leadership Forum. The committee is helping fund 2 students at 50% of costs, expecting that the two students can help copay for their travel. GDM: 6, 7, 8

Directives: Please look into funding conferences with money from other sources.
American Society of Civil Engineers (#676)

Committee Vote: 8-0-0

Requested Allocation: $6,325  Recommended Allocation: $0

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The American Society of Civil Engineers provides a fair amount of programming for their small request in Student Services Fees. The committee believes that ASCE has good budget sense and is fairly frugal when it comes to spending. However, the projected carryover of $17,960.98 for 2013-2014 is far too high for a budget this small. In fact, even with no funding from the Student Service Fee, ASCE will still have a carryover of over $12,000.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Carryover funds are very high and have not been justified to the committee. Carryover funds from 2012-2013 can and should be used to cover expenses in the upcoming academic year.
   GDM: 8, 9

Directives: Continue to provide this service to the students at the same low cost while spending down your carryover next year.
Amnesty International (#174)

Committee Vote: 9-1-0

*Requested Allocation: $ 2,495  Recommended Allocation: $ 1,796*

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The Majority found that Amnesty International provides a unique service of creating awareness on campus as well as supplementing the educational curriculum and providing opportunities for students to serve our communities and the world. The Majority was especially impressed the amount of programming that the group provided with its funding and the generally low cost/student to attend or be involved. Although the group signed up for 3 different info sessions in the fall, it failed to send a representative to any of them. A 25% reduction was applied to the entire budget because of this.

*Directives:* Continue to function at such a low operating cost and provide services and events at such a low cost. Make sure to strictly adhere to the fees process in future years in regards to attending information sessions/meeting requirements of the process.

**Minority Opinion:**

*Requested Allocation: $ 2,495  Recommended Allocation: $0*

*Comments:* Amnesty International initially made a request of $3,565. Following initial recommendations from the committee, a new request was submitted for $2,495. Because this is below the required threshold of $3,000 for SSF funding requests, the minority believes that funding should not have been awarded.

*Directives:* In the future, be cautious about updated budgets- they should still follow the guidelines in the SSF handbook.
Asian-American Student Union (#157)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $85,700
Recommended Allocation: $63,250

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fee Committee heard the presentation by the Asian-American Student Union requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. In particular, the committee recognized the group’s breadth and depth of programming, efforts to bring together all Asian students on campus and a willingness to engage with other student organizations. That being said, the SSFC did take issue with several line items within the Asian-American Student Union’s request during final deliberations, upon a more thorough review. Areas that SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines were; $300 for operational travel; $300 for operational food; $300 for operational equipment; $450 for operational supplies; $8,000 for operational reserves; $2,850 from carry over from previous year; $4,600 in unspecified programing other, $500 kick off month, $800 light up the night, $2,000 ASU winter gala, $1,000 ASU spring conference, $300 ASU rice bowl; $5,000 for ASU spring conference, $2,000 travel.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) No information was provided to justify the need of funds for operational travel. GDM: 9
2) No information was provided to justify the need of funds for operational food. GDM: 9
3) No information was provided to justify the need of funds for operational equipment. GDM: 9
4) No information was provided to justify the need of funds for operational supplies. GDM: 9
5) $8,000 was subtracted from the operational reserves. GDM: 9
6) A carryover of $2,850 was subtracted from the operational budget. GDM: 9
7) Unspecified “other” expenses in several programs lacked explanation in kick off month, light up the night, winter gala, spring conference, and rice bowl. GDM: 9
8) Travel for ASU spring conference was not justified to the committee. GDM: 1, 9
9) $3,000 was deducted from the $10,000 of entertainment from the spring conference because the committee felt that an effort should be made to find other funding sources such as fundraising.

*Directives:* The committee feels that ASU should work to increase accountability for expenditures. ASU should also seek additional revenue sources like grants and fundraising and try to include more educational programing in each of their events. Also the committee would like to strongly encourage ASU to provide us with more information about why funding is needed for the spring conference trip if they wish to appeal.
Ayn Rand Study Group at the University of Minnesota (#2373)

Committee Vote: 8-2-0

Requested Allocation: $32,700  Recommended Allocation: $0

Majority Opinion:

Comments: Though the Ayn Rand Study Group provides a service to students by contributing to a diverse marketplace of ideas, the committee was initially concerned with many aspects of this group’s request. The first concern dealt with the required audit. There were several payment support issues that were not addressed by the group in their presentation. Specifically, there were some payroll transactions that were not backed up by payment support. There were also some issues with reimbursements. Following initial recommendations, Ayn Rand Study Group followed up with the committee about their plans to improve audit issues in the future, and provided copies of all available payment information. The committee appreciated this group’s helpful response. Still, a 10% penalty would have been imposed on the group due to the fact that the required audit was unsuccessful.

However, after analyzing the full budget request, the amount of Ayn Rand Study Group’s budget that the committee felt had been justified was smaller than their carryover funds. Due to the fact that these carryover funds come nearly entirely from Student Services Fees of the past, the committee feels responsible for ensuring that these funds are spent in ways that are beneficial to fees-paying students. With the amount of money projected in carryover from 2012-2013, the committee is confident that the Ayn Rand Study Group can continue to provide all planned programming, and thus continue to provide a service to students.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) There were several aspects of Ayn Rand Study Group’s overall budget that the committee felt did not help to benefit students who do not participate in the group, but still pay the student services fee. The committee saw fit to make deductions from the budget for the following amounts: $1,300 from stipends, $250 from operational food, $50 from “University expenses”
   GDM: 3, 6

2) The committee felt that the funding for office space was not justified. The group requested $18,000 for this expense. In addition, $150 was requested for a desk, which would be unnecessary with no office space.
   GDM: 6, 9

3) The committee was also of the opinion that as planned, the advertising budget of Ayn Rand Study Group is far too high, and the ratio of advertising to attendees seems to be an indication of
ineffective use of student money, so the committee had planned to reduce the request by $8,000.

GDM: 9

**Directives:** The committee is glad to see the fundraising efforts of the Ayn Rand Study Group as presented in the follow-up information. The committee appreciates the service provided by this group, and urges the group to apply for funding in the future and continue to provide their current level of programming. The committee would certainly have deducted the above amounts from Ayn Rand Study Group’s budget, and looking into the costs of individual programs yielded more potential cuts from other categories. It is the recommendation of the committee that Ayn Rand Study Group continue to provide their current level of service to the student body through the use of their carryover. Please apply again in the future.

**Minority Opinion:**

*Requested Allocation:* $32,700  
*Recommended Allocation:* $7,555

**Comments:** The minority does not agree with the recommendation to defund the Ayn Rand Study Group. A 10% penalty was assessed for poor record keeping found in the audit. The Ayn Rand Study Group had payment support for all purchases and other groups with similar deficiencies in record keeping were not assessed a penalty. The decision not to fund the Ayn Rand Study Group was mostly due to the large carryover. The minority agrees with the need to spend down the carryover, however funding at zero would leave the group with a budget of $21,445. The minority believes the Ayn Rand Study Group has a tremendous turnout at its events and would like them to be able to continue attracting students. The minority believes the Ayn Rand Study Group’s budget should at least be equal to the projected costs of programming while taking the majority’s advice on efficient advertising.
Black Graduate and Professional Students Association (#956)

Committee Vote: 7-2-0

Requested Allocation: $13,503               Recommended Allocation: $8,865

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee found BGAPSA behaved responsibly with the use of Student Services Fees. The committee appreciates the decision to decline fees for this year due to the large carryover. The committee enjoyed the presentation and understands the difficulty of organizing a dispersed group of individuals.

The majority believes BGAPSA has done great work in restarting the organization and the usage of Student Services Fees should continue to support activities that enrich the University community. While it was thought that student fees should not fund following costs, it does not mean that external funding shouldn’t be sought as the committee supports the continuation of this organization and encourages growth where possible.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $3,000 cut from stipends is recommended. The majority understands the difficulty of finding strong individuals to lead a group successfully. Many groups have the same concern. The majority is not opposed to stipends and would like BGAPSA to continue to find other sources of funding if they feel stipends are necessary for the continuation and growth of the group. The majority believes Student Services Fees should not be used to fund individuals.                GDM: 4, 7, 9, 10

2) The committee recommends a $900 cut from monthly executive board meetings. The majority feels that Student Services Fees should not fund individuals or events that don’t include the option of participation from the entire student body.  GDM: 1a, 6, 9

3) The committee recommends a $525 cut from plane travel (plane tickets, hotel room, per diem). The majority feels that this service does not benefit students who do not participate.  GDM: 1a, 6, 9

4) The committee recommends a $213 cut from the Kick-off mixer for the other expenses. The majority feels that the fees request for this portion of the event was not fully justified because there was not specification of what the other was.  GDM: 1a, 9

Directives: Continue to reach out to graduate and professional students around the university. Seek outside sources for funding costs that do not contribute to the overall university community,
but still provide worth to the mission of the organization. Work with other student groups to increase reach and breadth of programs.

**Minority Opinion:**

*Requested Allocation: $13,503  Recommended Allocation: $11,865*

*Comments:* The Minority believes that student stipends are an acceptable use of student service fees and BGAPSA has shown that the stipends are important to the group’s success, clearly justifying them. The Minority would not want to see a decrease in the group’s performance or motivation, just because the Majority decided not to fund stipends.
Black Motivated Women

Committee Vote: 7-0-2

Requested Allocation: $ 13,020  
Recommended Allocation: $ 8,974

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee enjoyed BMW’s presentation. It was engaging and showed the organization’s enthusiasm and commitment to the community. Funding for the upcoming year has decreased from this year due to the large carryover of the organization.

The committee did feel that some expenses were not fully explained and did not justify the use of Student Services Fees. While it was thought that student fees should not fund following costs, it does not mean that external funding shouldn’t be sought as the committee supports the continuation of this organization and encourages growth where possible.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee recommends a $1,596 cut to reduce the carryover. Carryover is considered an operational reserve, and the committee believes that reserves should be 0-10% of operational expenses.  
   GDM: 1a, 9

2) The committee recommends a total of $1,850 in cuts from unexplained expenses: $500 misc. equipment, $700 misc. supplies and $650 for collaborations. The committee felt these expenses were not justified fully due to the vagueness of the title.  
   GDM: 1a, 9

3) The committee recommends a $50 cut because the majority feels give-a-ways should not be funded by Student Services Fees. The $50 cut comes from the Men’s Appreciation program for other expenses. It was not clarified how much were give-a-ways, so the committee took half the costs and assumed that $100 in fundraising income could cover a portion leaving a $50 amount to be cut. The committee felt these expenses were not justifiable usage of student fees and do not benefit the University community as a whole.  
   GDM: 1a, 6, 9

4) The committee recommends a $550 cut from the Board Retreat. The committee feels use of student fees for a retreat does not benefit students who pay the fees but do not participate in the services.  
   GDM: 6

Directives: Continue to reach out to the campus community. Seek outside sources for funding costs that do not contribute to the overall university community, but still provide worth to the mission of the organization. Work with other student groups to increase reach and breadth of programs.
Black Student Union (#243)

Committee Vote: 6-3-0

Requested Allocation: $65,310  Recommended Allocation: $47,497

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee has reviewed the requested amount of $65,310 and voted to approve $47,497 for the student organization, Black Student Union. This amount allocated for the following fiscal year has been reached after a careful and thorough review of all projected expenses expected to be incurred by this organization for the 2013-2014 school year. The SSFC was overall impressed with BSU’s ability to obtain funding in addition to the Student Services Fees. Areas that the SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines and deducted from the requested allocation were: $11,200 for stipends, $50 travel-parking, $100 travel-gas, $200 food for board assessment meetings, $1,019 other-cable, $320 other-board shirts, $1,874 reserves-(should be within 0-10% of operational expenses), $300 for food from black student leadership conference, and $2,750 for travel for black student leadership conference.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $11,200 deduction for stipends. The majority found the stipends to be unjustified and not a necessity for the success and operation of the student organization. GDM: 10

2) A $50 deduction for travel-parking. The majority feels that it is not necessary to allocate Student Services Fees for local travel since this does not benefit the student body as a whole and can be funded through other sources. GDM: 1, 6

3) A $100 deduction for travel-gas. The majority feels that it is not necessary to allocate Student Services Fees for local travel since this does not benefit the student body as a whole and can be funded through other sources. GDM: 1, 6

4) A $200 deduction for food for board assessment meetings. The majority feels that the board meetings do not need food to be successful, and that Student Services Fees should not fund individuals or events that don’t include the option of participation from the entire student body. GDM: 1, 6

5) A $1,019 deduction for other-cable. The majority feels that this does did not help to benefit students who do not participate in the group, but still pay the Student Services Fee. GDM 6
6) A $320 deduction for other-board shirts. The majority feels that although board shirts are a great way to advertise the organization and board positions, Student Services Fees funds should not go towards the cost for board shirts. Funds should be sought from other sources since board shirts do not benefit the student body at large nor does it help to benefit students who do not participate in the group, but still pay the student services fee. GDM 1a, 6

7) A $1,874 deduction for a reserve over 10% of their operational expenses. Reserves should be within 0-10% of operational expenses. GDM 9b

8) A $300 deduction for food from black student leadership conference. The majority feels that Student Services Fees should not fund the cost of student food on a conference. When students attend conferences, food cost should be provided through other sources. GDM 1a, 6

9) A $2,750 deduction for travel for black student leadership conference. The majority feels that although leadership conferences are a great way to build and enhance leadership skills to become an effective and successful leader, it is only targeting and making a difference in those who are attending. Students who are attending the conference should find other sources to help fund a portion of their cost to the conference. GDM 6, 7

Directives: Continue to do a great job seeking outside funding in addition to the student services fees.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $64,310
Recommended allocation: $48,382

Comments: The minority felt that the stipends requested by BSU was fully justified. The minority felt that the group’s size and the quantity of work the group put into the student body justified the stipends request for the officers.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GR) numbers supporting each point:

1) The minority felt that following guidelines were met. GDM: 10a, 10b
Campus Atheists, Skeptics and Humanists (#63)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $11,000  
Recommended Allocation: $11,000

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee has approved the full amount requested by the Campus Atheists, Skeptics and Humanists. The committee found that Campus Atheists, Skeptics and Humanists continue to provide an intellectual dialogue for students with a different perspective within the U’s student body.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The Budget request was justified with the groups goals for the upcoming year. The following guidelines were met.  
GDM: 1a, 1c, 2,3,4,5,6,7,8, 9a, 9b, 9c, 9d, 10a, 10b, 11, 12, 13.

Directives: Continue to bring interesting speakers with a new perspective for the student body. This committee found that this element engaged a very interesting sector of the student body.
Campus Outreach (#1279)

Committee Vote: 8-1-0

Requested Allocation: $11,638 Recommended Allocation: $1,285

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Committee appreciated Campus Outreach’s application and presentation, and the clear passion of the students to the organization. The committee was pleased with the group’s stated goal of gaining funding to take more ownership of the organization’s activities. The majority was concerned with the amount of the group’s programming that seems to take place off-campus and for limited numbers of students. A very large number of anticipated programs involved taking students to off-campus venues for food and/or recreational activities. It is unclear how these events would benefit the greater campus community. Additionally, the majority of the Fees Committee noted that the organization’s professed aversion to traditional means of advertising (flyers, posters, chalking, social media) restricts the number of students who are aware of the group and how they can take advantage of events that they are funding indirectly through their Student Services Fees. It is critical that Fees-funded events be open and communicated to all students, and the language surrounding many of the events refers to “friends” or “students we invite.”

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The majority feels $1,185 for Campus Outreach Wednesdays and $100 for First-year Hangout justifies the use of Student Services Fees. The majority does not see clear benefits to the group’s programming for students who pay fees but do not participate in the group’s events, and the committee is also concerned that not enough has been done to make all students aware of the opportunities provided by the group. Those items not considered appropriate usage of Student Services Fees by the majority does not mean the majority feels the group should discontinue the programs. While it was thought that Student Services Fees should not fund those costs, it does not mean that external funding shouldn’t be sought as the committee supports the continuation of this organization and encourages growth where possible.

   GDM: 4, 5, 6, 8

Directives: The committee encourages Campus Outreach to plan a larger proportion of its programs on-campus where they are more accessible and beneficial to the University community. Also, the committee would like to see increased efforts to advertise events as open to all and to spread awareness of the organization. Additionally, the role that student leaders play in the driving of the organization vs. the church “staff” referenced in the presentation was unclear. The Committee does want to see this organization operate primarily under student leadership and
guidance, and wants the primary benefit of any future fees funding to be to students on the campus.

**Minority Opinion:**

*Requested Allocation: $11,638*  
*Recommended allocation: $7,418*

*Comments:* The minority felt that the group deserved more funding and did not agree with the Majority’s decision to fund the group at $1,285. The minority felt the group’s mission and organizational structure justified the way they were approaching the student body. However, the Minority felt that fees requested for certain programs was excessive and felt it appropriate to reduce the request for most events with food and travel by half.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Looking at the budget request the minority felt the following guidelines were not fulfilled.  
   GDM: 4, 7, 8.

*Directives:* Seek outside funding for programs and request members and students who are attending the programs to pay a subsidized amount for food.
Catholic College Student Group (#518)

Committee Vote: 7-2-0

Requested Allocation: $11,145  
Recommended Allocation: $2,980

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fee Committee heard the presentation by the Catholic College Student Group requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. The SSFC did take issue with a few line items within the Catholic College Student Group’s request during final deliberations, upon a more thorough review. Areas that SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines were: $4,200 for bus rental and $5,065 for spring break mission trip.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $4,200 deduction for bus rental. The committee thinks there are many other forms of transportation that are more cost effective.  
GDM: 6, 8

2) A $5,065 deduction for spring break mission trip. The committee recommends the Catholic College Student Group seek volunteer experiences here in Minnesota where they can give back to the community in which they live.  
GDM: 6, 8

Directives: Please look into funding the above expenses through other income sources.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $11,145  
Recommended Allocation: $5,980

Comments: The Minority believed that the spring break service trip would provide a unique perspective and benefit to the students attending. The minority believes that serving in a different community with a different sub-culture of America would provide a unique perspective and enhance the attending members’ personal growth and development. This would in turn allow them to better serve our community on campus and in the Twin Cities. The Minority felt that an additional $3,000 for the trip would be appropriate, to be used specifically on transportation and room rental costs. The Minority does also believe that the trip should be partially funded by those attending.
Chabad at the U of M (#2555)

Committee Vote: 6-4-0

Requested Allocation: $54,178  Recommended Allocation: $40,661

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The majority appreciates the diversity and the community Chabad brings to the campus. Therefore, it has decided to fund $40,661 for the next school year.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The justification for the use of staff was not fully justified. We have cut $5,000 from the salary increase. GDM: 1,2,3,5

2) The advisor conference can be expensed by the advisors who get a salary. $250 was cut from the advisor conference. GDM: 5,6

3) Although the Shabbat dinner is a great method to build community, its cost and frequency is a burden to our students. We have cut $5,250 from the food expenses. GDM: 6

4) As noted previously, the food cost is a burden. We have cut $750 from the Cholent Club. GDM: 6

5) We have cut $2,267 from the NYC leadership conference as such events directly benefit those who attend, and the student body simply cannot bear such a high-cost event. GDM: 6

Directives: The committee highly encourages Chabad to engage in more events to promote its diverse views. However, most events involve high food costs, and the majority would like for Chabad to be cautious about them.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $54,178  Recommended Allocation: $45,661

Comments: The Committee Minority believes that the increase in funding for the group’s advisors should be funded by fees. The advisors are integral to the operations of the group, and with the amount of time and energy they invest, a salary increase is justified.
Colleges Against Cancer (#1450)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $14,916
Recommended Allocation: $14,141

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee felt the $775 reduction was justified. A $475 reduction in the operational expenses was due to the fact that the committee did not feel that using fees money to fund operational travel and food was appropriate. Furthermore, the committee felt that students should pay for the registration fees as it is a requirement for all student groups. Finally a $300 reduction in the program ‘Kicking Ash’ was recommended. The committee felt buying prizes for the event with fees money was not an appropriate use of money.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee felt a $125 reduction in Operational travel for parking fees, a $250 reduction for Operational food for the final committee meeting and a $75 reduction for Operational food for the holiday party was appropriate. GDM: 6, 8

2) Also the $300 reduction in the prizes for Kicking Ash was appropriate. GDM: 6

Directives: Seek outside funding for prizes for the program Kicking Ash. Request for members to pay for their own parking money involved in Operational Travel. The committee requests the group to pay for registration through the members.
Collegians for a Constructive Tomorrow (#789)

Committee Vote: 8-1-1

Requested Allocation: $ 157,598  
Recommended Allocation: $ 117,722

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Committee was impressed with the breadth and variety of programs and services CFACT provides to the student population. The Committee appreciates the number of events intending to create discussion in the student body through forums, debates, and workshops. However, the majority was not convinced that the nature and volume of the group’s work justified the fees money granted to officers as stipends, and the committee was generally concerned with the number of expenses that did not benefit students not directly involved in the group. For example, a couple of the group’s projected events like the gun range trip and park trip had relatively high costs per student and also did not demonstrate any clear benefits to students outside the organization or those who are unable to participate. Ultimately, CFACT demonstrated clear value to the campus, but the majority believes it could spend fees money more cautiously and efficiently, thus the reduction in the recommended allocation.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The majority’s most significant recommended reduction to the CFACT request was the elimination of all student officer stipends totaling $26,000. The majority did not believe the payment granted to student officers was fully justified, especially given the presence of a paid full-time staff member that supports the group. The majority believed the experience and opportunities afforded to the student leadership is sufficient incentive for the time they commit to the organization, the number of members involved, and the level of impact the organization has on the rest of campus. This recommendation stands despite the clarification by CFACT that $10,000 of these stipends and salaries were for a non-student Program Coordinator position. At this time CFACT has not provided sufficient reasoning to show that the position of Program coordinator is essential to the function of CFACT.

GDM: 9, 10, 13

2) Deductions were made of $700 from the Gun Range event, $2,700 from the Park Trip, and $575 for the poker tournament. These trips were heavily funded by fees, had few projected attendees, and demonstrated little benefit to students not participating in the trips.

GDM: 5, 6, 7

3) In operational expenses, a total of $1,100 was removed from the local travel expenses, lounge provisions, and registration fees. These items were vague in description and the majority believes they were unlikely to provide a service or benefit to the student body. They would be more appropriately funded through other means.

GDM: 1, 6, & 7

4) The majority is recommending deductions of $1,850 of fees funding for the Eco-Summit. In the group’s request, the Committee believes the amount of fees being used to support nearby
travel and the number of students subsidized was excessive for the relatively small benefit to students not participating in the trip. The Committee recommends cutting any food funding and significantly reducing the number of attendees funded by fees money. The majority believes that there are diminishing returns to the student population as the number of attendees at off-campus events increase, and either fewer attendees should be covered by fees money or should be supported through other forms of income. GDM: 6

5) Similarly, the majority is recommending eliminating all fees food costs for the CPAC trip, as this is food only for the individual members participating and gives no benefit to the rest of campus. Additionally, the committee proposes reducing the number of fees-subsidized attendees to 6 and funding only half of the cost for those students. This would reduce the fees funding required by $3,900. The committee does see value in students attending the conference and sharing their experiences on campus, but believe that those students derive the most value and so should be responsible for a significant portion of the costs for the experience. The current fees request and attendance numbers would mean the fees were paying nearly $300 per student who participates in the trip, and the committee believes the benefit does not justify that expense. GDM: 3, 6

6) The majority is also reducing the fees money for the State of Climate Change event by $1,500. Currently, fees represent 100% of the funding for this event, and at the estimated attendance numbers, the event would cost nearly $40 per student in attendance. The majority believes that number is excessive, and wishes to reduce the fees money provided to encourage the group to either find a cheaper alternative or seek additional supplementary funding from other sources. GDM: 3, 5, 7

7) The Committee noticed several events in which fees money was used to provide food to small and/or restricted numbers of participants and not as a means to draw others to the event. The majority believes these are private benefits to those students and should not be funded by fees. Thus the majority recommended a reduction of $1000 in fees money spent for events with limited participation. GDM: 1, 5, 8

Directives: The Fees Committee appreciates the diversity of events planned by CFACT this year and hopes they will continue to provide venues for campus discussion. The Committee believes you can continue your current levels of programs and participation without providing additional fees funding to student officers. While the committee did not recommend a deduction in funding for office space this year, the Committee is not thoroughly convinced of the need for this space, which is a significant financial commitment. In future requests, either consider operating without this space, or provide more thorough evidence that it is a necessary aspect of your group’s work (GDM 3). The Committee also asks that you use most of your Student Services Fees for on-campus events open to all students, and using other funds for off-campus recreation with limited access to the wider student body.
Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $ 157,598   Recommended Allocation: $77,722

Comments: The Minority did not feel that CFACT fully justified its large entertainment and stipend budget, especially given the limited number of members.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) CFACT’s large entertainment budget does not accurately reflect the number of students served by the group.                     GDM: 2, 3

2) CFACT’s stipends and salaries are too high, given that full justification was not provided for their existence. Having multiple staff members was not justified.   GDM: 10

Directives: In order to justify a higher entertainment and salary budget, attempt to build member population and demonstrate need for staff.
Community Child Care Center (#765)

Committee Vote: 7-2-0

Requested Allocation: $85,000  Recommended Allocation: $84,612

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The majority respects the service Community Child Care Center provides to the university. Their service is an essential component to many students with children. As SSF should benefit the university students, we value that the top priority is given strictly to students.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) From other operational expenses, we have taken out $313 for staff and parent gifts. Gifts only benefit those who are directly receiving the items and do not provide a greater benefit to the student body. GDM: 5, 6

2) It is at the discretion of CCC to decide what it becomes a member of, and if the benefit of a membership entices CCC to join, the membership dues should not have to be subsidized but self-sustained. GDM: 1a, 8

Directives: The majority recommends continuing to put our university students at its highest priority when accepting children.

Minority Opinion #1:

Requested Allocation: $85,000  Recommended Allocation: $84,072

Comments: The minority felt the service provided by the Community Childcare Center was vital to many students on campus. However it felt that a reduction of $540 was appropriate. The minority did not see enough justification for it to fund student fees for Other Operational Expenses: Field trips of $540.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The Budget met most of the guidelines in the handbook. However the committee felt enough justification was not provided for guideline 8.

Directives: Request parents to pay for field trips.
Minority Opinion #2:

Requested Allocation: $ 85,000  
Recommended Allocation: $0

Comments: The minority opinion feels that the Community Child Care Center should not receive any student service fees because it does not benefit all students. Funds given to Community Child Care Center can only benefit students with children which excludes the vast majority of U students who pay the SSF.  
GDM: 6, 8
Como Early-Learning Center (#748)

Committee Vote: 7-2-0

**Requested Allocation:** $80,000  
**Recommended Allocation:** $79,947

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The committee felt the service provided by the Como-Early Learning Center was vital to many students on campus. However, it felt that a reduction of $53 was appropriate. The committee did not see enough justification for it to fund student fees for Operational Travel of $53.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The Budget met most of the guidelines in the handbook. However, the committee felt enough justification was not provided for guideline 8

*Directives:* Tell members to pay for Operational Travel and request parents to pay for field trips.

**Minority Opinion #1:**

**Requested Allocation:** $80,000  
**Recommended Allocation:** $79,849

*Comments:* The minority felt the service provided by the Como-Early Learning Center was vital to many students on campus. However, it felt that an additional reduction of $98 was appropriate. The minority did not see enough justification for it to fund student fees for Other Operational Expenses: Field trips of $98.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The Budget met most of the guidelines in the handbook. However, the committee felt enough justification was not provided for guideline 8

*Directives:* Request parents to pay for field trips.
Minority Opinion #2:

*Requested Allocation:* $79,947

*Recommended Allocation:* $0

Comments: The minority opinion feels that the Community Child Care Center should not receive any student service fees because it does not benefit all students. Funds given to Community Child Care Center can only benefit students with children which excludes the vast majority of U students who pay the SSF.

GDM: 6, 8
Compassionate Action for Animals (#954)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $20,000  
Recommended Allocation:  $20,000

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Service Fees Committee agreed that Compassionate Action for Animals should be funded in full by Student Services Fees. The student group not only has great programming, but also took the Student Service Fees process very seriously.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Budget request is fully justified.         GDM: 9
CRU (#1035)

Committee Vote: 8-1-0

Requested Allocation: $23,934  Recommended Allocation: $0

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee has reviewed the requested amount of $23,934 and voted to approve $0 for the student organization, CRU. This amount allocated for the following fiscal year has been reached after a careful and thorough review of all projected expenses expected to be incurred by this organization for the 2013-2014 school year. The committee feels that CRU has not been responsible with its financial obligation in record keeping. The audit identified an ending ledger balance of $8,832, which could not be justified fully in the budget sheet. There were multiple transactions that state that payment support was not received. The committee decided a penalty of a 25% overall cut of what was recommended would suffice; however, upon looking at the budget, there were several errors that have not been resolved. Hence, due to the lack of responsibility and handling of the student services fees shown, the majority of the committee agreed upon a $0 allocation for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Organizations must fully justify their fees request with an accurate and complete budget sheet, including any financial reserves. CRU has a projected reserve of half their operational costs, which is far too high. In addition, the projected reserve expenditure for 2012-2013 does not match the projected reserve income for 2013-2014.  GDM: 1a, 9

Directives: The committee strongly urges CRU to be proactive in improving their financial management in the future, to increase their accountability for expenditures, and to justify and accurately complete a budget sheet to the appeals committee for re-consideration by the given deadline. The committee’s inability to understand CRU’s audit and budget was the reason for their defunding. CRU should try to resolve these issues when and if an appeal is submitted.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $23,934  Recommended Allocation: $5,435

Comments: The minority does not agree with the recommendation. The minority agrees that the audit report needs explanation, however CRU provides a broader scope and diversity to the university community. The cuts below are what the minority believes should have occurred. If
the entire funding for the program was cut, that means the minority feels that the program does not contribute to the overall university community and demonstrate benefits to students who pay the student services fees but do not participate in the program. If the program was partially cut, the minority feels fees should fund a much smaller portion of that program. Though the minority feels student fees should not be funding those programs, this does not mean that funding from other sources could not be used to continue the program.

1) $8,832 cut for the unexplained lack of reserves from the audit in comparison to the budget sheet.  
2) $150 cut for the Fall Student Leader Training food.  
3) $2,625 cut from Fall Retreat. Fund advertising, entertainment, and a portion of the retreat fees.  
4) $200 cut from Halloween Party.  
5) $3,452 cut from TCX Conference. This would leaving SSF funds for two students at $199 each.  
6) $1,000 cut from Manmaker/Womanmaker weekend.  
7) $200 cut from End of the Year Mega Meeting.  
8) $300 cut from Servant Team.  
9) $300 cut from Monday Movement Meetings.  

Directive: The minority feels CRU is an essential part of the university community and would like the organization to appeal the decision with an explanation of the auditing issues.
Dance Marathon (#2486)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $6,150  Recommended Allocation: $ 5,900

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fee Committee heard the presentation by Dance Marathon requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. That being said, the SSFC did take issue with one area of Dance Marathons request. The SSFC did not feel that the $250 for operational food was justified.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1)No information was provided to justify the need of funds for operational food.  GDM: 5, 6, 9

Directives: The committee feels that Dance Marathon is an admirable cause but that due to its nature of being a single event it would be more appropriate for the organization to seek grants from other sources that focus more on granting money for single events. The committee would like to see the addition of additional programming so that the group goes beyond a single program if they wish to apply for SSF funding in future years.
Disabled Student Cultural Center (#230)

Committee Vote: 7-0-1

*Requested Allocation: $28,779*  
*Recommended Allocation: $28,754*

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The committee has reviewed the requested amount of $28,779 and voted to approve $28,754 for the student organization, Disabled Student Cultural Center. This amount allocated for the following fiscal year has been reached after a careful and thorough review of all projected expenses expected to be incurred by this organization for the 2013-2014 school year. The committee was impressed with the amount of support and awareness that the DSCC group offers to the students at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. Areas that the SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines and were deducted from the requested allocation are: $25 student group registration.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee found that using student services fees to pay for student group registration does not justify students who do not participate in the DSCC programs or services, thus, $25 was deducted for student group registration.  
   
   *GDM: 6*

*Directives:* For the Silver Linings Playbook, please look into partnering with Student Unions and Activities.
Economics Student Organization (#55)

Committee Vote: 7-0-0

Requested Allocation: $6,000  Recommended Allocation: $6,000

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Majority recommends that Economics Student Organization receive $6,000 in SSF funding for the next fiscal year. The Majority commends the ESO for providing educational programming and for finding additional sources of income to supplement SSF. Including programming for graduate students and offering a free tutoring program clearly provides benefit to the entire university. However, the Majority would like to stress that the corporate presentation series should not primarily act as a recruiting tool.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) ESO provides a valuable service to the student body while targeting multiple groups and keeping costs low.  

   GDM: 1a, 1b, 2, 4, 5

Directives: Have each corporate presentation focus on a relevant topic, rather than act as a recruiting tool. Continue to provide strong programming.
Engineers Without Borders (#1469)

Committee Vote: 7-0-0

Requested Allocation: $6,930  Recommended Allocation: $6,705

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fee Committee heard the presentation by the Engineers Without Borders requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. The SSFC did take issue with a few line items within the Engineers Without Borders’ request during final deliberations, upon a more thorough review. Areas that SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines were: $25 for registration fee and $200 for travel gas.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $25 deduction for SUA registration fee. All organizations have to pay this fee, even ones who do not have large enough budgets to qualify for Student Services Fees. Therefore, the majority believes it is not within the responsibility for SSFC to pay these fees. GDM: 6, 8

2) A $200 deduction in travel gas. The Committee does not find it necessary to fund local travel expenses. GDM: 6, 8

Directives: Please consider individual contributions to cover these small operational costs.
**Ethiopian Student Association (#159)**

Committee Vote: 7-0-0

*Requested Allocation:* $8,620    *Recommended Allocation:* $4,330

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The Student Services Fee Committee heard the presentation by the Ethiopian Student Association requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. The SSFC did take issue with a few line items within the Ethiopian Student Association’s request during final deliberations, upon a more thorough review. Areas that SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines were: $400 for general meetings food, $50 for board meetings food, $180 for local travel for Feed by Starving Children program, $3,000 for ESAI conference travel, and $600 for Freshman camping experience.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) A $400 deduction to general meetings food and $50 for board meetings food from Operational Food. The majority does not feel that the board meetings need food to be successful. GDM: 1, 6

2) A $180 deduction in local travel. The Committee does not find it necessary to fund local travel expenses. GDM: 6, 8

3) A $3,000 deduction for ESAI conference travel. The committee is helping fund 2 students at 50% of costs, expecting that the two students can help copay for their travel. GDM: 6, 7, 8

4) A $600 deduction for Freshman camping experience. The committee does not think there is a demonstrated need for this activity. GDM: 6, 8

*Directives:* Continue to use the quality control systems your group represented to the committee. They seemed to be designed very well to provide consistency for your group over the coming years.
Forensic Science Club (#900)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $3,500  Recommended Allocation: $3,350

 Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee enjoyed the Forensic Science Club’s presentation and is excited about the opportunities the organization provides within the university. As first-time fee receivers, be responsible with expenditures and keep record/receipts. Fee receiving groups are audited every 3 years. Continue to look for external funding beyond student fees as well. The committee recognized that the Forensic Science Club had difficulty creating the budget sheet and the update was not any clearer. However, the subcommittee that saw the Forensic Science Club’s presentation felt they understood the funding needs of the organization enough in order to determine an amount. Understand that future committees may not feel the same and it is essential to provide information the committee can utilize.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee recommends a $50 cut for MDIAI conference. The committee feels funding local travel is not a justifiable use of Student Services Fees.  
   GDM: 1a, 9

2) $100 cut from Lab Tours. The committee feels funding food that does not contribute to the university, as a whole is not justifiable. Look towards external funding for these events.  
   GDM: 1a, 7, 9

Directives: Continue looking for other sources of funding. Increase advertising and outreach to promote growth and success within the organization and its events. Make an effort to ensure that the budgets submitted in the future are fully accurate when submitted.
Fraternity Purchasing Association (#1215)

Committee Vote: 6-0-1

Requested Allocation: $10,000  
Recommended Allocation: $10,000

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Majority recommends that the Fraternity Purchasing Association receive $10,000 in SSF funding for the next fiscal year. The Majority feels that the Fraternity Purchasing Association provides enough of a benefit to the overall university to receive SSF fees.

Directives: Initially, the Majority did not feel that FPA provided any benefit to non-member organizations, hence the $0 recommendation. However, the emails received as follow-up that detailed services FPA had provided to non-member groups changed the Majority’s opinion. In the future, FPO should be sure to clearly demonstrate the benefits it provides to the university community as a whole in both its application materials and its presentation.
Go First (#2467)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $52,375  
Recommended Allocation: $34,350

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fee Committee heard the presentation by the GoFirst requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. The SSFC did take issue with a few line items within the GoFirst’s request during final deliberations, upon a more thorough review. Areas that SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines were: $12,500 in salaries and wages, $1,000 parking at shop, $1,000 general meeting food, $25 SUA registration, $700 for volunteering at IRI, and $2,800 volunteering at regionals.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $12,500 deduction for a student work from Salaries, Wages, and Stipends. The committee does not think the student stipends are justified. GDM: 8

2) A $1,000 deduction for parking at shop. The majority does not feel that parking should be funded through SSFC funds, as it does not benefit the campus or students. GDM: 1, 6

3) A $1,000 deduction to food for general meetings. The majority does not feel that the board meetings need food to be successful. GDM: 1, 6

4) A $25 deduction for SUA registration fee. All organizations have to pay this fee, even ones who do not have large enough budgets to qualify for Student Services Fees. Therefore, the majority believes it is not within the responsibility for SSFC to pay these fees. GDM: 6, 8

5) A $700 deduction for volunteering at IRI and $2,800 deduction for volunteering at regionals. The committee believes it is great that Go First participates in volunteering events. However, the committee does not see volunteering for events as an appropriate use of student services fees. GDM: 6, 8

Directives: Please look into funding the above expenses from none SSF sources.
Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (#155)

Committee: 6-4-0

Requested Allocation: $461,465  
Recommended Allocation: $416,215

Majority Opinion:

Comments: GAPSA provides many graduate and professional councils with funding, as well as funding a hefty grants program for graduate and professional students. They provide the necessary service of bringing graduate and professional students together and advocating on their behalf. Following the initial recommendation, the committee received comments from several graduate students specifically regarding GAPSA’s fees request, and took those comments under advisement. The main concern from students was that a large amount of GAPSA’s SSF funding directly benefits a small group of student leaders and not all graduate and professional students who pay the fee.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) There were a couple of operational expenses that were not fully justified. The committee is of the opinion that providing food for the executive board does not provide a service to students who pay the fee but are not members of the group, so $1,000 was deducted from the request for operational food. Along the same lines, $1,500 was cut from the request for parking reimbursement.  
   GDM: 6, 9

2) Having received further information on the Leadership Development Workshop programs from GAPSA, the committee is not comfortable funding them. The updated attendance figures were still far too small for the overall cost. The committee believes that the benefits from this program could be achieved by having members of GAPSA attend a program planned and hosted by the same organization. The committee recommends a deduction of $38,500 from the cost of this program, leaving half the cost of attendance of two GAPSA members to attend a similar leadership program, with the understanding that they would share any knowledge gained with the organization as a whole.  
   GDM: 6, 9

3) The committee found that the budget for food for GAPSA forum was too high, and therefore $3,500 was deducted from the request.  
   GDM: 3, 6, 9

4) The committee believes that the travel costs for the Duluth Open House and Leadership Retreat are too extravagant. There was a great deal of discussion about this program during deliberations, and the committee decided that the program provides value to participating
students from the twin cities and Duluth. However, the committee recommends that the cost of travel be decreased by half.

**Directives:** The committee recommends that GAPSA take a closer look at the needs of graduate and professional students who fund it. It is the opinion of the committee that GAPSA provides a service to these students, but the students are not aware of the benefits they receive from GAPSA. This is something that should be remedied in the coming years.

**Minority Opinion #1:**

**Requested Allocation:** $461,465  
**Recommended Allocation:** $381,151

**Comments:** The Minority did not feel that GAPSA justified its large budget increase from the 2012-2013 fiscal year, and also failed to show the necessity of stipend and salary increases.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) The GAPSA budget rose dramatically from the current fiscal year, and the additional programming did not justify such a large increase.  
   GDM: 2, 9

1) The stipend and salary increases came without additional benefit, and are not needed for GAPSA to function.  
   GDM: 2, 4, 5, 6

**Directives:** Direct SSF funds towards events that have an impact on a larger number of students, and reduce stipends and salaries.

**Minority Opinion #2:**

**Requested Allocation:** $461,465  
**Recommended Allocation:** $84,107

**Comments:** The minority feels that the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly’s mission is in line with SSF funding guidelines but that there are several areas where GAPSA has gone outside of those guidelines. In particular the minority would like to see deductions of $50,400 in officer stipends; $6,000 for an external auditor; $1,000 for operational food; $1,500 for operational parking; $38,000 for scholarly travel grants; $20,000 for professional travel grants; $72,000 for council flat rate funding; $72,670 for council per student rate funding; $1,500 in food for the presidents reception; $2,300 from the Duluth open house; $39,000 from the leadership development workshop; $1,000 from the GAPSA forum for travel; $43,953 from carryover; and a $28,035 penalty for poor financial record keeping reflected in the audit.
The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Work load described by GAPSA for e-board members receiving stipends did not exceed that of work load that the SSFC had recommended not funding stipends for other student groups. GDM: 10

2) While the minority opinion appreciates GAPSA’s efforts to be responsible with SSFC money through hiring an external auditor, the cuts that the minority feels were appropriate would bring the GAPSA budget back in line with other budgets that are not large enough to warrant an external auditor. GDM: 6

3) Operational food does not benefit the general fees paying student body. If meetings must be scheduled over normal eating times attending members should be asked to bring a bagged lunch/dinner. GDM: 5, 6

4) Operational parking does not benefit the general fees paying student body. GDM: 5, 6

5) The minority does not agree that all graduate and professional students should be charged a fee to help subsidize the academic travel for a few students when GAPSA admits that all graduate students are expected to travel for academic conferences during the graduate school time. GAPSA is not providing a service to students by charging them a fee and then giving them the money right back. GDM: 1, 5, 6, 7

6) There is no need for GAPSA to fund graduate and professional school councils because these councils have the ability to directly charge the students in their colleges to operate. By changing the source of the funding for these councils they will be made more accountable to the students in the colleges they serve. GDM: 4, 6, 8

7) The per head cost of food for the presidents reception is higher than the SSFC has funded for other events. GAPSA should either find a cheaper venue or charge those who attend the event for the food that they eat. GDM: 5, 6, 8

8) There is not sufficient justification to spend money on the Duluth Open House. The GAPSA forums already have ITV capability so that Duluth students can express their concerns. ITV is sufficient for Duluth students to communicate their concerns. This is shown by the colleges allowing medical and pharmacy students to use ITV as a medium for learning lifesaving treatments. Additionally this program does not benefit non-Duluth students who pay the SSF. GDM: 4, 5, 6

9) The leadership development workshop is too expensive for the number of students that are able to benefit from it. GDM: 6

10) The SSFC has not reimbursed parking costs for any group this year. GDM: 6
11) After calculating funded operational expenses the carry over that GAPSA had projected for the 2013-14 year was far too high.  

GDM: 9

12) The GAPSA audit showed a level of sloppiness that an organization with paid staff members and a fully paid board should not have. Issues include a failure to keep records of individuals who received stipends, failure to provide payment receipt support on payroll, and exceptions in almost all studied categories. This audit was consistent with other audits that received 25% reductions for other student groups.  

GDM: 11

*Directives:* Through the SSF process several graduate and professional students expressed concerns about the size of the GAPSA budget and the actual benefit that they received from GAPSA expenditures. In the future GAPSA should seek to economize their spending so that it is more in line with other student organizations. GAPSA should also do more to ensure that all graduate and professional students are aware of the benefits they receive from GAPSA. In the future GAPSA must do a better job keeping track of their financial transactions. An organization with a budget as massive as GAPSA should have plenty of resources available to them to keep track of where they are spending their money.
Habitat For Humanity at the University of Minnesota (#335)

Committee Vote: 9-1-0

Requested Allocation: $19,773
Recommended Allocation: $13,153

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Majority recommends that Habitat for Humanity at the University of Minnesota receives $12,583 in funding for the next fiscal year. The Majority commends Habitat for Humanity at UMN for providing wide-reaching benefit to the community, and engaging students through events such as Shantytown. However, the Majority finds that Habitat for Humanity at UMN incurs some costs that do not provide a service to the greater student body, defined in the deductions below.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Deduction of $2,000 for operating food at general meetings. Food at general meetings is not integral to the group and does not attract students. GDM: 1b, 2, 4, 5

2) Deduction of $300 for volunteer events travel. Although the Majority approves of the volunteer events, local travel does not fall under SSF guidelines. GDM: 3, 4, 5, 6

3) Deduction of $3,920 for Habitat Youth Leadership Conference. Sending 16 members does not provide any benefit to the student body. We have reduced funding to cover half the cost of sending 4 members to the conference. GDM: 4, 5, 6, 8

4) Deduction of $400 for Habitat on the Hill. We have reduced funding to a level that would cover half the cost of 2 members attending the conference. GDM: 4, 5, 6, 8

Directives: The Majority recommends that Habitat for Humanity focuses on reducing conference expenditures and providing more programming on campus. In addition, greater attention needs to be placed on monitoring financial statements. The audit found an unexplained variance in the ending bank statement for this group. The Majority would also like to say the follow-up material sent was exemplary.

Minority Opinion:

The Minority believed that, although the Committee very rarely funds individual local travel, it would have been appropriate to fund volunteer events travel for the group since traveling off-campus was necessary given that the same work could not be conducted on campus and was done primarily for the benefit of the community rather than individual members.
**Hillel: Jewish Student Union (#175)**

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

*Requested Allocation:* $37,950  
*Recommended Allocation:* $27,425

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The Student Services Fee Committee recognizes the service that Hillel provides to the university community. The follow-up information provided by Hillel in response to the committee’s initial concerns was very helpful.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Travel in the FYSH program appears to be local travel, which the committee does not believe provides a benefit to all students. This resulted in a deduction of $500.  
   **GDM:** 6

2) The food expenses for programming are extremely high. The committee recommends a $10,000 deduction in food expenses. The committee recommends that Hillel consider providing a kosher option rather than providing all kosher food.  
   **GDM:** 9

3) The committee does not feel that it is the role of Student Services Fees to pay the $25 SUA Registration fee.  
   **GDM:** 1

*Directives:* In the future, it is crucial that a full funds budget is provided to the committee so that the committee is able to understand all of Hillel’s finances when making funding recommendations. In addition, the high costs of Kosher food should be explicitly explained in Hillel’s budget, due to the fact that people who don’t keep kosher often don’t know the cost of kosher food. Including a cost breakdown for the food of each program would be helpful.
Hmong Minnesota Student Association (#291)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $27,315  Recommended Allocation: $24,665

Comments: The committee has reviewed the requested amount of $27,315 and voted to approve $24,665 for the student organization, Hmong Minnesota Student Association. This amount allocated for the following fiscal year has been reached after a careful and thorough review of all projected expenses expected to be incurred by this organization for the 2013-2014 school year. The committee was impressed with HMSA’s effort in seeking outside funding in addition to Student Services Fees. However, there were several smaller components of HMSA’s overall budget that the committee felt did not benefit students who do not participate in the group, but still pay the Student Services Fee.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee recommended a deduction from the operational food breakdown: $100 from Board Meetings, $200 from HMSA Office, $100 from Events, $200 from HMSA Office under equipment breakdown, and under other operational expenses breakdown: $50 from registration fees, $200 from gift cards, $100 from Park fees/Vouchers, $400 from Honorarium, and $1,500 from Donations to others. These expenses were deemed personal benefits to members of the group and not the larger campus community. Thus they should be funded by sources other than Student Services Fees. GDM: 3, 6

Directives: The Committee found the food costs to be a bit high in comparison to many student organizations. Given the significant portion of the budget spent on food, the Committee would recommend that the group try to negotiate business sponsorships or discounts as regular customers to particular food companies to reduce costs.
Horticulture Club (#483)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $12,373  Recommended Allocation: $7,239

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fee Committee believes that the Horticulture Club fills a unique need on this campus and provides a valuable service to students. It does not believe that student money should be used in the production of alcoholic beverages or attainment of equipment to do so. It also does not feel that using student fees money to pay for the travel expenses to conferences where the ability to widely impact students back on campus is not apparent or for the purchase of food items explicitly for operational purposes.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) $120 was deducted in regards to food for officer meetings because the committee believes that it is an inappropriate use of Student Services Fees.  GDM: 1, 6

2) $399 was deducted in regards to brewing equipment because the committee believes it is an inappropriate use of Student Service Fees and inconsistent with other University Policies. There is not a specific guideline for this, but it is stated within the SSF handbook that Student Services Fee money must not be, directly or indirectly, used to purchase alcohol.  GDM: 6

3) $900 was deducted for travel to research conferences.  GDM: 6

4) $3,716 was deducted for a large carryover in addition to operational reserves and a foundation.  GDM: 1, 9

Directives: Continue to seek funding for travel expenses for events off campus.
Indian Student Association (#10)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $7,278  
Recommended Allocation: $6,628

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee appreciated the preparedness of the Indian Student Association and the amount of collaboration the organization is planning on. The committee feels that the cost and time of becoming a non-profit organization is more costly than the benefits that could result.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee recommends cuts in SSF funding for the following amounts: $25 non-profit annual filing, $20 US bank overdraft protection, $200 food for the ISA board meetings, $80 food for the ISA board turnover meetings, $25 SUA registration fee, and $300 board member T-shirts. All of these cuts are recommended because the expenses don’t provide a service to the student body or demonstrate a benefit to students who are not participating.  

Directives: Follow through with the plans to collaborate with multiple student organizations. Research the benefits of becoming a non-profit closely.
Innovative Engineers

Committee Vote: 8-2-0

*Requested Allocation*: $5,000  
*Recommended Allocation*: $1,000

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments*: The majority believes that Innovative Engineers have greatly displayed the name of our university, and is glad to see such an exponential growth of this organization. However, there is much concern regarding the benefits it provides to the students who are not directly participating in the events and the breadth of its programs. Therefore, it has decided to fund Innovative Engineers $1,000 for 2013-2014.

_The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:_

1) We have cut $4,000 from its Outreach program as its benefits go directly and mostly to the high school students and the residents of Nicaragua. Furthermore, such outreach event is a personal development opportunity for the individuals who participate in the program, not the general student body.  

    GDM: 4, 5, 6

*Directives*: The majority recommends requesting co-pay to the individuals who go on the outreach trips as the student body cannot and should not pay for all individuals’ travel expenses.

**Minority Opinion:**

*Requested Allocation*: $5,000  
*Recommended Allocation*: $5,000

*Comments*: The Minority felt that Innovative Engineers should rearrange funding sources in order to utilize SSF funding.

*Directives*: The Minority feels that Innovative Engineers is a well-run group with a strong positive impact on the University and the greater community. Unfortunately, Innovative Engineers chose to apply internal grants to operational expenses that Student Services Fees would have covered, and applied for international trip funding, which is not an appropriate use of student fees. The Minority encourages IE to reconsider how they apply for fees next year, and apply for student fees to cover operational and non-travel programming expenses.
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on International Development (#2393)

Committee Vote: 9-0-1

Requested Allocation: $8,500  
Recommended Allocation: $5,375

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fee Committee heard the presentation from IPID requesting financial support for 2013-14 and found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. That being said, the SSFC did take issue with the extent of funding for IPID. The committee had questions about the appropriateness of IPID’s grant program and chose to only partially fund the program.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee was concerned about the ability of the grant program to benefit the general university community, so a cut of $3,125.

**Directives:** The committee recommends that IPID spend SSF funding on programming for the student body, and if they feel that a grant program is necessary, other sources of funding can be used for it.
La Raza Student Cultural Center (#131)

Committee Vote: 6-4-0

Requested Allocation: $45,000  Recommended Allocation: $28,910

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Majority recommends that La Raza Student Cultural Center receives $28,910 in SSF funding for the next fiscal year. The Majority commends La Raza for its quality programming, community outreach, and partnerships with other student groups on campus. However, the Majority finds that several costs incurred by La Raza, including stipends and rent, fell outside of SSF guidelines.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Deduction of $11,000 for stipends and wages. The stipends and wages could not be justified as necessary for the group to operate, and were thus removed. GDM: 10

2) Deduction of $1,000 for operational board food. This food did not bring in students, nor did it provide value to the group as a whole. GDM: 1a, 4, 5

3) Deduction of $1,000 for other operational expense “when needed.” This built-in operational reserve lacked justification. GDM: 9

4) Deduction of $30 for travel in El Grito. Funding local travel does not fall under SSF guidelines. GDM: 3, 4, 5

5) Deduction of $320 for food at general assembly meetings. This food does not provide a service to the student body, not does it attract members. GDM: 1a, 4, 5

6) Deduction of $30 for travel at Networking Days. Funding local travel does not fall under SSF guidelines. GDM: 3, 4, 5

7) Deduction of $30 for travel for graduate school workshop. Funding local travel does not fall under SSF guidelines. GDM: 3, 4, 5

8) Deduction of $2,500 for “other” at College Visits. The Majority could not ascertain what this consisted of. GDM: 1a, 1b, 2, 4, 8

9) Deduction of $180 for gifts at El Colegio Senior Presentations. Gifts benefit only a small number of students GDM: 5
**Directives:** The Majority encourages La Raza to spend funds on programming instead of stipends and travel.

**Minority Opinion #1:**

*Requested Allocation: $45,000*  
*Recommended Allocation: $34,410*

*Comments:* The minority wished to leave La Raza access to at least some of the fees funding to support stipends for group leadership. While the committee are generally very resistant to using fees to fund group leadership, the committee believes that La Raza’s size, scope, impact, and responsibilities in the University community justified small financial incentives for officers. There were a number of aspects of their duties that mirrored a campus job as much as an extracurricular activity. Finally the minority feels that $5,500 is an appropriate amount for student stipends.
Lutheran Student Movement (#146)

Committee Vote: 8-2-0

Requested Allocation: $36,585  Recommended Allocation: $19,073

Majority Opinion:

Comments: Lutheran Student Movement has proven that it is capable of putting on regular programs that consistently have good attendance, and special programs that have quite high attendance. There are several expenditures in the proposed budget that the committee does not feel have been fully justified. They are as follows:

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee does not feel that the salaries and stipend expenditures have been fully justified, and therefore deducted $7,075 in SSF funding, which equates to half of the SSF funding request for this expenditure.  
   GDM: 9, 10

2) The food for some events was determined by the committee to be unjustified as Student Services Fee expenses, due to the fact that they do not benefit students outside the group. Specifically, the food for Worship has been cut to 25% of the request, because the committee believes that using SSF funds for worship food once a month is appropriate. This amounts to a cut of $1,012. The food costs for Leadership Development $500 were determined to be unjustified. In addition, $250 of funding for unspecified other expenses for Leadership Development have been deducted from the request.  
   GDM: 6, 9

3) The full Student Services Fee contribution has been deducted from the Fall Retreat $900, and the Spring Break trip $6,000 because these events do not seem to provide a benefit to the student body as a whole. In addition, these are events from which attendees receive great personal benefit and costs should therefore be paid by attendees.  
   GDM: 6, 7, 8, 9

4) A deduction of $1,000 was made from the Stay Awake Study Break because the committee does not believe that hiring masseuses is a responsible use of student money, and the cost has not been fully justified.  
   GDM: 9

5) Finally, $50 has been deducted from the requested amount for Social Event travel, $625 from operational travel expenses, and $100 from service project travel. All of these travel expenses were determined to be unjustified by the group.  
   GDM: 9

Directives: The committee recommends that Lutheran Student Movement look into funding the above deductions using funding from other sources.
Minority Opinion #1:

Requested Allocation: $36,585  
Recommended Allocation: $11,998

Comments: It is recommended that Lutheran Student Movement search for outside funding to pay for staff member salaries.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) The minority would have removed all funding for all staff members employed by Lutheran Student Movement. The minority is concerned that this is not an appropriate use of Student Services Fees.  
   GDM: 6, 10

Minority Opinion #2:

Requested Allocation: $36,585  
Recommended Allocation: $22,611

Comments: The minority feels that the stipends request by LSM was justified. However the minority feels that a reduction of $3,538 in the stipends request would still provide enough funds for a limited amount of stipend positions within the group.
Minnesota International Student Association  (#184)

Committee Vote: 9-0-1

Requested Allocation: $86,622  
Recommended Allocation: $66,223

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The majority believes that the Minnesota International Student Association, as an over-arching organization for international students, provides quality service and community to our students. Therefore, we have decided to fund Minnesota International Student Association at $66,223.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Although MISA provides a high level of service to our student body, the leadership positions themselves directly enhance resumes and qualifications on the students who hold the leadership positions. Therefore, we have decided to cut $9,738 from stipends. GDM: 1, 6

2) Food from board bonding session under operational food was taken out as it does not provide any services to the student body except for those who consume the food. Furthermore, bonding sessions can occur without spending $1,500 on food. GDM: 1

3) The intention of having board jackets can be understood. However, it should not be the burden of the entire student body to indirectly purchase such items. $950 for board jackets was taken out. GDM: 1, 6

4) We saw that replacement equipment was not a question of necessity. $1,821 was taken out for equipment replacement. GDM: 1, 6

5) US Bank analysis fee of $40 was deemed unnecessarily. GDM: 6

6) MISA’s operational reserves are high; we have cut $4,800 to keep it at 10%, the recommended amount. GDM: 9

7) Bowling and Pool Night’s food expense was considerably high. We have cut $750. GDM: 1, 3

8) Community Engagement Day is a great program, but local travel can be easily covered at minimal cost through various methods of transportation. We have cut $800 for travel. GDM: 3
Directives: The majority recommends seeking outside funding instead of heavily relying on SSF. Furthermore, the majority recommends generating some fundraising income at some of MISA events at minimal amounts to individuals so that MISA can offset some of its high programming costs.
Minnesota Public Interest Research Group (#95)

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

Requested Allocation: $126,571

Recommended Allocation: $124,211

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee enjoyed MPIRG’s presentation and its enthusiasm in making the students heard. The committee understands there is a conflict of interest when searching for external funding, but still feel there are opportunities to either fundraise or other versions of acquiring contributions. The committee appreciates MPIRG’s involvement with the study body and wants to continue to fund MPIRG’s initiatives.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee recommends a $2,360 cut from the Fall Retreat. The committee feels half of the costs should be funded through other means.

GDM: 1a, 6, 9

Directives: The committee encourages all student groups to look for external funding. There are a variety of ways this can be achieved without compromising neutrality, and the committee urges MPIRG to look into these options.
Minnesota Student Association (#509)

Committee Vote: 6-1-1

Requested Allocation: $186,376  Recommended Allocation: $181,556

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee enjoyed the presentation and all the work the organization does for the student body. The committee did feel there was an exorbitant amount of food costs and have cut that in consideration to the benefit of the students who pay service fees. There were some issues with the committee not understanding certain parts of MSA’s budget. The budget did not represent the programs clearly, which caused deliberation amongst the committee. The committee feels that during part of the discussion process, MSA members were a distraction and although this did not affect any of the committee’s decisions, it did hinder communication between the members.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee recommends several cuts from the food category in the following amounts: $250 from the legislative coalition, $500 from the end of year banquet, and $1,350 from the leadership reception. The committee cut food for these programs because justification for this benefited the university community was not seen. GDM: 9

2) The committee recommends a $500 cut from the world fair and $120 from the new administration program for other costs that were not specified and not justified. GDM: 9

3) Under the category of operational expenses, the committee recommends a cut of $300 travel (parking) and $1,800 for all operational food. The committee felt this did not benefit students who pay the student services fees but do not participate. GDM: 6

Directives: Continue to reach more of the campus during elections. Involve the community in MSA’s efforts.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $ 186,376  Recommended Allocation: $167,556

Comments: The Minority did not feel that MSA justified its high food costs, or unexplained “other” expenses.
The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The food budget was too large, and the price per head was often over $10. This excessive spending does not benefit MSA or the student body.  
GDM: 1a, 2, 4, 5

1) Several unspecified “other” expenses were present in the budget given to the committee. These expenses were not justified in any way.  
GDM: 1a, 1b, 2, 4, 5, 6

Directives: Don’t over budget for food expenses, and fully explain “other” expenses in the budget.
Minnesotap (#2582)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $15,255 \hspace{1cm} \text{Recommended Allocation:} \hspace{0.5cm} $10,050

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Committee believes that Minnesotap offers a very unique service to students of all levels of tap experience and commends Minnesotap on following up with the directives of last year’s committee of providing beginner classes. In regards to the CHRP, the committee has recommended a significantly smaller allocation because it believes that the amount of value provided to the entire student body by funding many students to attend versus few students is not overly significant. The committee also recommends less spending on the travel of visiting artists, especially when the intended attendance to the events is only 150 people, for artists which cost thousands of dollars. The committee did not find the funding of student stipends, food for retreats, or operational parking expenses to be appropriate uses of student service fees.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) $100 deducted for operational parking. \hspace{1cm} \text{GDM:} \hspace{0.5cm} 1, 6
2) $500 deducted for food at retreats \hspace{1cm} \text{GDM:} \hspace{0.5cm} 6
3) $300 deducted for students stipends for beginning workshops. \hspace{1cm} \text{GDM:} \hspace{0.5cm} 6, 10
4) $2,775 deducted from CHRP programming expenses. \hspace{1cm} \text{GDM:} \hspace{0.5cm} 6
5) $1,500 deducted for visiting artist travel expenses. \hspace{1cm} \text{GDM:} \hspace{0.5cm} 9

Directives: The Committee would like to see Minnesotap make better use of the time it will have with visiting master artists and create opportunities for more students to have exposure to their knowledge and abilities.
National Society of Black Engineers (#318)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $9,307

Recommended Allocation: $6,247

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee has finished reviewing your application, and adjusted your funding request accordingly. We would like to thank you for responding to the questions that we had during our initial deliberations, and the very clear way in which these questions were addressed in the document provided.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) We have cut the costs of travel for your annual convention by $2,660 so that SSF funds would help 4 people to attend this trip. We have taken into consideration the appeal on the supplementary document; however, regardless of the assistance from the STEM Alliance, the committee does not feel that Student Services Fees should cover the costs of travel. We would instead recommend using the assistance that this Organization provides to solely cover the cost of attendance, as the committee can see the benefits of attending.

   GDM: 6, 8

2) The committee has adjusted the cost of your bowling event to the cost of $10/ head. This factored out to a $340 decrease from the originally requested amount of $690. We felt that the originally requested amount was a very high cost per head, and adjusted the request to more appropriately reflect the cost of bowling.

   GDM: 2, 6, 8

Directives: Given these reductions, we have adjusted your fees request to the amount of $6,247 for FY 14. The Fees committee was impressed by your sustainability in keeping operational costs down enough to not need the assistance of Student Services Fees. While we are appreciative of the services your organization offers its members, we would prefer to see more advertising to increase engagement in your organization. In your programming very few events have funds allotted for advertising, which makes us feel that outreach to the greater University Community is minimal.
Navigators at the University of Minnesota (#129)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $6,000  
Recommended Allocation: $5,700

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Majority recommends that Navigators receive $5,700 in SSF funding for the next fiscal year. The Majority commends Navigators for providing programming at a low cost. However, some food costs were found to be unnecessary.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Deduction of $300 for food/entertainment at Catalyst Launch. This food/entertainment expense provided no benefit to the group or the student body.  
GDM: 1a, 2, 4, 5, 6

Directives: Cut down on unnecessary food costs.


**Queer Student Cultural Center (#238)**

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

*Requested Allocation: $64,414  Recommended Allocation: $50,606*

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The Majority recommends that QSCC receive $50,606 in SSF funding for the next fiscal year. The Majority commends QSCC for the huge breadth of its programming, and its partnerships with other student groups. However, the Majority found that wage and food costs were unnecessary in some cases, detailed below.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) Deduction of $6,600 for stipends. These stipends were not deemed necessary for group operation.  
   **GDM:** 10

2) Deduction of $50 for operational travel reimbursements. These local travel costs did not provide value to the group or student body.  
   **GDM:** 1a, 4, 5

3) Deduction of $400 for food at board meetings. Food does not provide value to group or student body.  
   **GDM:** 1a, 2, 4, 5, 6

4) Deduction of $225 for member group registration. All student groups must pay these fees, applying for SSF funds does not remove that responsibility.  
   **GDM:** 8

5) Deduction of $450 for unspecified other in MBLGTACC and Queer Crafting events. No justification given.  
   **GDM:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9

6) Deduction of $2,500 for excessive food costs at KINK conference. Funding lowered to a more reasonable ~$8 per person.  
   **GDM:** 2

7) Deduction of $1,000 for unspecified other at KINK conference. No justification given.  
   **GDM:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9

8) Deduction of $500 for Ally conference travel, reduced to half payment for 2 students.  
   **GDM:** 4, 5, 6

9) Deduction of $2,083 in overall cuts to Minnesota OUT for excessive cost per head.  
   **GDM:** 2
Directives: QSCC is a model student group concerning partnerships and extensive programming, and should continue to provide these services to the student body. However, excessive stipends and travel expenses should be avoided.
Saint Paul’s Outreach (#1542)

Committee Vote: 6-4-0

Requested Allocation: $89,828  
Recommended Allocation: $53,628

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Service Fees Committee would like to thank SPO for your exceptionally transparent application. We had very few issues as far as determining what funds would be used for with regards to programmatic and operational expenditures. We would also like to compliment your organization for getting back to the committee in a timely manner with responses to our questions. After reviewing this information, as well as your original SSFC application, we would like to provide our recommendations, with the appropriate justifications for our adjustments as follows.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee does not feel that it is the role of Student Services Fees to pay the $25 SUA Registration fee. GDM: 1

2) The committee did not feel that the fees request for stipends was fully justified in your initial request. After reviewing the follow up information you provided for the committee, we felt that the most pertinent position for the ongoing success of your organization was the Chapter Director, and so we allotted for the funding of this Position, but cut funding for the remaining Mission Leader positions. The committee would like to articulate that this reduction in staff salaries was not influenced by the positions ties to religion. The final recommended amount is totaled at $10,000. (This is a subtraction of $20,000 from SPO’s initial request.) GDM: 10

3) Sending 15 people to the Student Leadership Training does not seem like a responsible use of Student Funds, so instead the committee will allot funds for 4 people to attend this event. We feel that increased fundraising as well as individually financed transportation are suitable alternatives to Student Services Fees in this case. We have reviewed your follow up information regarding this event, but were unable to find where your information was coming from. Our records indicate that $5,300 was requested in Student Services Fees, which was what our funding recommendation was based on. Nonetheless, the committee sees the benefit in attending this event, and hopes that the decrease in funding does not hinder the ability of your members to gain valuable leadership experience. The recommended deduction for this program is $4,300. GDM: 3, 6

4) The committee did not see the benefit of funding the Alpha Retreat because of the fact that it is an event by nature that is not inclusive for everyone in the University Community. While we
understand that this event is open to all University of Minnesota students, we feel that the use of Student Funds for such an event is not properly justified, despite the follow up information. This is a recommended deduction of $3,250. GDM: 6

5) Similar to the Student Leadership Training, we did not feel that sending 20 people to The SNE event would be an appropriate use of Student Services Fees, so we have again allotted for 4 people to attend. The committee has thoroughly reviewed your follow up information, but feels that sending 4 people to this event is a fair alternative to fully cutting the trip altogether. This is a recommended cut of $6,700. GDM: 3

6) The committee did not feel that the importance of sponsoring the Fan into the Flame Scholarships was properly conveyed in your application. We thank you for the follow up information regarding this event as well; however, we still felt that this event demonstrated how the use in student funds would better the University Community as a whole. This is a recommended deduction of $1,925. GDM: 1

Directives: The committee would again like to reiterate our appreciation for the services that St. Paul’s outreach does for the University, as well as for its very thorough application. Based on the information provided it seems that SPO’s events have relatively high turnout, which implies that this group’s outreach University-wide is exceptional – something that is of particular importance in applying for Student Services Fees. The benefit that this organization has for the University is clearly seen in both your application and your programming break down. The committee thanks SPO for applying, and looks forward to hearing of the great things your organization does in the future.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $89,828
Recommended Allocation: $43,628

Comments: The minority would have removed all funding for all staff members employed by St. Paul’s Outreach. The minority is concerned that this is not an appropriate use of Student Services Fees. It is recommended that St. Paul Outreach search for outside funding to pay for staff member salaries. GDM: 6, 10
SIAM Student Chapter (#2700)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $3,325  Recommended Allocation: $2,950

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee is appreciative of the services you offer students through your programming. We have made minor adjustments to your request with justifications below.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) It is not the role of Student Service’s Fees to cover the SUA registration fee, a cost of $25.
   GDM: 1

2) The committee felt that $600 was too much to allocate for prizes/etc. so we have reduced this amount by $200.
   GDM: 1

3) The committee recognizes the Laboratory tour as an event that is exceptionally beneficial for your organization, but feels that the dinner that coincides is not something that Student Services Fees should cover, so a cut of $150 was recommended from this program.
   GDM: 8

Directives: The committee would like to see an increase in your advertising initiatives for your Guest Lecture Series as well as your Seminar Series as to attract people from all across the University Community.
Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (#2749)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $7,560  
Recommendation Allocation: $2,940

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Service Fees Committee heard the presentation by the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. In particular, the Committee recognized the group’s breadth and depth of programming, and efforts to advance Asian students in the sciences. That being said, the SSFC did take issue with several line items within the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers’ request during final deliberations, upon a more thorough review. Areas that SSFC felt were outside of student organization funding guidelines were; $2,687 for the national convention; $1,533 for the regional conference; $400 for retreat food.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee did not feel that the need to send 15 students to the national convention was adequately justified. The committee has decided to fund 2 students at half reimbursement for the convention
   
   GDM: 5, 6

2) The committee did not feel that the need to send 15 students to the regional convention was adequately justified. The committee has decided to fund 2 students at half reimbursement for the convention
   
   GDM: 5, 6

3) The committee did not feel that there was a benefit to funding food for the organizations retreat.
   
   GDM: 5, 6

Directives: The committee was impressed by SASE’s ability to find funding from outside of the SSF fund and would like to strongly encourage SASE to continue seeking diverse funding sources.
Society of Automotive Engineers, University of Minnesota (#529)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $19,890  
Recommended Allocation: $18,090

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Committee had no areas of particular concern with your Fees application, but did adjust your request with the justifications below.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee does not see the benefit of funding 20 people to attend the Spring Break Testing. Instead, we would advise individual travel coverage or increased grant/organizational contribution to allot for the decrease in student services fees funding. However, we do see the need to test the vehicle in a location with more forgiving weather so we have allotted for half of the requested amount which should allow for 10 people to attend the testing event. This resulted in a recommended cut of $1,800. GDM: 3, 6

Directives: While the committee recognizes your effort in engaging students outside the college of Science and Engineering, we would like to see stronger initiatives with regards to advertising, and community outreach to different colleges on campus.
Solar Vehicle Project (#1465)

Committee Vote: 9-1-0

Requested Allocation: $98,470  
Recommended Allocation: $44,040

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The majority believes the Solar Vehicle Project provides a clear value to the University by giving students significant opportunities to apply knowledge and build career skills while also promoting the University in a positive light. The committee would like to continue to support the Solar Vehicle Project and appreciate the very balanced funding sources the organization has attained through a mix of grants, organizational contributions, and fees. But the majority also believes there were a few components of the fees request that did not fully justify the cost they would require. In particular, the committee thinks that the 3D printer and equipment trailer would require more detailed justification before they could or should be funded with Student Services Fees money. Additionally, the majority recommend cutting all allocated fees money for officer stipends, as the committee believes the leadership and career development opportunities presented by official positions in the Solar Vehicle Project are significant and sufficient incentive for officers.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee is not convinced that the $3,500 allocated for salaries is necessary or justified given the opportunities provided by leadership in the group and the personal benefit to participants.  
GDM: 6, 8, 10

2) The committee recommends reducing the fees allocation by $50,000 by eliminating the 3D Printer, trailer, and the majority of the money requested for parking permits from the request. The committee believes the 3D Printer would have a clear benefit to the group, and perhaps even campus, but that the cost and the plan for use need to be more fully justified and planned. The committee believes that $40,000 is an enormous use of fees for a single piece of equipment, and it appeared to be more of a luxury than a necessity for the function and success of the group. Additionally, if a piece of equipment that expensive were purchased exclusively through fees, the committee would want to see a very clear and detailed plan of how it would be fairly shared among all students and student organizations. The committee would consider more support for the trailer if it was ascertained that the current state of the trailer posed a clear safety risk to the students involved in the organization. But our impression was that the primary concern with the current trailer is its appearance and how it reflects on the University. The committee believes this concern could be addressed through cheaper measures than full replacement. The committee also
supports funding for parking the car, but were not convinced that would cost $1,000 per year. If
the committee is convinced the trailer poses a safety hazard or the parking expenses can be
documented in detail, those funding levels could be reconsidered. GDM: 2, 5, 6, 8

3) The only other recommended reductions to the initial request are the removal of $50 of food
for both the Homecoming and Welcome Week events. Since this food would be available only to
club members participating in the event, the committee believe it constitutes a personal expense
and should not be covered through fees. GDM: 1, 6

Directives: The Committee asks that the leadership of the Solar Vehicle Project consider the
benefits they derive from their positions and re-assess whether financial incentive is truly
necessary for their positions. The committee appreciates the group’s efforts to be inclusive and to
make their work visible in the community, and would like to encourage them to continue these
efforts. In future fees requests, the committee would encourage you to develop very detailed
plans and explanations of the needs for any very large ticket items that will be funded
exclusively or primarily through fees.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $ 98,470

Recommended Allocation: $28,970

Comments: The Minority did not feel that the Solar Vehicle Project group fully justified their
large capital equipment request.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook
guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Solar Vehicle Project asked for a large amount of capital equipment without providing an
adequate justification why such expensive capital equipment was necessary for operation.

GDM: 2, 5, 6

Directives: If the Solar Vehicle Project desires tools that are a luxury, rather than a necessity,
funding should come from other sources.
Somali Student Association (#393)

Committee Vote: 6-3-0

Requested Allocation: $37,220

Recommended Allocation: $25,556

Majority Opinion:

Comments: SSA originally had a scheduled time slot in which they were to present to the committee and cancelled. A new presentation time was agreed upon, and again SSA did not present. Because the presentation is a valuable and necessary part of the SSF application process, the committee saw fit to impose a 10% penalty to Somali Student Association’s eventual funding recommendation. Without a presentation in which to ask clarifying questions, the committee decided to make a funding recommendation based only on the application and budget submitted by the group. The committee also considered the follow-up information provided by SSA.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The funding for the Alumni Retreat was cut $950 because the cost of the event was not justified to the committee and seems to only benefit members of the group (and its alumni).

   GDM: 6, 9

2) There was $1,000 in unjustified and unexplained operational food expenses. This food would only be given to members, and therefore not benefit students who pay the fee but do not participate in the group.

   GDM: 6, 9

3) There were two events that do not seem to require food but still have substantial food budgets. Because the reason for this food was not justified or explained, $1,150 was cut from the request for Fall Basketball Tournament and $850 was cut from the request for Spring Soccer Cup.

   GDM: 9

4) There is a very high food cost for the Somali Youth Collegiate Leadership Conference. This high cost has not been fully justified. The committee believes that the conference can be just as successful with a lower food budget. Therefore, the committee has deducted $4,000 from the fees request. A similarly high food cost was found in the Freshman Engagement Event, so $675 was deducted from the request for that event.

   GDM: 6, 9

6) The committee feels that the $200 of gifts under the Goldy’s Eid celebration would not benefit all those who pay the fee.

   GDM: 6, 9

Directives: In the future, the committee recommends that SSA keep its presentation time. It is a crucial part of the fees process.
Minority Opinion #1:

Requested Allocation: $37,220  
Recommended Allocation: $21,297

Comments: Before financial accountability comes responsibility. Somali Student Association failed to attend their presentation, a promise met by all other student organizations receiving SSF. To accommodate SSA’s schedule, the committee as a whole went out of its way to reschedule another presentation time—only to be disappointed for a second time without explanation. The minority agrees that Somali Student Association adds diversity and fosters a sense of community at the university. However, Somali Student Association has proven itself incapable of proper communication and organization. The minority highly doubts the legitimacy of SSA’s leadership, and concludes that financial accountability should not be entrusted as such. Therefore, the minority recommends a 25% overall budget cut.

Directives: The minority recommends planning ahead thoroughly and clearly.

Minority Opinion #2:

Requested Allocation: $43,000  
Recommended Allocation: $28,395

Comments: The minority feels the Somali Student Association has been severely penalized for not making it to the presentations. Not only has the majority cut funding for unspecified expenditures, but a 10% overall cut was assessed due to unexplained expenses the majority felt would have been clarified during presentations. The minority feels this is an overlapping cut and hinders an organization that has large student involvement and contribution to the community.

Directives: Provide a complete budget sheet and show up for presentations during future fees request.
Student Services Fees (SSF) Event Grant

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Request Allocation: $75,000          Recommended Allocation: $75,000

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee recommends fully funding this group. The committee felt that the budget was well planned and fully adhered to the guidelines.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The budget requested was justified by the following guidelines: 1a, 1b, 2, 3, 4, 6

Directives: Continue to provide the same level of service.
Student Veterans Association (#1474)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $21,045  Recommended Allocation: $19,040

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee would like to express our appreciation for the clear service that your organization offers to the Veterans at the University of Minnesota, as well as the services you offer to the greater student body. An organization such as yours is essential in helping returning veterans re-enter the academic atmosphere, and feel welcome here at the U. We would also like to thank you for providing the committee with the follow-up information we had asked for.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee does not see the $25 SUA registration fee as an appropriate use of Student Funds. This is a deduction of $25.  
   GDM: 1

2) The committee took your justification for the $100 in supplies (certificates/ awards) into consideration but upon further review, decided that this expenditure was an expense that was not altogether necessary. Your rationale for these expenses concluded that these awards were needed to honor the officers of your organization for their hard work, and in turn was necessary to the Student Veterans Association’s overall success; however, the committee was unable to accept this rationale as one of validity.  
   GDM: 1

3) The Intramural Sports program that your organization is hosting seems like an event that more closely coincides with Rec Sports. The interaction between the Veterans in your organization with other facets of Campus Life seems to be in a competitive environment – one which we feel will hinder the socialness of such an event. This is a recommended deduction of $700.  
   GDM: 2

4) While the committee can see the benefit of your SVA Conference, we felt that the number of attendees that you have slated is too high, so we instead slated for 2 to attend, covering half of the travel and half of the room rental for this event; resulting in a final decrease in $180.  
   GDM: 6, 8

5) The ski Trip slated in your programming seemed like an event that would be more suitably funded through individual contributions. This is a recreational event, and while the committee can see the importance of having events off campus and outside of an academic environment we feel that our initial rationale holds. This is a deduction of $700.  
   GDM: 3
6) The military care packages are a charitable endeavor and the committee feels that a more appropriate funding source for this would be through fundraising. This is a deduction of $300.

GDM: 1

*Directives:* The committee would again like to reiterate our appreciation for the services that your organization offers to the student body. Through increased advertising and outreach we feel that your services can be extenuated to a greater percentage of students here at the University of Minnesota.
Students Against Hunger (#2388)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $4,110  
Recommended Allocation: $3,760

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Majority recommends that Students Against Hunger receives $3,760 in SSF funding for the next fiscal year. The Majority commends Students Against Hunger for providing educational programming and expanding the scope of their activities. However, the Majority found some food costs unnecessary.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Deduction of $50 for operational food. This food provided no value to the group or student body.   
   GDM: 1a, 2, 4, 5, 6

2) Deduction of $300 for food at bi-weekly meetings. Again, this food provided no value to the group or student body.   
   GDM: 1a, 3, 4, 5, 6

Directives: Continue to provide quality programming and remove unnecessary food expenses from future budgets.
Students for a Conservative Voice (#1298)

Committee Vote: 7-3-0

Requested Allocation: $120,093     Recommended Allocation: $77,106

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee would like to thank you for applying for Student Services Fees for FY 14. The committee understands that the need for a conservative publication on campus is essential in creating an unbiased and well-versed college environment. After reviewing your application we have made adjustments, and justified them below.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee did not feel that the increase in your stipends was justified in your presentation/ application so we have allotted the same amount as last year for these, which is a recommended deduction of $27,200.        GDM: 10

2) Student Services Fees are not to be used for parking expenses, which is a deduction of $800.        GDM: 8

3) Food at meetings is not something that the committee feels should be funded by student funds. This is a recommended cut of $500.        GDM: 6, 8

4) The committee feels a more appropriate amount for computers would be half the requested amount, which is a recommended cut of $1,200.        GDM: 8, 9

5) For your publishing costs the committee would recommend a gradual increase in your publication. This way the committee can ensure that no pamphlets would go to waste and the effort going into the publication is reaching the maximum amount of people. In addition, the committee would advise looking into possibly incorporating advertisements into the Minnesota Republic to increase the amount of outside funding your organization could receive. We have recommended a deduction of $6,000.        GDM: 3

6) It is not the role of Student Services Fees to cover the cost of SUA Group Registration Fees, a deduction of $25.        GDM: 1

7) Roe v Wade food costs are too high, so a deduction of $50 was recommended.        GDM: 8
8) The committee feels that the gun range trip is something that is inappropriate to be funded with Student Services Fees. Other financing options would be preferred, which is a recommended cut of $775.  

9) The committee feels that the original number of attendees for the CPAC is too high and has allotted for 3 attendees instead of 8, a deduction of $6,437. The committee appreciated your follow-up request and explanation that CPAC holds three programs at a time, resulting in a significant increase of benefit to the university community if we allot funds for three attendees rather than two.  

Directives: The committee would like to see continued outreach across the University community. While we are appreciative in your allotment of funds for advertising, we would like to see new and more effective ways of advertising all across the University of Minnesota.

Minority Opinion #1:

Requested Allocation: $120,093       Recommended Allocation: $57,693

Comments: Professional development opportunities at the university are rare and precious. They provide the gateway to many future internships and career opportunities—they strengthen one’s standing in the professional realm. The board at the Students for a Conservative Voice should not expect the entirety of the student body to bear the burden of paying for their own professional development opportunities. The leadership experience itself will greatly—and directly—benefit those individuals who hold such positions. The requested stipends are excessive.

Directives: The minority recommends cutting down on stipends while increasing the visibility of its products through the reallocation of funds for print.

Minority Opinion #2:

Requested Allocation: $120,093       Recommended Allocation: $55,106

Comments: The Minority did not feel that Students for a Conservative Voice justified its stipends, given the personal benefit of the positions.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Deduction of stipends and wages. Given the personal and career benefits of writing in the publication, the stipends cannot be justified, especially given the limited output of the publication.  

GDM: 10
Directives: The Minority encourages the Students for a Conservative Voice to reduce stipends. If Students for a Conservative Voice want to increase stipends, additional funding through advertising should be sought, instead of SSF fees.
Students for a Democratic Society (#1480)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $3,875

Recommended Allocation: $3,295

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Service Fees Committee heard the presentation by the Students for a Democratic Society requesting financial support for 2013-14. The SSFC found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. The SSFC is recommending a $580 deduction for fundraising. Since the organization has done such a great job in the past fundraising, the SSFC believes that Students for a Democratic Society can fundraise at the level of their 2011-2012 year.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) A $580 deduction to include fundraising in the budget. The committee feels that this organization has the ability to fundraise. GDM: 7, 8

Directives: Due to the nature of this group and the fact this would be its first year receiving SSF funding, the committee urges this group to please keep in mind that SSF funds cannot be given to partisan groups or spent on partisan activities. Taking a stand on an issue is acceptable.
Students for Design Activism (#2544)

Committee Vote: 9-0-1

Requested Allocation: $6,525

Recommended Allocation: $5,557

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee believes that Students for Design Activism is a unique group that serves a unique part of the campus community. There were a couple of budgeted expenses that the committee felt were unjustified. Those deductions are detailed below.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The stipends for this group were thought by the committee to be non-essential, so $400 was deducted from the allocation. In addition, the committee feels that $100 for operational food and $25 for gas do not provide a benefit to students who pay the fee but do not participate in this group.

2) The committee believes that the value brought to the University by the LABASH conference will be similar with two U of M attendees. Due to the high cost of attending conferences, the committee is comfortable with funding two conference attendees at half cost. Therefore, $443 was cut from the request.

Directives: The committee believes that Students for Design Activism could increase its presence on campus through more effective advertising, as well as collaborations with other colleges and student groups.
Students for Human Life (#1928)

Committee Vote: 9-1-0

Requested Allocation: $19,005
Recommended Allocation: $15,405

Majority Opinion:

Comments: This group provides a perspective that is not always seen on college campuses, and their desire for “peaceful conversations” with those who disagree is commendable.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee feels it is not the role of Student Services Fees to supply food at your regularly scheduled meetings, and so it has recommended a deduction of $800. GDM: 6, 8

2) Food for regular meetings was listed in both in programming and operational expenses. It is not the role of Student Services Fees to pay for food at regular meetings (those meetings which are not considered programs). Due to no further clarification on this cut, the committee is leaving its recommendation as is, a deduction of $800. GDM: 8

3) The committee feels it is more appropriate to send 2 members to the March for Life event in DC, and has adjusted the funding accordingly, for a deduction of $1,800. GDM: 3, 6

Directives: The committee appreciates the services that your organization offers to the University of Minnesota. We would like to see a wider outreach to students from throughout the University Community as to increase membership and diversity in your group. In addition, the committee feels that your organization could increase the breadth of your programming, and offer more services to the student body if you were to look into more external funding sources in future years.

Minority Opinion:

Comments: The minority feels that a large portion of funding was cut from March for Life. The minority feels this event is justifiable enough to receive more funding considering there is a conference as well as a march.
Teh Pwn Gaming (#2556)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

Requested Allocation: $138,600  
Recommended Allocation: $35,280

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Service Fees Committee heard the presentation by Teh Pwn Gaming requesting financial support for 2013-14 and found the group’s request to be in line with the SSFC’s stated guidelines. The Committee was impressed with the group’s breadth and depth of programming, efforts to secure alternative sources of funding, and success in providing a large quantity of events with consistently high attendance numbers, which demonstrates a clear demand for the group’s services. However, the Committee also believed that there were several expenses in Teh Pwn Gaming’s request that represented either personal benefits exclusive to students participating in the group or that were deemed excessive in cost for the benefit provided. Specifically, the Committee believes that $48,600 in salaries, $9,850 in equipment, $2,200 in parking, $2,000 for hoodies, $50 for a Costco account, $1,500 in t-shirts, $500 in food for the Starcraft team, $500 in travel for the Starcraft team, $3,000 in scholarships for the Starcraft team, $3,000 for a Starcraft coach, $500 in food for the League of Legends team, $500 in travel for the League of Legends team, $3,000 in scholarships for the League of Legends team, $600 in jerseys for the League of Legends team, $1,200 in food for gaming lounge, $20 for Holifraggle prizes, $400 for seasonal staff panel, $17,000 for GameCraft, $9,900 for live broadcasting all either represented excessive expenses, personal benefits to group members, or expenses inappropriate for fees funding.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The Committee did not feel that the need to salaries to board of directors was adequately justified. The Committee believes the leadership, professional development, and recreational opportunities provided by leadership positions in the group constitute sufficient incentive for leaders.  
   GDM: 10

2) The committee decided that it would be fair to fund half of the cost of requested equipment. Given the large cost of the equipment and the relatively new nature of the group, the Committee requests that the group fund half of these equipment expenses with other fund sources.  
   GDM: 5, 6, 7

3) Student Services Fees should not be used for individual parking expenses. GDM: 6, 9

4) Hoodies for the board represent a personal and expensive cost that should not be funded through Student Services Fees.  
   GDM: 6, 9
5) The Committee believes a Costco account represents a benefit to members that is an inappropriate use of Fees. Almost all groups could benefit from such an expense, and allocating Fees for commercial memberships would set an unwelcome precedent. GDM: 9

6) The committee is recommending reducing the fees allocated for t-shirts by half to remain more consistent with the level of funding and cost per shirt allocated to other student organizations. GDM: 6, 9

7) The committee has concerns that funds for the competitive Starcraft team as this team represents benefits and opportunities exclusive to the members of the team and not the University community. GDM: 1, 2, 5, 6

8) The committee has concerns that funds for the competitive League of Legends team did not do enough to benefit the general community at the University. GDM: 1, 2, 5, 6

9) The game lounge food was not deemed necessary to attract participation in these events, and thus would represent a personal benefit for participating students. GDM: 1a, 6

10) Student Services Fees are not an appropriate source of funding for prizes for individual students or outside competitors, as these prizes only benefit a very small number of students. GDM: 1a, 6

11) The committee does not feel that enough information was provided to justify the use of funds for the seasonal staff panel. GDM: 1, 5, 6

12) The committee was concerned with the expense of GameCraft as a first-time event and would prefer to see a smaller event successfully executed to ensure that budget and attendance estimates are accurate and that the event will justify the large expense. GDM: 3, 4, 5

13) The committee acknowledges a benefit to Live Broadcasting, and encourages the organization to continue to pursue this goal. However, it is the understanding of the committee that the group is already successfully live-broadcasting events. The committee is not persuaded that there is enough need for enhanced or professional-level broadcasting to justify the expensive equipment required to upgrade the broadcasts. GDM: 1, 9

Directives: The committee feels that Teh Pwn Gaming has a lot of promise as a student organization and acknowledges that there is clearly a large portion of the student population that would be interested in the programming they seek to provide. However, the committee did believe that there were a large number of “luxury” expenses on the group’s request, and, as a relatively new organization, the committee needs to see Teh Pwn Gaming first demonstrate fiscal responsibility and accountability with the recommended fees allocation before funding very large and untested events.
**Tesl Works (#2626)**

Committee Vote: 8-0-1

*Requested Allocation: $22,080*  
*Recommended Allocation: $18,100*

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The committee was impressed by the mission of your organization. We can see the clear importance of an organization such as yours at this institution.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) The Student Services Fees Committee advises that you use your operational reserves to cover your operational costs in FY14. In accordance with this, we have cut the operational Student Services Fees Funding listed in your request, a deduction of $3,020.  
   
   **GDM: 7**

2) The committee would advise that food costs for your medium project be covered from outside sources. This is a recommended deduction of $500.  
   
   **GDM: 8**

3) The committee would advise that food costs for your small project be covered from outside sources. This is a recommended deduction of $200.  
   
   **GDM: 8**

4) The committee would advise that food costs for your fusor project be covered from outside sources. This is a recommended deduction of $200.  
   
   **GDM: 8**

5) The committee advises that Student Funds should not cover the cost of local travel for your Off Campus Outreach programming. This is a recommended deduction of $60.  
   
   **GDM: 8**

*Directives:* The committee appreciates your craftiness in finding a work space that is of no cost to your organization, and accepts it as a justified explanation for the significant deviation in last year’s proposed budget, per GDM 12. We would advise in the future to use the funds allotted for their intended purposes.
UMN Gymnastics Club (#453)

Committee Vote: 10-0-0

*Requested Allocation:* $5,000  
*Recommended Allocation:* $4,500

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The committee has reviewed the requested amount of $5,000 and voted to approve $4,500 for the student organization, UMN Gymnastics Club. This amount allocated for the following fiscal year has been reached after a careful and thorough review of all projected expenses expected to be incurred by this organization for the 2013-2014 school year. The majority did not approve the full allocation of funds for the UMN Gymnastics Club because the committee found the application to be incorrect. The committee allocates funds of $4,500, which will cover the cost of the group’s rent and utilities and insurance.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision-making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) The committee found it justifiable to allocate $4,500 as there is a need for a place to practice and insurance needs for the group.  

*Directives:* For next year’s SSF application, please be sure to go thoroughly over the budget and programming portion to be sure that everything is accurate.
United Nations Student Association-Model United Nations (#339)

Committee Vote: 9-0-1

**Requested Allocation:** $13,745

**Recommended Allocation:** $12,245

**Majority Opinion:**

Comments: The United Nations Student Association provides a service to students not only by traveling to competitions and representing the University of Minnesota in a positive light, but also by taking the knowledge gained from their competitions and turning it into a similar experience for fees-paying students who are not a part of the group. Turning outside experiences into programming for all students is a fantastic way for groups whose main activities take place off campus to maintain a strong presence in the university community.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) The committee made one deduction from UNSA’s proposed request. The food costs allocated for the campus conference are comparatively high, and high per-student costs for food do not benefit the student body and have not been fully justified. Therefore, a reduction of $1,500 was made.  

   **GDM:** 6, 9

**Directives:** The committee commends USNA’s work in developing the campus conference and encourages UNSA to continue to think of ways to use their experiences at Model United Nations conferences to benefit the student body.
University Forensic Speaking (#2675)

Committee Vote: 8-0-0

Requested Allocation: $51,342  
Recommended Allocation: $5,247

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Student Services Fees Committee believes that the University Forensic Speaking provides a unique service to students at the University and supplements the Academic Curriculum. The Committee does not see the justification of providing a coach for the team considering the number of people currently involved in the group along with the impact it would have on students not participating in the group. The committee does not see travel as an expense which should be entirely covered by student services fees. The committee is excited that University Forensic Speaking wants to significantly increase the number of competitions and events it attends, however, since this is the first year in recent times that University Forensic Speaking is applying for fees, the committee does not feel it is justified to fund such a massive increase in programming without prior demonstration of fiscal responsibility with student service fees. The committee’s recommended allocation has reduced programming spending to an amount it feels is adequate, so that the group can still provide a positive experience for its members while being able to grow.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) $15,000 was deducted for coach stipends.  
   GDM: 3, 6

2) $7,800 was deducted for Judge Stipends.  
   GDM: 3, 6

3) $530 was deducted from AFA lifetime membership (the committee believes less expensive AFA membership options would be a more appropriate use of Student Services Fees).  
   GDM: 9

4) $6,672, $11,660, and $4,433 were deducted from programming Food, Travel, and Fees respectively.  
   GDM: 3, 9

Directives: Seek additional outside funding to cover the cost of travel, food, and fees for competitions.
University Quidditch League (#2586)

Committee Vote: 9-1-0

Requested Allocation: $16,000  
Recommended Allocation: $8,000

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The majority believes that the University Quidditch League develops a community and fosters a diverse environment. However, the University Quidditch League has those qualities of a club sport which has limited benefits to the university students as a whole. Consequently, the majority has decided to fund University Quidditch League $8,000.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Food cost of $4,000 was cut from all programs as food is simply the participant needs.  
   GDM: 1

2) We have deducted $4,000 from the Midwest QuidFest, 4th Annual Halloween Cup, 4th Annual Spring Cup, Regionals, and World Cup VII as these events are solely for the participants and do not provide a service to the student body or demonstrate benefits to students who do not participate in the events.  
   GDM: 1a, 6

Directives: The majority recommends the University Quidditch League to seek other funds, and to request individual contributions, membership fees, to those who play. Although the current individual contribution is burdensome to many students, the required travel associated with the league is too costly.

Minority Opinion:

Comments: The minority would not have recommended cutting all funding for the tryout-based competition team operating within the UQL. The minority does not believe that the presence of a tryout or application process necessarily means that a group’s opportunities are not available to all students. The chance to try out or seek membership through a fair process seems like a reasonable opportunity for participation, and the minority would support some limited support for students who are traveling to represent the University. Ideally, this club would receive support for its competing team from the Club Sports department rather than fees, but in the absence of that option at present, the minority would support temporary support for the tryout team.
University YMCA (#138)

Committee Vote: 8-2-0

Requested Allocation: $45,000  Recommended Allocation: $40,762

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Committee was duly impressed with the extensive and varied leadership opportunities the University YMCA offers to University students. The committee was also excited by the cross-college involvement and diversity reflected in students involved in the program. The value to these students and the community were clearly communicated and the request generally reflected fiscal responsibility. The committee appreciated the reduction in salaries requested over the last two fees requests. Additionally, the further detail provided in response to the initial recommendation persuaded the Committee to give partial support to the Advisory Ambassador Program that did not initially have clear expense details.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) $3,538 was eliminated from the off-site retreat. This included a reduction in $1,200 of food which the Majority felt was a personal benefit and an inappropriate use of fees, as well as a reduction of half of the cost of the “other.” The Majority believe the benefit of the program to the campus is clear, but that the benefit to the students participating is great enough that 50% of the cost should be covered by other sources of income.  
   GDM: 6, 7

2) $500 was reduced from the travel for the Service Leadership Conference. Consistent with other fees recommendations, the Majority believes this opportunity provides enough of a personal benefit to the participants that half of the costs should be funded through sources other than fees.  
   GDM: 6, 7

3) $200 for certificates was removed from the Year-End Celebration, as the Majority believed the recognition for participants was an individual benefit and not an appropriate use of Student Services Fees.  
   GDM: 1, 6, 7

Directives: Continue to provide extensive leadership experiences for diverse populations of University students. For future fees allocations or appeals of this year’s funding, continue to reduce ongoing and complex programs like the Advisory/Ambassador program into smaller pieces and events so that the general distribution of fees funding will be more clear to the committee.
Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $45,000  
Recommended Allocation: $22,500

Comments: The Minority did not feel that YMCA justified its leadership training program, given the limited impact on the University. Other retreats similar to this were cut across all other groups.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Deduction of $22,500 for advisory/ambassador program. This program focused on leadership training and development through retreats. This program shows limited benefit to the university and the larger student body, and mostly serves as personal development for those involved. Although this is a fine program, student services fee should not be used to cover a program of such limited scope.  

Directive: The Minority encourages the University YMCA to stop applying for student services fees to cover retreat and leadership programming.
Viva Kiva (#2794)

Committee Vote: 6-1-3

Requested Allocation: $3,700  Recommended Allocation: $0

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The committee feels that Viva Kiva’s expenses do not provide a justifiable service to the student body. After cutting much of the operational costs, consistent with other organizational funding, the committee feels programming costs are only beneficial to the immediate participants.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) There is no demonstrated benefit to students who pay the student services fees but are not involved in the program.  

GDM: 1a, 6, 9

Directives: Consider finding alternative forms of funding or create programs that involve the University community.

Minority Opinion:

Requested Allocation: $3,700  Recommended Allocation: $3,050

Comments: The Committee Minority believes that Viva Kiva provides a unique service of opportunity and awareness to the University of Minnesota Community. The group should be funded at a level of $3,050, which represents the fees request without any dollars allocated towards retreats or internal food.
Voices Merging (#892)

Committee Vote: 8-0-1

Requested Allocation: $21,930  Recommended Allocation: $18,210

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Committee Majority was impressed with the level of service that Voices Merges provides to the community and the unique sense of community it creates. The group provides an opportunity for students to express themselves and meet others with the same interests which no other group on campus similarly provides, and also provides a unique outlet to the greater Twin Cities community. The Committee did not find stipends to be an appropriate use of fees, and there was a lack of justification for the additional items listed below so the committee could not rationalize spending student money on them.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) $2,000 was deducted for Executive Board salaries/stipends.  GDM: 3, 6, 9, 10
2) $200 was deducted for a Workshop Facilitator.  GDM: 9
3) $1500 was deducted for hotel expenses.  GDM: 3, 6, 9
4) $20 was deducted for outreach event.  GDM: 9

Directives: Throughout the fees process, the committee became concerned with the inconsistency between the group’s ability to navigate the process last year compared to this year. Voices Merging should make sure to plan for long term success, as well as short term, specifically with tools like officer succession planning and officer transitioning, to ensure the knowledge of the fees process as well as knowledge of running the group is not lost from year to year.
The Wake (#819)

Committee Vote: 7-4-0

Requested Allocation: $52,912  Recommended Allocation: $52,742

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The majority respects The Wake’s ability to provide the university with a wide range of services. Hence, the majority has decided to fund The Wake $52,742 for 2013-2014.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Spring/fall photo shoot does not require food, and does not benefit the student body or the students not directly involved, so a deduction of $170 was recommended.  GDM: 1, 6

Directives: The majority recommends The Wake to seek methods to earn funds through appropriate ads. Although The Wake has its appeal with no use of advertisements, the majority believes that the incorporation of ads in The Wake’s growth will be crucial.

Minority Opinion #1:

Comments: The minority is of the opinion that The Wake should take a hard look at earning some revenue through advertising. If advertisers were sought and chosen carefully, advertisements would add to the quality of The Wake, not detract from it. Any income earned from ad revenue could be paid out as stipends or used to cover the cost of production. The minority is of the opinion that The Wake’s unwillingness to advertise means that it has not fulfilled numbers 7 and 8 of the guidelines for decision-making.

Directives: Please look into advertising as a possible revenue source.

Minority Opinion #2:

Requested Allocation: $ 52,912  Recommended Allocation: $24,242

Comments: The Minority did not feel that The Wake justified its stipends, given the personal benefit of the positions.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:
1) Deduction of stipends and wages. Given the personal and career benefits of writing in the publication, the stipends cannot be justified.  

**Directives:** The Minority encourages The Wake to reduce stipends. If The Wake wants to increase stipends, additional funding through advertising should be sought, instead of SSF fees.
**Weisman Art Collective (#2798)**

Committee Vote: 9-0-0

*Requested Allocation: $21,300  Recommended Allocation: $17,250*

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The Committee appreciated the Weisman Art Collective’s response to our request for more events, and found the proposed additions compelling and reasonable. In response to these additions, we have increased funding to accommodate an increase in programming. The Committee was impressed with Weisman Art Collective’s fees presentation and programming over the past couple years. The committee believes that the mission of integrating students into the museum is a worthy and important one, and was impressed with the vast collaborations with a diverse range of other student groups. The committee is pleased to assist in supporting the organization with fees funding.

The Committee’s initial recommendation of $12,000 was based on the concern that the Weisman Art Collective was proposing consistent levels of programming and attendance as previous years, so the Committee believed consistent funding was most appropriate. However, the Committee was convinced that the two new proposed events submitted in response to the initial rationale are both worthy of fees funding. Thus the Committee is in favor of committing the full $5,250 requested for the WAM@20 and Mixed Taste events to bring the new recommendation to $17,250.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) The recommended allocation was reduced by $4,050 to keep funding for the WAM-O-RAMA, Words@WAM, Film Screening, Design Competition, and Be Dazzled events at consistent levels with the current year, since those programs were highly successful with the current level of funding.  
   ![GDM: 2(quantity), 5](image)

*Directives:* Please continue to partner with student groups to provide diverse, high quality programs that will build greater engagement among the student body with the Weisman and make that resource a more fully utilized feature on campus.
Wesley Foundation (#2777)

Committee Vote: 5-3-0

Requested Allocation: $93,060
Recommended Allocation: $31,360

Majority Opinion:

Comments: The Majority believes that the Wesley Foundation offers a service to the student body and helps to foster a sense of community on the campus, and was impressed with specific events like the Public Forums and Multifaith week. The committee did feel though that a number of expenses were unjustified. Requests to fund programs which occurred off campus where only students in direct attendance would receive benefit were closely examined and adjusted. The request to increase space for the group as well could not be justified with the current demand for programs and services shown by the student group’s attendance and involvement. Many of the programs that the Wesley Foundation requested funding for have the opportunity to benefit students and create a sense of community around campus, however, the current amount of involvement that the Wesley Foundation has did not justify such large expenses in areas such as Food, Entertainment, and Travel.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) $3,000 was deducted for worship consultant. $3,000 was deducted for director travel. $1,500 was deducted for operational food event support and $3,000 was deducted for operational food hospitality. $2,000 was deducted from operational other expenses for hospitality. $1,000 was deducted from equipment: $500 from the television, $500 from other. $500 was also deducted from postage. GDM: 1, 6, 9

2). $8,050 was deducted from UBC Rental under Rent and Utilities breakdown. GDM: 3, 6, 9

3) $2,000, $500, and $1,500, were respectively deducted from Worship, Office Hours, Community Nights. GDM: 6, 9

4) $1,150, $400, and $350 were deducted respectively from programming expenses for the Fall Retreat, Winter Retreat, and Leadership Training. GDM: 6, 9

5) $25,000 was deducted from the summer trip, and $5,400 was deducted from Spring Break Service Trip, $550 was deducted from Summer Camping Trip, $2,700 was deducted from Ministries network bi-annual conference. GDM: 6, 9

6) $100 was deducted from social ministries. GDM: 9
Directives: Continue to seek additional funding for events which occur off campus. Increase the reach and of advertising of the group to get more students involved.

Minority Opinion #1:

Requested Allocation: $93,060
Recommended Allocation: $13,310

Comments: The minority is opposed to providing funds for rent when this group did not have rent in previous year’s budgets. Additionally, the group does not serve a large enough number of U of M students to need a physical space.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) Given the size and scope of programming that the Wesley Foundation provides the University, an office space is not a necessity. If an office space is desired, alternative funding should be found.
   GDM: 2, 5, 6, 8

Directives: Eliminate office space, or fund it with non-SSF funds until said office space can be justified.

Minority Opinion #2:

Requested Allocation: $93,060
Recommended Allocation: $10,969

Comments: The Wesley Foundation’s attendance at their events is extremely low. The fact that Wesley Foundation only serves such few students at each event provides a deep concern for the minority. It does not serve the student body in general.

Directives: The minority recommends providing more events with more interest and less exclusivity.

Minority Opinion #3:

Requested Allocation: $93,060
Recommended Allocation: $6,360

Comments: The Minority did not feel that the Wesley Foundation justified their rent request. The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:
1) Given the size and scope of programming that the Wesley Foundation provides the University, an office space is not a necessity. If an office space is desired, alternative funding should be found.  

_GDM: 2, 5, 6, 8_

_Directives:_ Eliminate office space, or fund it with non-SSF funds until said office space can be justified.
Women’s Student Activist Collective (#266)

Committee Vote: 8-0-0

Requested Allocation: $31,476          Recommended Allocation: $17,612

Majority Opinion:

Comments: During our deliberations, the committee evaluates each group with the Guidelines for Decision Making that were provided to your organization, and also found written next to each decision the committee makes. We keep our personal opinions out of deliberations, and remain viewpoint neutral in our recommendations. In the follow up information that your organization provided you mentioned on many occasions that our recommendations did not comply with former recommendations by the committee, and while this may be true our procedure in making decisions has not changed. We evaluate each student group applying for funds with due diligence, and try our best to indicate why we made the decisions we did. One of the most drastic cuts that the committee made was to your staff positions. This was ubiquitous among many student groups this year in that if we, the committee, felt that leadership roles in student groups offered said member an invaluable opportunity in itself, which need not be supplemented by student services fees in the form of a stipend.

The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:

1) The committee did not feel that the need for Staff and Interns was properly conveyed in your application and presentation. While the follow up information did provide the committee with insight into what the duties of staff members were in your organization, we felt that these positions offer invaluable leadership experience, and would not require the stipends requested in your application. This resulted in a recommended deduction of $10,000. GDM: 10

2) SUA Registration Fee is not to be paid via Student Services Fees, which is a deduction of $25. GDM: 1

3) The committee has concluded that Paychex under consultant and professional fees was tied to staff stipends/ salaries, which, as shown above, were not seen as essential by the committee, resulting in a recommended deduction of $864. GDM: 10

4) The committee believes that Student Services Fees should not be used to cover parking costs. This was a deduction of $150. GDM: 8

5) Student funds should not cover the operational food costs under “fees committee meeting.” This is a recommended deduction of $250. GDM: 8
6) The committee did not feel that student funds should be used for magazine subscriptions, but instead the committee would recommend seeking alternative income sources for this $50 expense. GDM: 2

7) For Pro-choice Lobby Day, the committee feels that the $50 donation should not be made using Student Services Fees as it does not represent the views of all students and Student Service Fees should not be passed through to other causes. GDM: 1

8) Student funds should not be used to cover the $200 cost of local travel for the Co-Sponsorship event with RSO. GDM: 8

9) The committee has adjusted the allocations for advertising for the following events: F-Word Series ($700), Discussion Panel ($400), Fundraising Concerts ($400), International Women’s Day ($700). The projected attendance for these events is not in accordance with the total allotment for advertising. GDM: 3

10) The committee feels that the Feminist Sleepover is a program in which private funding would be more appropriate. This is a recommended deduction of $75. GDM: 2

**Directives:** While the committee realizes the importance of reaching out to all people across the University of Minnesota to increase involvement in your programs; we would like to see more responsible use of advertising money. Social Media, flyer distributions, chalking, as well as poster are all options to consider that show considerable results with a relatively low cost.
**Young Americans for Liberty (#2291)**

Committee Vote: 8-0-0

*Requested Allocation: $5,000  Recommended Allocation: $3,200*

**Majority Opinion:**

*Comments:* The Committee recognizes that Young Americans for Liberty provides unique benefits and opportunities to students here at the University of Minnesota. The Committee’s recommendation is to fund the groups programming and operations, minus expenses which the committee believes aren’t a necessity to the group’s operations or should not be paid for by Student Services Fees money.

*The following points explain the recommended allocation figure and include the SSF handbook guidelines for decision making reference (GDM) numbers supporting each point:*

1) $900 deducted for stipends.  
   *GDM: 3, 6, 9, 10*

2) $300 deducted for meeting food.  
   *GDM: 6*

3) $100 deducted for other.  
   *GDM: 9*

4) $500 deducted for retreat.  
   *GDM: 6*

*Directives:* Consider less expensive forms of advertisement, such as utilizing social media. Seek more external funding. For future funding requests, organize the budget so that events which benefit members (such as kick-off events) are funded out of the programming budget, not the operating budget. This will also allow for clearer justification in spending money on events and allow the committee to better evaluate the fees request.