Organization Name: African Student Association
Amount Requested: $14,000.00  
Amount Suggested: $10,000.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The SSFC agrees that this group is worthy of student service fees. However, a reduction from the request is appropriate to bring the organizations reserves down to 10% of their budget. At the end of next year they are planning a large carry over. Door fees for certain events that ASA holds were also discussed. It was determined that if ASA continues to charge door fees for their events in accordance with SSF guidelines, that our proposal to cut their request to bring them to a 10% carryover for the 2009-1010 fiscal year was appropriate. Therefore, the committee approved $10,000 for ASA.
Organization Name: Al-Madina Cultural Center
Amount Requested: $63,000.00
Amount Suggested: $60,000.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Services Fees Committee voted to approve the award of $60,000. The committee felt that this organization showed continued success in outreach to other groups on campus, held numerous events, and increased attendance. The student organization demonstrated compliance with budget requirements by maintaining a 10% reserve. The committee recommended a reduction in the cost of printing, copying, and in the amount of supplies this organization utilizes, hence the $3,000 dollar reduction.
Organization Name: All Campus Elections Committee
Amount Requested: $13,000.00  
Amount Suggested: $6,500.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 1 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The majority of the Student Service Fee Committee finds that the All-Campus Elections Committee should be funded in the amount of $6,500. The majority rationale for this decision pinpoints excessive stipends within the group's commission structure and an excessive food budget for Get Out the Vote Rallies as reasons for decreasing the level of funding. Additionally, the committee majority recommends that the group highlight their connection to academics on campus in future applications, as it was not clearly apparent in the narrative of their application.

Minority Rationale:

The majority questioned the impact of the All Campus Elections Committee (ACEC). It was inferred that the “Get Out The Vote” rallies were void of voter influence, solely based on a commonly cited survey. The survey asked participants how they had heard about voting. Though only 5% of the 200 participants marked ACEC, thousands of students vote and may not have filled out the survey. The “Get Out The Vote” rally is ACEC’s biggest event. About 2,000 students attended the last rally.

The minority also feels there has been a rise in voters in the ACEC elections, from 4,333 students in 2007 to 5,108 people in 2008, a 775-student jump within a year. This shows ACEC is making an impact on campus.

In closing, ACEC is trying to civically engage students on campus. If this group is to grasp its fullest potential, then it needs the requested funding. Therefore, the minority feels ACEC should receive full funding for all of its events.
Organization Name: American Indian Student Cultural Center
Amount Requested: $25,000.00
Amount Suggested: $15,000.00
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 1 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Fees Committee voted to approve an award of $15,000. This is a reduction from the organization’s request. The Fees Committee noted a lack of outside sources of funding and a heavy reliance on student fees. AISCC little outreach to the university community and needs to collaborate with other student groups to create a broader identity on campus. The Committee also recommends that this organization try to control unnecessary costs and maintain a 10% reserve. The Fees Committee approved funding of $15,000 in an effort to support this organization’s mission and provide the AISCC an opportunity to demonstrate more financial responsibility.

Minority Rationale:

The majority requested that the American Indian Student Cultural Center (AISCC) receives $15,000 of the original request, due to excessive food costs and fiscal irresponsibility. However, the total number of projected event attendees (2009-2010) equaled 4,940, and the projected food cost for 2009-2010 is $10,000, which is reasonable for the number of attendees.

In conclusion, the majority’s claims of fiscal irresponsibility and excessive food costs are tenuous! The minority suggests full funding for the American Indian Student Cultural Center.
Organization Name: Amnesty International
Amount Requested: $4,800.00
Amount Suggested: $4,800.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

This group gave a model presentation in length, structure, and content. Their self-imposed 8% funding cut shows great fiscal responsibility and conscientious financial self-analysis. Their organization is well organized and executes a variety of events. Some felt greater participation numbers would make the group even more successful. Therefore, the committee voted to fully approve their request of $4800.
Organization Name: Asian American Student Union
Amount Requested: $75,155.00
Amount Suggested: $60,000.00
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Service Fees Committee feels that the Asian-American Student Union serves a wide variety of students, however, the organization appears to be hold a over $20,000 in reserves for the 2008-2009 school year and prepares to hold $25,000 for the 2009-2010 year. We feel this difference is not justified in their proposal in which nearly 50% of the proposed funding is allocated to food and room rental. We also feel the organization doesn’t truly understand the accounting process projected as the request equals the requested expenses, yet they still have additional income and carryover. Overall, the committee feels the proposed increase in funding could be remedied by more innovative external fundraising and fiscal transparency needs to be shown on behalf of each entity within the Asian-American Student Union and how their process is divvied up.
Organization Name: Black Student Union
Amount Requested: $60,000.00
Amount Suggested: $55,000.00
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Service Fees Committee recommends the Black Student Union receive funding at $55,000. The Committee feels that this organization clearly demonstrated a need and benefit on campus, however was uncertain that the speakers mentioned justify such an increase. The Committee commends this group on their actions and would like to see this group continue to put on programming and to grow. Therefore the Committee feels an increase from the previous year’s funding, but a decrease from the total request is appropriate.
Organization Name: Campus Atheists, Skeptics, & Humanists
Amount Requested: $8,000.00
Amount Suggested: $8,000.00
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The committee approved their full $8000 request as this group proved to be valuable to the entire university, was very organized, and its collaboration with other student groups was excellent.
Organization Name: Campus Crusade for Christ  
Amount Requested: $13,400.00  
Amount Suggested: $10,000.00  
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Service Fees Committee recommends funding CRU in the amount of $10,000. The Committee felt this group clearly demonstrated a need and benefit on campus. The Committee reduced funding from the original request however due to a deficit in previous years and a large carryover in this year and future years. The group explained these to the Committee, however we felt greater financial responsibility was needed.

General Recommendations:

In the future, it would be best if you set aside a certain amount of money in your budget to maintain your house. If something arises you have the money to fix it, if nothing arises then you would not need to request as much in the following year.
Organization Name: Colleges Against Cancer
AmountRequested: $21,000.00   Amount Suggested: $6,000.00 
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The SSF committee would first of all like to point out that the merit of CAC is not being questioned. However, the SSFC agrees that we would be setting a precedent for any fundraising group by contributing SSF funds to offset CAC’s operational costs. We also agree that if students want to donate to CAC and their events that they should do that of their own free will and not be forced to by paying for it in their SSF. The committee does agree that we can justify funding the events other than the Relay for Life. Therefore we approved a funding of $6,000.
Organization Name: Collegians for a Constructive Tomorrow
Amount Requested: $100,000.00  Amount Suggested: $90,000.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Service Fees Committee recommends CFACT receive funding in the amount of $90,000. The Committee feels this group proved its need and benefit on campus and clearly demonstrated that they add to the marketplace of ideas. The Committee feels a 10% reduction in funding would be appropriate due to uncertainties regarding the Internship Program. It seems that quite a significant portion of this organization’s budget goes to funding the Internship program but the Committee does not see this program as inclusive and beneficial to the University community as a whole. In addition, and as with other groups, the Committee is not convinced that expensive speaking events are the most effective use of student service fees funding.

General Recommendations:

In future years CFACT needs to demonstrate how the internship program benefits the community using tangible results. In addition, the Committee suggests cutting back on speakers in order to clearly demonstrate their effectiveness and then ask for increased funding for speakers when their benefit has been more clearly demonstrated.
Organization Name: Community Child Care Center
Amount Requested: $75,000.00
Amount Suggested: $75,000.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Service Fees Committee feels unanimously that the Community Child Care Center is a highly qualified use of student fees as they serve not only the students with children, but also the University community as a whole. The organization appears to be quite lean in its finances and processes including student volunteers and mandatory parent involvement at the child care center every semester.
Organization Name: Como Community Child Care
Amount Requested: $70,000.00
Amount Suggested: $70,000.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The SSFC finds that Como Community Childcare Center provides an excellent service to the University, shown through their thorough application and well-organized presentation. Reflecting these items, the sub-committee recommends that Como Community Childcare Center be funded fully in the amount of $70,000.
Organization Name: Compassionate Action for Animals
Amount Requested: $35,000
Amount Suggested: $15,000.00
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Fees Committee as voted in favor of a $20,000 cut from Compassionate Action for Animals original request. Whereas: the projected Salaries, Wages, and stipends (09-10) are 36.2% of entire budget, and 62.5% of Operating Budget. Of that projected $35,500 [for stipends, wages, salaries], the professional staff-who are non-University of Minnesota students- are compensated.

General Recommendations:

- Stay on campus. Student Service Fee money is for students on-campus-as they pay this money- thus the Fees committees do not encourage programming off-campus.
- During these economic quandaries, the Fees Committee suggests more modest advertising.
Organization Name: Council of College Boards
Amount Requested: $71,655.00
Amount Suggested: $61,479.00
Committee Vote: 4 in favor, 1 against, 2 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Fees Committee voted to approve the award of $61,479. This award is the same as last year’s award, and $16,000 more than the award for 2007-2008. The Committee did not see substantial need for a funding increase.

The Committee was also concerned by the disparity in funding between colleges. Currently, students in smaller colleges are receiving disproportionate amounts of money at the expense of students in larger colleges. According to CCB’s documentation, students in the College of Art and Design have more than 8 times the amount of funds allotted to them as CLA students.

There is also a disparity in the types of events funded in each college by CCB. The Fees Committee encourages CCB to discontinue using Student Service Fees money towards exclusive, college-specific events such as retreats and mentoring programs.

Furthermore the Committee has promulgated a resolution to address how future CCB requests shall be handled. The Committee feels that a special fee assessment is more appropriate to suit the mission and goals of the individual college boards. A special fee assessment will promote efficiency and ensure that college boards are directly accountable to the students they represent.

For next year’s request, the Fees Committee encourages CCB to direct each of the college boards to submit a complete and detailed fees request. The fee awards for each college will be converted to a special fee assessment for the students enrolled in each particular college. The boards should communicate with their representative student bodies to ensure the amount each college requests reflects is supported by the college’s student body.

Minority Rationale:

The minority feels the Council of College Boards (CCB) should be awarded the amount suggested at the initial deliberation: $34,000. This number was derived from deducting funding from CCB’s initial Student Service Fee (SSF) request-due to exclusiveness of said events.

The majority’s suggested amount of $61,479.19 seems arbitrary. The minority feels the only reason this number is currently the suggested amount, because it is the number at which CCB was funded last year. There is no financial justification, for the 2009-2010 school year, for the CCB to be funded at 2008-2009 level.
Organization Name: Disabled Student Cultural Center
Amount Requested: $15,000.00
Amount Suggested: $10,000.00
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 1 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

It is the decision of the SSFC to award DSCC $10,000. DSCC has proved they are truly an asset to the student body but it is the concern of the committee that the group has been carrying too many funds from year to year. For this reason, the committee has decided to cut funding in order to reduce the large amount of carry-over.

Minority Rationale:

The DSCC was cut $5,000 due to their surplus of $14,655.00—bringing them down to having a surplus of $9,655.00. After subtracting the $2,000 (Operational Reserves) and $1,000 (Corporations) and $4,000 (External/Internal Grants), the group is still left with $2,655—which is unaccounted for. The minority feels the DSCC should only be awarded $7,345, instead of $10,000 due to the overt surplus.
Organization Name: Engineers Without Borders
Amount Requested: $38,615.00
Amount Suggested: $25,000.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Service Fees Committee recommends that Engineers Without Borders receives $25,000. While the committee is impressed with this organization’s mission, we feel that the majority of their benefit rests with communities outside the University of Minnesota. The Committee can see the academic benefit through on campus programming and as a result has decided it would be most appropriate to provide funding for those on campus programs with some room to grow. The Committee commends this organization on their outstanding fundraising capabilities.
Organization Name: Experimental Collage (Exco)
Amount Requested: $8,500.00
Amount Suggested: $0
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Service Fees committee recommends the Experimental College receive no funding. This group did not demonstrate a clear need or benefit to University of Minnesota students. The Committee does not feel that University of Minnesota students are the main beneficiary or even the targeted audience of Experimental College and therefore does not feel it would be appropriate for University of Minnesota students to pay for such an organization. Some members of the committee do see how this organizations benefits a very small number of University of Minnesota students, but sees this as an externality of the group’s actions rather than its central goal and therefore the committee does not feel comfortable assessing a fee to University of Minnesota students to pay for this group.
Organization Name: Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
Amount Requested: $375,403.00
Amount Suggested: $375,403.00
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

Due to this group’s thorough application and presentation, along with their clear demonstration of fiscal responsibility, the subcommittee feels this group should be awarded their full request. However, the committee strongly recommends that GAPSA follow the budget sheet provided by SSFC for next year. Also, concerns were raised that GAPSA should seek more external funding in accordance with guidelines set for all other groups.
Organization Name: Hillel: The Jewish Student Center
Amount Requested: $31,250.00
Amount Suggested: $31,250.00
Committee Vote: 5 in favor, 1 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Fees Committee voted to approve the award of $31,250. This award is a significant increase from the Fee Committee’s initial recommendation. The original budget form for Hillel indicated a carryover of over $30,000. This was a clerical error and the result of the inclusion of expenses from the Hillel Foundation. Hillel officers corrected the error and resubmitted Hillel’s budget. The Fees Committee encourages Hillel to attach supplemental and explanatory addendums to next year’s fees request to avoid confusion.

Minority Rationale:

The minority of the Student Services Fee Committee feels that due to the errors made in The Hillel's initial budget proposal, the organization should not receive full funding in order to encourage the group to maintain an in-time and complete application in accordance with posted deadlines.
Organization Name: Hmong Minnesota Student Association
Amount Requested: $45,000.00
Amount Suggested: $10,000.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The committee feels that the Hmong Minnesota Student Association should receive funding for the 2009-2010 Academic year. The committee feels that they were rather thorough in their application and presentation. However, the subcommittee believes that they should receive less than their request of $45,000. It is the feeling of the subcommittee that this is rather an arbitrary number, and the group plans on having a large carryover at the end of the year. The Committee should fund this organization at approximately $10,000 which, when combined with fundraising efforts, will pay for programming and operational expenses. The committee recommends thorough budget planning for future program proposals if HMSA hopes to expand.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Name:</th>
<th>Impact Movement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount Requested:</td>
<td>$7,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount Suggested:</td>
<td>$4,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee Vote:</td>
<td>6 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining</td>
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**Majority Rationale:**

The SSFC voted to approve funding for this organization at the $4,000 level. The committee liked this group’s association with Campus Crusade for Christ and the Black Student Union, but was still concerned about the exclusivity of the group. The committee asked that they continue to seek opportunities to form bonds with other University of Minnesota student groups, as well as to continue to seek additional outside funding to help cover the remaining costs.
**Organization Name:** La Raza Student Cultural Center  
**Amount Requested:** $42,000.00  
**Amount Suggested:** $40,000.00  
**Committee Vote:** 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

**Majority Rationale:**

The Student Services Fees Committee voted to approve the amount of $40,000.00. The committee felt that they did a good job in demonstrating their efforts to decrease the Programming Expenses and to benefit the whole student body with these funds. Also, their explanation about the significant increase in the Operational Expense due to their adding new facilities and services was reasonable. Based on their previous records, the committee wanted them to keep seeking external funding. However, the committee would like to point out that the reserves of this group were noted in the “Other” category of the Operational Expense section.
The SSFC voted to award the Middle Eastern Student Association $2500, citing concerns in the group's financial accountability in its decision. In last year's committee recommendations, the committee requested that MESA strive for an increased accountability in their financial documents. MESA's financial documents for the current year lacked a line item for operational reserves. Additionally, MESA's application lacked any statement or estimation of outside funding, though the group's representatives did state that they were applying for outside funding upon questioning. The Fees Committee believes that MESA's current programming provides value to the campus, but feels that the group may need to consider a wider variety of programming in order to attract a larger portion of the student population. Additionally, in future applications the Fees Committee encourages the Middle Eastern Student Association to clearly define their affect on campus academics. Due to the above reasons, the Student Service Fee Committee does not feel that MESA can be funded at the level of it's request, but feels that funding at the $2500 level represents a fair and equitable solution.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Organization Name:</th>
<th>Mindfulness for Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount Requested:</td>
<td>$9,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount Suggested:</td>
<td>$8,800.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee Vote:</td>
<td>7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Majority Rationale:**

It is the unanimous decision of the committee to award the Mindfulness for Students $8,800. This is $1,000 less than requested. The committee recommends that Mindfulness for Students be mindful of the food they are purchasing and carefully evaluating it’s need. We encourage Mindfulness for Students to seek speakers that are from the University of Minnesota in order to eliminate the cost of travel and to utilize the great faculty the U has. Additionally, the committee encourages the notion of charging non-students a nominal fee to participate in programs in order to create revenue.
Organization Name: Minnesota International Student Association
Amount Requested: $67,000.00
Amount Suggested: $67,000.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

Due to this group’s thorough application and presentation, along with their clear demonstration of fiscal responsibility, the committee feels this group should be awarded their full request. The committee found the guidebooks program to be quite promising.
Organization Name: Minnesota Student Association
Amount Requested: $140,103.00
Amount Suggested: $123,468.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

Minnesota Student Association makes a valid case for their expenditures. The sticking point in arriving at an allotment amount comes from MSA retaining what were essentially two operation reserves. One of these reserves was originally disclosed to the committee, while the other “was discovered” (MSA’s words) in the form of a Certificate of Deposit after MSA submitted their budget and prior to the initial committee deliberations. The MSA president was in attendance at the initial committee deliberations, and was asked to comment on what was an abnormally large carryover. Having no explanation for the large carryover on the budget, the MSA president was notified that the committee had received word of an undisclosed reserve held in a CD. Only upon public confrontation did MSA reveal that they had additional funds that were undisclosed.

Since MSA had a surplus, then clearly somewhere along the line, MSA significantly over-requested fees from students. Apparently, this went unnoticed for some time. Upon realizing their error, MSA did not disclose the errors in their budget and instead chose to let the committee do the investigation. When asked to submit a revised budget by the committee, MSA provided a revised budget demonstrating a smaller carryover but fully disclosing the double reserve.

At this point, the responsible thing for MSA to do would have been to revise their fees request by subtracting their second reserve from the nominal request amount, and using that difference as the revised request (an amount equal to $123,468.00).

MSA showed no such fiscal discipline, instead they proposed keeping their second reserve and requested the exact same amount of money from the fees committee as they did the in the first budget.

Students in previous years have been compelled by the University to pay student service fees to the Minnesota Student Association. Undoubtedly, MSA, like virtually every other group applying for fees, has argued that reductions in the fees request would result in a significant loss of either vital programmatic or vital operational capability. A sure sign of a group that has received too much money is one that misplaced almost $17,000 in investments while still maintaining the requisite reserve and meeting all operational and programmatic obligations.

In light of the unchanged request, the decision of whether or not to adjust the request fell to the committee. The committee had explicit justification for subtracting the excess reserve from the request. The Student Services Fees Request Handbook for Student Organizations explains:

“Any organization holding reserves dedicated for those uses outlined above must present appropriate documentation to the committee as a part of its fees request. Organizations holding amounts in excess of those guidelines specified above may be directed by the committee to use that excess to meet part of the organization’s fees request.” (emphasis by this author)

With explicit justification to act, the fees committee chose to reduce MSA’s request such that there will no longer be reserve funds in excess of the guidelines.
In this case, by allotting the reduced amount proposed in this opinion, MSA has lost out on none of their proposed programmatic or operational capability, and the fees committee would have corrected the previous over-allotment of funds to MSA. Moreover, for at least the second consecutive year, MSA has run into trouble managing their reserve CD and disclosing it to the committee. Going forward, the fees committee suggests that the Minnesota Student Association pay closer attention to their budget reserves and be forthcoming whenever an error is discovered.
Organization Name: MPRIG
Amount Requested: $130,000.00
Amount Suggested: $103,200.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

MPIRG is viewed as a publically valued organization on campus; however, the committee feels that the organization needs to cut back on spending. One of the main presented organizational goals for the group was to provide real life opportunities for students to impact the greater Minnesota region; however, the committee struggled to justify the proposed salaries of $45,337.97 when a great deal of that money goes to professional staff. The group also struggled to support funding projects aimed at the non-university community with student fees. The committee voted to approve MPIRG’s funding at the same level as last year, allowing the group to continue operations as usual while encouraging the organization to seek external sources of funding in order to expand as they broaden their goals outside of university bounds.

General Recommendations:

We feel as though MPIRG should seek external funding from outside sources, such as coalitions and foundations working on the same projects in line with the same mission as MPIRG. Also, we believe external funding should be sought to pay for professional staffing if the organization deems it necessary to provide on-campus opportunities for students.
Organization Name: Paintball Club
Amount Requested: $31,842.00
Amount Suggested: 0
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

It is the decision of the committee to award the Paintball Club $0.00. The Paintball Club does not benefit the entire student body. Furthermore the requested amount would be going to a small number of participants, about $2,100 per participant. The committee recommends that the Paintball Club meet with other University club sports teams (Volleyball, Hockey) that also do not receive student funds but manage to fully fund the club via fundraising and dues.
Organization Name: Queer Student Cultural Center
Amount Requested: $47,000.00
Amount Suggested: $42,185.00
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The committee felt their organization had great programming events and is reaching out to the student body. We questioned their past deficits, and reduced their funding to the previous year’s level (this is the amount recorded on the budget QSCC submitted to the committee with their application) in order to encourage better fiscal responsibility going forward.
Organization Name: Student Service Fees Event Grant
Amount Requested: $75,000.00
Amount Suggested: $75,000.00
Committee Vote: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Services Fees Committee voted to approve the full amount of $10,000.00. They successfully and thoroughly demonstrated the benefit for the entire student body. They are providing funds to a variety of student groups so that they are reaching the students in the greatest range. Meanwhile, they were cutting down their budget for 2009-2010 academic year. Although they did not show a ten percent carryover, the committee felt that it was reasonable since they benefited the student groups in grants with their entire budget.
Organization Name: Student Veterans Association
Amount Requested: $17,265.00
Amount Suggested: $17,265.00
Committee Vote: 6 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The committee recommends full funding for this group because of their clear demonstration of student need on campus and the likelihood of an increase in student veterans on campus. The veteran population expected to return to the USA in 2009-2010 will require unique support of the kind that the Student Veterans Association plans to provide.
Organization Name: Students for a Conservative Voice
Amount Requested: $86,000.00
Amount Suggested: $20,000.00
Committee Vote: 5 in favor, 1 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

Students for a Conservative Voice’s collaboration has been strong in co-sponsoring events. However, based on the quality of content of the paper and the uncertain readership numbers, the committee cannot grant funding to double the number of issues published. The committee felt the publication could be produced more efficiently with more content put online and hope the group will continue to co-sponsor events. Therefore, we awarded $20,000 to the group with strong recommendations.

Minority Rationale:

The minority feels Students for a Conservative Voice deserves no funding. This group as shown the SSF Committee just how fiscally irresponsible it is. During the initial presentations of the group, a SSF Committee member asked the two presenters how stipends were decided. They clearly stated how the two of them decided how much money they would be paid. These two officers (of Students For a Conservative Voice) also stated how they decided how much to pay each of the writers, artists etc. It is not OK for just two people to randomly allocate Student Service Fee money at themselves and others. This group needs to concoct more reasonable ways to handle its finances.

General Recommendations:

The committee has strong recommendations for Students for a Conservative Voice. Failure to comply with these recommendations will affect the outcome of future funding requests. The committee recommends that Students for a Conservative Voice attempt to find external funding in the form or grants or paid advertisements and document these efforts whether granted or denied for future funding requests. Instead of making the paper bimonthly, we recommend the current number of issues but with a more professional and uniform format. The committee felt more content could be present in each current issue if the editing was done more efficiently (smaller font will fit more articles). We would like the range of stipends for authors to be listed with qualifications for each stipend amount given (i.e. 200 words gets $50, 500 words gets $75) and we encourage a more structured stipend system for the editors (each editor receives a flat amount or is paid a certain wage hourly). For the future, we expect to see great improvement in the quality of the paper and online versions and would like to see documentation of readership of both the paper and website (how many papers are left on the racks even if they were stolen, the number of hits for articles, etc.).
Organization Name: Students for Human Life
Amount Requested: $50,000.00
Amount Suggested: $10,000.00
Committee Vote: 4 in favor, 3 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Service Fees Committee feels that Students for Human Life clearly demonstrated need and benefit among students on campus, however did not feel that funding the full $50,000 would be appropriate at this current time. The committee did not feel comfortable allocating such a large amount of money to individual speakers as there was not a clear demonstration as to how these speakers - which seem to be the majority of the group’s budget - would benefit the campus as a whole.

Minority Rationale 1:

The minority disagrees with the recommendation of $10,000 for this group. While the minority agrees that such a large number of speakers is not an efficient use of funds and supports a decrease from the $50,000 request. The minority supported the initial recommendation of $20,000 because it would be a significant decrease, while still giving this organization some room to increase its programming. The group demonstrated in their application a benefit to the overall campus community.

Minority Rationale 2:

The minority feels this group should receive no funding because its lack of presence on campus.

Minority Rationale 3:

Students for Human Life provided one of the more organized and well prepared presentations of the groups to come before the committee. Although new, they demonstrated a clear plan of attack in terms of increasing membership and producing programming. The group provides another voice in the growing debate over bioethics and can claim a benefit to the campus community. Of concern was the lack of variety in the programming—too many speakers and not enough activities that the group could provide on their own. Some of the groups suggested activities were quite expensive for what they would have produced. This author would have stayed with the initial recommendation of $20,000, as it would have allowed for a couple of larger activities and help increase group membership. This allotment would still send the message that greater variety would be expected in the future.

General Recommendations:

In the future, the committee suggests hosting a fewer number of speakers as larger events. Assuming attendance is clearly tracked in the next year and the numbers showed the apparent need for fees, the committee would feel more comfortable making a sound decision on funding at the requested level.
Organization Name: The Wake
Amount Requested: $101,000.00
Amount Suggested: $57,000.00
Committee Vote: 3 in favor, 1 against, 2 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The majority of the SSFC voted to fund The Wake through student service fees, citing the group's dutiful allegiance to its mission statement and production of a quality product that was utilized by the student body. However, the majority felt that The Wake did not attempt to secure enough advertising in order to offset the massive costs incurred in designing, producing, and managing a periodical competing with The Minnesota Daily. While the committee did understand The Wake staff's aversion to advertising as part of making a quality product, the Student Service Fees Committee found it difficult to expect the students of the University of Minnesota to be almost the sole source of funding for this publication. The committee encourages The Wake to solve issues related to the securing of an increased number of outside funding sources so that in future applications the Fees Committee can consider The Wake's expansion plans. Aside from issues with advertising, the committee would like to commend The Wake for the development of an on-line alternative to their magazine. The committee was pleased with this impressive use of resources and felt that it demonstrated a great deal of foresight by The Wake staff. Finally, the majority of the Fees Committee would like to encourage The Wake to submit future budget forms in the recommended, typed format.

Minority Rationale:

The Minority proposes to award no funding to this organization for the academic year 2009-2010. This organization failed to demonstrate significant efforts to address the concerns of the previous year’s Fees Committee.

Last year’s Fees Committee noted the lack of effort to secure outside funding, including advertising. The organization did not present any convincing reasons why there still a lack of “accounted for” outside funding, especially paid advertisements.

The members of this organization expressed distaste for outside funding based on vague journalistic integrity grounds. The editor commented that some writers would “quit if we got a Coke Grant” and that The Wake’s layout editors prefer white space to advertising.

The editors did not explain how The Wake provided students with meaningful journalistic experience while the publication completely ignored an important facet of print and online media: advertising. The minority feels that it would do the student body and members of this organization a disservice by continuing to fund a publication that rejects any attempts to move towards financial independence.
Organization Name: University YMCA
Amount Requested: $30,550.00
Amount Suggested: $17,500.00
Committee Vote: 5 in favor, 1 against, 0 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

The Student Fees Committee voted to approve the award of $17,500. The committee felt this organization showed a great commitment to wards campus outreach, training of students in leadership roles through the programs it runs, and was impressed by the organizations providing for 170 work-study or stipend positions. The committee was told first hand by University of Minnesota students about the organizations commitment to student retention, and the correlation of service learning to student engagement.

Minority Rationale:

The minority feels the University YMCA provides great opportunities and outreach across campus, and believes this organization should receive higher funding than what the majority voted on.

General Recommendations:

The Student Fees Committee found it hard to follow the budget submitted by this organization, and strongly recommends more detail about where student fee money is actually being used in future years. In addition, committee members felt expenditures on food, room rental, advertising, entertainment and travel raised some concerns.
Organization Name: Women Student Activist Collective
Amount Requested: $30,000.00
Amount Suggested: $30,000.00
Committee Vote: 5 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Majority Rationale:

Due to this group’s thorough application and presentation, along with their clear demonstration of fiscal responsibility, the subcommittee feels this group should be awarded their full request. However, SSFC does recommend that they seek more sources of external funding.