Campus Atheists, Skeptics, and Humanists

Submitted January 24th, 2014

Student Services Fee Request for the 2014 - 2015 Academic Year

300 Washington Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455-0110

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>763-443-6853 (finance director)</th>
<th><a href="mailto:cash@cashumn.org">cash@cashumn.org</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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“We acknowledge that the Fee Committee does not award actual dollars, but rather a penny fee that earns dollars based upon student enrollment levels. Any differences between anticipated and actual income resulting from changes in enrollment are the responsibility of the student organization, not of the Fee Committee.”

Nick Hamme389@umn.edu

Natasha Kataeva katae001umn.edu

Preparer’s Name

Co-Preparer’s Name

Is your organization an IRS 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit? Yes ___________ No ____ X _____

If yes, please provide proof of your organization’s 501(c)(3) status.

Funds are being requested for (check all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Operating Support:</th>
<th>x</th>
<th>Start-Up Costs:</th>
<th>Capital:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project / Program Support:</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Technical Assistance:</td>
<td>Other (List):</td>
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Budget

- SSF Dollar Amount Requested $ 19,905.00
- Total Annual Organization Budget $ 29,039.16
- Total Program Budget (apart from General Operating) $ 26,090.00
Section 1: Narrative

CASH History:

University of Minnesota Atheists and Unbelievers was founded in September 1991 by Mike Valle. The name was changed to University of Minnesota Atheists and Humanists (UMAH) the following year. UMAH thrived in its central location in the old Coffman Memorial Union. In one of the best-attended event in the organization’s history, UMAH cosponsored a debate with Campus Crusade for Christ on the existence of God. The event drew a crowd of over a thousand to Northrop Auditorium and was covered by National Public Radio. Quentin Smith argued for atheism, and William Lane Craig defended theism, specifically Christianity.

Near the end of the spring 2000 term, UMAH members founded the Secular Student Alliance (SSA), an international organization that fosters the creation and development of college and high school freethought groups. UMAH also planned and hosted the first annual SSA national conference in August of 2000. To this day, CASH remains an SSA Affiliate, and works extensively with the organization. The SSA has recruited several of its elected officers from CASH because of our continuing tradition of freethought leadership at the national level.

The period without Coffman or any student union to call a home marked a difficult phase in group activity, attendance, and productivity. This resulted from the loss of a central meeting location and from high officer turnover (only one President served a full term in this period). Nevertheless, the group held many worthwhile events, including discussion nights, social nights, and a “publicity event” with religious groups. UMAH, along with other Minnesota freethought groups, founded the Minnesota Secular Council. UMAH also became an Internet presence with the development of a website at www.umah.org (since moved to www.cashumn.org).

In fall 2001, UMAH painted panels on the Washington Ave. Bridge in recognition of the tenth anniversary of its founding, beginning a yearly tradition. They were soon vandalized. That year, the group organized several letter-writing campaigns in addition to a series of informative speakers and events.

Spring of 2003 saw the return to Coffman Union, a long-awaited event that merited its own celebratory meeting. The group’s lucky thirteenth year, 2003-2004, was a period of great change for Campus Atheists and Secular Humanists (renamed to comply with a change in University policy). CASH radically overhauled its Constitution to dispense with the office of President and implement a new “triumvirate” leadership system. This system, which has since been amended again to include two additional executive members for a total of five, consists of an elected five-person Executive Board: the Activities Director, Public Relations Director, Finance Director, Administrative Director, and Advertising Director. The group has standing committees for a variety of purposes, and has established accountability and efficiency throughout the administration.

The new leadership structure proved its effectiveness from the start with the highly successful 2004-2005 school year, when the group grew dramatically and became recognized as an important presence on campus. CASH developed working relationships with many diverse student organizations in co-hosting large events including panel discussions entitled “Does Organized Religion Suppress Women’s Rights?” and “Religion and Morality,” and a debate on the separation of church and state. These activities demonstrate CASH’s commitment to fulfilling its education goal laid out in our mission statement.

The effectiveness of CASH’s triumvirate leadership model was also shown in the organization of its first annual conference, a national first for student freethought groups. The conference brought guest speakers from national and international organizations such as Americans United for Separation of Church and State, the American Humanist Association, the World Transhumanism Association, and American Atheists. CASH officers were invited to deliver a presentation about how they organized the conference at the Secular Student Alliance’s annual conference in 2005, where they also accepted the SSA’s “Affiliate of the Year” award, “in recognition of an amazing year.”
CASH continued to build on the momentum from the previous year by making the 2005-2006 academic year our biggest full year up to that point. CASH hosted a well-attended debate with Mars Hill Students featuring Dan Barker of the Freedom From Religion Foundation and Robert Osburn of the MacLaurin Institute on the topic “Does Religion Benefit Society?” CASH was profiled in the semester’s first issue of The Wake Student Magazine. Spring 2006 included a large Darwin Day celebration hosted at the Bell Museum of Natural History, a panel discussion featuring artist Joel Pelletier and his controversial painting American Fundamentalists, a very well attended debate on the topic “Does God Exist?” and Freethought Week (adapted from the 2005 Conference).

Fall 2006 was our busiest single semester on record up to that point. We hosted prominent speakers on topics like the biological basis of religious faith, religion and morality, the political religious right, the “War on Christmas,” the separation of church and state, and even string theory. These big talks were interspersed with informal social events like a pizza party and a night of bowling. CASH to continue this momentum in the spring with another Darwin Day event, a presentation on critical scriptural analysis, a panel discussion on women’s issues and religion, a scholarly debate on the divinity of Jesus, and several other speakers on a variety of topics.

The 2007-08 year was another year of great speakers, educational programming, and social events. CASH started off the year with a bang and participated in Freethought Coming Out Day, which included a discussion on the social stigma attached to identifying as nonreligious. We also held a large debate between two well-known speakers, Scott Forschler and Gannon Murphy, on the topic of “Does God Exist?” Another debate, during the spring semester, was between Loyal Rue, a Christian blogger and author, and P.Z. Myers, a biology professor at the University of Minnesota – Morris, on the topic of “Are Science and Religion Compatible?”. In addition, Dr. Meyers has been a member of CASH’s advisory board for several years, and we appreciate his help in advertising and helping out with programs, as well as advertising our group and University on his popular website.

We hosted a record number of speakers and presenters during the academic year. Professor Hector Avalos of Iowa State University spoke on the origins of history and religious violence. Award-winning author Judith Levine gave a stimulating presentation on religious influences on sexual education. Steven Feinstein from the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies provided information for a discussion on religious influences in genocide, violence, and hatred from a social perspective. Hemant Mehta, celebrity atheist blogger, student at UI Chicago and author discussed his book, “I Sold my Soul on E-Bay”. This program has been very popular with members of CASH, and again shows our commitment to education. Annie Laurie Gaylor, co-president of the Freedom From Religion Foundation, spoke to CASH on her organization’s current social and legal work for the rights of non-believers. Blogger and author Austin Cline gave a talk on the importance of skepticism and critical thinking both in academia and in everyday life. Lori Lipman Brown returned to CASH to discuss secular politics in Washington, D.C.

In addition to the many speakers CASH hosted over the course of the year, there were also several social events including informal discussions, a ‘group date’ for Valentine’s Day, and several pizza meetings. Over the summer of 2008, the five executive board members for the 2008-09 school year attended the Secular Student Alliance national conference in Washington, D.C. Along with attending seminars and discussions over the weekend, we also made contact with the Richard Dawkins Foundation. The conference allowed the board to learn effective methods for making CASH successful and better serving our members.

During Fall semester 2008, we hosted several interesting and programs. The year started off with the traditional pizza meeting, one of the most popular ways we fulfill our goal to foster community. Hemant returned to give updates on his book, “I Sold My Soul on Ebay” as well as to give recent developments in his story. We also held a movie screening and a Halloween party, both yearly events that demonstrate our commitment to creating a community.
World-renowned evolutionary biologist and atheist Richard Dawkins came to the U to speak on his latest book about the evidence for evolution in early March, 2009. His talk, entitled “The Purpose of Purpose,” addressed many of the issues and myths surrounding the notions of design, purpose, and intent in biological systems. Specifically, his talk was centered on the analysis of why exactly purpose and intent are evident. The event, solely sponsored by CASH, drew over 5000 attendees to Northrop Memorial Auditorium, marking it by far the largest event in the history of CASH. This event, as well as similar events held in previous and subsequent years, show CASH’s commitment to providing it’s members, university students and staff, and the community with intellectually stimulating ideas from world renowned scholars.

Other events of Spring 2009 included an attendance of Darwin Day festivities and presentations at the Bell Museum of Natural history, a Second Harvest Food Drive, and our annual Garrison-Martineau Project co-sponsored by CASH and CRU. The Garrison-Martineau Project, a moderated discussion between believers and non-believers, is highly successful way CASH reaches out to build understanding between people with different worldviews and strengthen the University of Minnesota community.

Summer of 2009 was also quite an active time within CASH internally. The new executive board attended conferences hosted by both the American Humanist Association in Phoenix, Arizona, and the annual Secular Student Alliance conference, hosted in Columbus, Ohio. Along with excellent opportunities for networking, education, advocacy, community-building, and organizational efforts, the conferences also provide attendees with a very crucial sense of communal purpose. This communal purpose is to advocate for positive atheism and secularism, the protection of secularism within government and science education, as well as the formation of partnerships with religious groups to spread mutual understanding and to work towards common goals. However, the conferences also have their share of educational fun – the 2009 SSA conference was preceded by a trip to Kentucky’s Creation Museum, led by CASH faculty advisor PZ Myers. The event was attended by over three hundred secularists and as a result garnered a great deal publicity. This attention results in interviews with group leadership, which is one of the most effective ways we advocate for our group and our worldview. As more people learn about us, understanding and acceptance will grow.

The 2009-2010 academic year provided a year of successes, challenges, and changes within CASH. We saw a complete overhaul of the executive board at the end of the year. Interest in the group remained strong throughout the fall and spring semesters because of events like the highly successful debate between Dr. PZ Myers and Dr. Jerry Bergman, which had a turnout of approximately 500 people. CASH also hosted many other educational and social events, such as our a spaghetti fundraiser dinner, as well as took part in volunteering initiatives, such as the Relay 4 Life, one of our favorite ways to give back to the university community. The second semester of the 09-10 school year included speaking engagements from the U of M’s own Professor Alan Love, former United Nations representative for the Center for Inquiry Dr. Austin Dacey, and popular blogger Hemant Mehta. These distinguished guests continued the CASH goal of providing interesting and insightful information to the University community.

The summer of 2010 saw four board members attending the Secular Student Alliance conference at The Ohio State University, a conference for leaders of the secular community to come together in order to share information about the creating, maintaining, and promoting secular student groups across the nation. Over the summer CASH was also a sponsored of one event in series of freethought picnics that was put together by freethought groups across the state. This networking strengthened our group and University’s connection with the greater state.

The Fall semester of 2010 saw CASH welcome back students by providing a friendly and lighthearted secular counterpoint to Brother Jed, a hateful fire and brimstone preacher who spreads his anti-homosexual message at college campuses across the nation. This has been one of our most successful
advocacy events to date, as it allowed us to inform the public of our world view while we showed our refusal to accept Brother Jed’s hateful message.

During Fall semester we had wonderful speakers in the form of Michael Shermer and U of M professor Sehoya Cotner. Michael Shermer gave an excellent talk on the science of belief as well as how the brain can be stimulated to induce things such as out of body experiences. Sehoya Cotner gave an excellent talk in which she detailed the research she had done over the years about the state of teaching students have about evolution coming into her class as well as their thoughts.

Spring of 2011 saw a slew of excellent speakers and events beginning with the self-described wonder triplets: Greta Christina, JT Eberhard, and Jen Mcreight, and ending with PZ Meyers doing a panel Q and A about atheism. Greta Christina talked about how the atheist movement has many parallels to the GLBT movement and how we can learn from the successes and failures of that movement to help the atheist movement succeed. JT Eberhard was originally going to be part of a debate, but the other group couldn’t find a speaker so we had JT give a talk on Campus activism and how to do it effectively. Jen Mcreight gave a speech about feminism within the context of atheism and what needs to be done in this regard.

Fall of 2011 saw the first annual homeopathy protest which we conducted in conjunction with other groups, this was a great campus outreach event that was aimed at increasing skepticism and revealing the lax federal oversight of alternative medicines, the protest culminated in a mass “overdose” in which members consumed Homeopathic remedies which we had prepared using the methods of homeopathy, the overdose was in reality consumption of water as the homeopathic principle of dilution reduces the active ingredient (caffeine) to an infinitesimal amount. CASH also hosted a variety of speakers and brought many different interesting people and ideas to campus: talks on faith, ethics, and humanist morals. CASH collaborated with other groups, cohosting an event with WSAC the Women’s Student Activist Collective on feminism and gender and a debate with the Muslim group Building Blocks about the relative rationality of Islam and Atheism. CASH brought in Dan Barker to argue for Atheism, and Building Blocks brought in Hamza Tzortzis, making it a very interesting and well-attended event, overfilling the largest lecture hall in Smith Hall. To promote a more social atmosphere in the group, we began hosting CASHSocial events in addition to our normal weekly meetings. These meetings were more social in nature and entailed things like meeting up and going to the Art Museum, Science Museum, going skating at the arena, or just going out to eat. CASH’s last big event of the semester was to bring in the world renowned mentalist Banachek, an event which brought more than 200 people in for a magic and mentalism show in Coffman’s Great Hall free of charge followed by a discussion of his involvement in exposing the terrible testing procedures within the psychic community by fooling them into thinking he was psychic.

In the spring of 2012, continuing our role as a contributor to the intellectual community on campus, CASH continued to bring in interesting speakers for talks, and also helping with charity efforts like the Relay for Life and an event we hosted “Stone a Heathen” which helped us to raise money for the It Gets Better Project, which supports LGBT teens struggling with bullying and depression.

During the 2012 – 2013 school year, CASH worked with multiple religious groups to protest the hateful campus preacher Brother Jed, when he visited campus early in the year, and was in the Daily many times for our events “Everybody Draw Mohammed Day” and “Blasphemy Day” which were events to support freedom of speech, oppose blasphemy laws, and promote discussion. We also cohosted an event “Perspectives on Faith” with MSA, The Muslim Student Alliance, after our discussion after Everybody Draw Mohammed Day. The Perspectives on Faith event was modeled on our previous Garrison Martineau Project discussions and helped to promote understanding and friendship.
In the spring semester of 2013, CASH continued to host events that contributed to the marketplace of ideas as well as provided a social and fun atmosphere for non-theists. We held a panel whose topic was “Sex, Gender, and Religion” with collaboration with Campus Crusade for Christ and the Queer Student Cultural Center. Our most exciting and biggest event we’ve ever attempted, Skeptech, took place in early April. Skeptech is a conference focusing on skepticism and technology. We brought in a large number of speakers to Willey Hall, the largest auditorium on campus and hosted two days of talks on a huge variety of topics relating to technology and how it has helped shape our current world and specifically how it has affected the secular community. The event generated upwards of 200 attendees. The success of Skeptech was such that there was sufficient demand for a second conference.

In July of 2013, officers of CASH attended the annual SSA leadership conference. There, they gained valuable knowledge in regards to running the group.

In the fall of 2013, CASH continued to host events designed to foster a community for non-theists, as well as engaging in outreach activities with religious groups on campus, specifically with the St. Paul’s Outreach group by engaging with them in a Perspectives on Faith discussion. CASH continued hosting our “Stone a Heathen” event. This semester, the proceeds from the event went to unrefugees.org to support refugees of the Syrian crisis. CASH flew in big-name speakers such as Brian Dunning and JT Eberhard to discuss topics related to skepticism and secularism. CASH resumed hosting CASHSocial events, in which members gather outside of regular Thursday meetings in a more social setting. This coming semester, CASH plans on bringing back famous speaker Richard Dawkins to give a talk on campus. Another big event CASH is planning is the “Flying Spaghetti Monster” spaghetti dinner, in which CASH will raise money to donate to a local food shelf. In April of 2014 CASH will be involved in hosting the Skeptech 2 conference. This second iteration of Skeptech will expand the focus on skepticism and technology and bring in additional speakers. Projected attendance for the second Skeptech conference is from 300 to 400.

Mission statement:
1. Community - End the isolation experienced by nonbelievers by fostering a socially and intellectually engaging community. As a student organization, we seek first to sustain a friendly and supportive environment for individuals with secular worldviews and those interested in related issues. We seek to bring together people of like minds, whether students, faculty, staff, or local community members, and facilitate discussion and cooperation through weekly meetings, social activities, lectures, debates, and the distribution of educational materials. Every year, several new members tell our officers that they came to the University of Minnesota from a small, conservative community where atheism and agnosticism were taboo and they had nobody with whom to discuss such things. Their gratitude for the existence of our organization demonstrates the continuing relevance of our community mission.

2. Education - Advance the knowledge of the University community by contributing to the marketplace of ideas. We seek specifically to inform the campus community about a number of inter-related topics of concern to secular and religious minds alike. These topics include the constitutional principle of state/church separation, threats to individual freedom, critiques of supernatural worldviews, the origins of religions and their evolution through time, critical examinations of pseudoscientific and paranormal claims, and positive, secular alternatives to religious systems and worldviews. We frequently collaborate with other student organizations, religious and secular alike to further our educational mission.
3. Advocacy – Promote tolerance and understanding; address negative stereotyping, misconceptions about, and discrimination against nonbelievers. The University of Minnesota’s sociology department, in its broad survey entitled “The American Mosaic Project,” found that atheists are perhaps America’s least trusted, most feared demographic group. CASH believes that these attitudes spring from atheism’s near-total lack of visibility until recent years, America’s unique religiosity among developed Western countries, and the prevailing sea of misinformation and stereotypes that accompanies them both.

Organizations within the skeptic community we work with:

On-Campus Organizations

CASH is the sole organization at the University of Minnesota that supports the community of nonbelievers on campus, advocates reason as a means to attain knowledge, defends the separation of church and state, and educates the campus community about these issues. We strive to create and maintain cooperative working relations with many diverse organizations on campus. Student organizations with which CASH has collaborated on events include Campus Crusade for Christ, Diamond Way Buddhist Meditation Group, Hillel, Hindu Student Society, Interfaith Student Partnership, Pillars of Islam, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, alMadinah Cultural Center, University Unitarian Universalists, Christian Believers on Campus, Mars Hill Students, Sexual Health Awareness and Disease Education (SHADE), Students for Family Values, the Queer Student Culture Center, and University Pagan Society. A brief list of events we have co-sponsored with these partners:

The Garrison-Martineau Project, a workshop-style theist/nontheist group dialogue
- Debates on:
  - the separation of church and state
  - the benefits/harms of religion to society
  - the existence of God
  - the teaching of intelligent design in classrooms
- Forums and panel discussions on a variety of topics
  - “Stop the Hate” Week 2004
  - “Perusal of Atheist Worldviews,” a panel presentation on the varieties of nonbelief
  - Various social events (group discussions, bowling, etc.)
  - Jesus and Dawkins Go to the Movies (2009)
  - “Ask An Atheist” Q and A/discussion and panel

Off-Campus Organizations

In order to accomplish our common goals, CASH retains close ties with many freethought organizations on local, national, and international levels.

Local:

Minnesota Atheists: A longstanding history of cooperation and mutual advantage has benefited both CASH and Minnesota Atheists. CASH distributes literature from Minnesota Atheists at weekly contact table sessions and information fairs, and our own brochures are circulated at Minnesota Atheists meetings and picnics. Members from each organization attend meetings and events of the other, including periodic presentations to each group by officers of the other. Minnesota Atheists supports CASH financially, with in kind resources, and with advice. Minnesota Atheists also allows CASH to publicize events and fundraisers in its monthly printed newsletter.
Humanists of Minnesota: CASH has been associated with Humanists of Minnesota since our establishment in 1991, and we participate in their conferences, host guest lecturers from their group, and distribute literature on Humanists of Minnesota activities and missions. Humanists of Minnesota financially supports CASH’s operations and events, such as the 2005 Humanism Conference, for which the organization ran its own fundraising drive. Humanists of Minnesota allows CASH to publicize events and fundraisers in its monthly newsletter.

Camp Quest of Minnesota: Camp Quest is a national summer camp program for atheist and secular humanist youth (ages 8-17). CASH members are on the board of Camp Quest Minnesota, and take part in its educational activities. Recruitment of members is mutual.

National/International:

Student Secular Alliance (SSA): The Secular Student Alliance is an international, student-run umbrella organization for secular student groups. It was founded in 2000 by members of UMAH (CASH’s former name), has grown considerably in scope and recognition, and now has over one hundred affiliated campus organizations. CASH is an SSA Affiliate group, and cooperates with the SSA by sharing information and experience, as well as upcoming plans and projects. CASH officers attempt to attend the annual SSA conference and return with new ideas about how to manage our group. The SSA also operates email listservs, in which CASH participates, that allow officers from student Freethought organizations across the world to share ideas with each other. The SSA named CASH its “Affiliate of the Year” for 2005. SSA also has a history of recruiting its Board of Directors members from CASH alumni.

American Humanist Association: CASH is an AHA Affiliate and benefits from access to a broad range of their literature, which we distribute on campus.

Americans United for Separation of Church and State: CASH benefits from access to literature and guest speakers from Americans United.

Internet Infidels: CASH works with Internet Infidels to promote our common objectives through mutual publicity. Our group is advertised on the Internet Infidels website (www.infidels.org), which is accessed by 400,000 unique visitors every month. CASH has also hosted guest speakers from Internet Infidels, including President Clark Adams.

Atheist Alliance International: CASH is among the collection of independent member organizations that make up AAI. Member organizations benefit from AAI’s international “Freethought Directory,” which puts them in contact with other organizations that share resources, ideas, and guest speakers.

Center for Inquiry: CASH is an affiliate group of CFI On Campus, a section of CFI that offers many resources to student organizations across the country for running groups and promoting reason, including access to speakers.

Michigan State University Chapter of Center for inquiry: CASH worked with MSU CFI in the fall of 2011 to have a joint homeopathy protest.

Garrison-Martineau Project: CASH works as part of the Garrison-Martineau Project to establish a recurring friendly dialogue, between members of CASH and other student organizations, that brings nonbelievers closer together with believers. More information about this unique endeavor is available at the Project’s website, www.garrison-martineau.com.
CASH is an important part of the university community as it provides a unique service - catering to nonbelievers (who constitute a large minority within our society on the range of 8-10 percent of people in the United States). Many within this minority lost a community when they left the religion they were raised in. CASH creates a community for these people.

CASH also provides a unique service in its educational role, which is to use education as a means to reduce discrimination against atheists who consistently rank as the most distrusted minority, in a most recent study they were on par with rapists when it came to trustworthiness. By working to use education to eliminate these inaccurate stereotypes CASH works for the benefit of the community at large. In addition to advocating for atheism CASH works to reduce discrimination against other groups specifically GLBT whom experience a large amount of unacceptable bigotry.

In addition CASH provides a service in its promotion of skepticism and science. In doing so we are not just acting as a skeptic group, but helping others to think skeptically about topics such as psychics and alternative medicine. The result of this is a better-informed populace that values science and critical thinking.

Students make up almost the entirety of CASH and are involved in many ways. These ways include volunteering to: take pictures, staff our contact table, flyer, and provide technical support. Beyond that our executive board is entirely made up of students and the executive board runs everything related to the organization without any form of compensation.

Section 2: Organizational Chart
## Section 3: Performance Report

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<th>Event Title</th>
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<th>Number of Participants:</th>
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<tr>
<td>CASH Semester Kickoff!</td>
<td>September 5, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Discussion on Secular Morality</td>
<td>September 12, 2013</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone a Heathen!</td>
<td>September 13, 2013</td>
<td>12 volunteers, numerous participants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design your own Deity!</td>
<td>September 19, 2013</td>
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<td>Death and Dying</td>
<td>September 26, 2013</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Dunning: “Health Scams Are Your Friend: How You Can Use Them to Promote Skepticism</td>
<td>October 10, 2013</td>
<td>45</td>
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<td>Perspectives on Faith</td>
<td>October 17, 2013</td>
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<td>JT Eberhard: A Presentation on Mental Health and Skepticism</td>
<td>October 24, 2013</td>
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<td>CASH Halloween Party &amp; Game Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Are humans still evolving? Presented by Sehoya Cotner</td>
<td>November 7, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Cosmos Pizza Party</td>
<td>November 9, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Dinosaurs in Heaven event</td>
<td>November 12, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Facciani: Your Brain on Religion: How Neuroscience and Psychology can Explain Religious Belief</td>
<td>November 14, 2013</td>
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<td>Morality of Science</td>
<td>November 21, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday Night Game Night!</td>
<td>November 23, 2013</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>KinderCASH!</td>
<td>December 5, 2013</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finals Wind Down...</td>
<td>December 12, 2013</td>
<td>11</td>
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## Section 4: Reserve Accounts
Cash tries to keep a reserve of $2,000 in our bank account at all times. This is not separate from our normal checking account, but this account is there in case of large unexpected expenses, which need to be paid before funds come in. With this amount we are also able to operate for the first few weeks before our SSF check arrives.

Section 5: Fees Request
We are requesting $19,905.00 in Student Fees money, an increase of $8905.00 from last year. Most of this is going to two large items: our Major speaker program, and our Skeptech conference.

Skeptech has previously been about $6500 of our fees money, and cost us last year about $9500. The conference is still growing, and by comparison with similar conferences, we are expecting a few years of at least 50% growth. We need to increase the number, and quality, of speakers to support this growth, and make this an even more successful event into the future. We’re therefore asking for $1000 more than we’ve spent in the past on this, or about half of our projected cost increase, to accomplish this end.

Our Major Speaker program item did not occur this year, but is something the group has done in the past. Unfortunately, with major speakers of the caliber we hope to attract, it’s hard to get a commitment without some appreciable fraction of their honorarium on-hand, and it’s much easier to raise any kind of funds to bring a speaker with a commitment already in-hand. The $11,200 we are requesting is to enable us to have a very large, well-advertised event, with a prominent speaker, to create a significant value for a large number of students on-campus. While there was a similar line item in last year’s request, much of that money was used for Skeptech, so saying that this is a $6550 increase requires double-counting Skeptech funds. Of course, the exact amount depends on our final expenses and fundraising totals for Skeptech, which will not be known until the event has occurred, on April 4th-6th.

The final major contributor to our change in fees request is that we found that our administrative carryover was too low. We ended up incurring additional expenses because we had to wait until after we received our Student Services Fees check to purchase tickets for one speaker, because we didn’t have adequate funds in our bank account. For this reason, we are increasing the value of our administrative carryover, to ensure that we have funds to operate until check dispersal.

We will be minimally operational during the summer of 2015. Our summertime activity consists of members and board members travelling to the SSA Conference held in the summer, and planning by board members for the following academic year. Funds from SSF are not needed during this time.

Section 6: External Funding
CASH has done significant work to increase the funds we have raised, especially for our Skeptech conference. One of our more prominent speakers at Skeptech in 2013 was a webcomic artist named Zach Weinersmith, and as a fundraiser for the upcoming Skeptech, auctioned off having a portrait drawn by him, and ended up with $255 to support our conference. We have put together a fundraising video to start an indiegogo crowdfunding campaign that we anticipate will bring in a reasonable amount of funds. We’ve also applied for grants and other things from the Secular Student Alliance, and received some in-kind donations, and a movie showing license from them.

About 68% of our budget comes from Student Services Fees money, as compared to about 86% in last year’s application, even though the size of our budget has increased. Of course, because we are a secular group, that somewhat constrains the sources of funds available to us, as non-theists are an unpopular group, but it also opens up the avenues of working with secular bloggers to improve the visibility within the greater secular community of our fundraising attempts. We have done this sort of fundraising primarily for Skeptech this year, because the ramped-up funding is needed for a growing conference, but hope to increase the items we raise funds for in this way next year.