AN ACT

Allocating $3,592.70 from UISG Contingency toward National Society of Black Engineers Fall Regional Conference.

Section 1. Short Title

This bill may be cited as “Appeals Funding for National Society of Black Engineers Fall Regional Conference.”

Section 2. Background

According to the Student Allocations, Budgeting, and Auditing Committee (SABAC) Bylaws, a student organization may appeal SABAC’s allocation decision within two weeks of the notification. If SABAC does not change the funding allocation after review, a member of SABAC should present the funding appeal as a piece of legislation to the Student Senate. The legislation must be heard on the senate floor within two weeks of the date in which the appeal was filed. It should be noted that the Finance Team recognizes that this current appeals process may not be effective in protecting the budgeting duty of the committee. Seeing as one of SABAC’s main goals is to be objective and strictly follow the funding guidelines, a review of the original budget request will not change the committee’s allocation decision. The only exception would be if an error is made on behalf of the committee, in which case, it will be corrected.

The University of Iowa Student Government strives to fund as many student organizations as possible in order to benefit students across campus. Unfortunately, due to increased funding requests and a fixed amount of funds, the UISG Finance Team decided to not fund any travel for Review Period 4 (allocation meeting on September 23rd) and to cut all other requests made during this period by 50%. The SABAC allocation account has between $300,000 and $400,000 for FY20 (to spend from July 1, 2019 to June 31, 2020). Split across 26 two-week periods (the frequency with which SABAC reviews requests), the Finance Team has between $11,500 and $15,000 to spend during each funding period. For reference, SABAC received over
$50,000 of requests during Review Period 4. By not funding travel and cutting all other requests by 50% of their original amount, SABAC allocated $12,878.52 during Review Period 4. The UISG Finance Team is currently establishing new funding guidelines that more accurately represent our current financial ability.

During Review Period 4, National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) requested $6,022.90 to attend their Fall Regional Conference. Since these are travel funds, NSBE did not receive any funds for their trip. Below is the purpose of NSBE’s conference.

The Fall Regional Conference in St. Louis, MO provides NSBE with professional development workshops uniquely tailored for their members' identity backgrounds. The conference also includes many academic competitions that members participate in individually: for example, a hackathon, and most importantly, the NSBE career fair. The career fair has been proven semester after semester to provide the best access to our members to internships and full-time positions. They explicitly see this in comparison to the College of Engineering career fair, as the conference is always held right after it. Furthermore, the conference provides them with access to companies that do not come to the College of Engineering career fair--many of which have set target schools that dissolve when they are recruiting from NSBE membership. Their student interns and alumni members that get recruited by companies not present at the local career fair successfully advocate for current student members for recruitment--many times hosting an event at the college and sometimes even bringing these companies to their local fair (examples from this semester include TransUnion, Alliant Energy, Google, and United Airlines). At the conference, with the help of their advisor, they set up a booth advocating for the College of Engineering. High school NSBE members also attend the conference but instead of meeting with companies, they meet with university booths to help them decide where to go for school. Their NSBE chapter supports the college in attracting corporate partnerships as well as hosting some of the largest outreach events. They provide a lot of support to the university but have received little funding from the university this year.

Section 3. Budget

NSBE’s Request for Fall Regional Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lodging for 26 members</td>
<td>7 rooms x 3 nights x $171.08/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Allocation</td>
<td>$3,592.70</td>
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Section 4. Action

The University of Iowa Student Government will allocate $3,592.70 from UISG Contingency toward National Society of Black Engineers Fall Regional Conference.
Section 5. Enactment Clause

Be it enacted by University of Iowa Student Government upon the signature of President Mills.

[Signature]

, Speaker of the Senate
Elli Lenz

I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated from the 2019-2020 Student Senate Session.

[Signature]

Secretary
Caren Li

APPROVED on _______________ 2019
UISG President
Noel Mills

[Signature]