SSC Biweekly Meeting
Thursday, September 13, 2018
Location: NSRC 358

Student attendees: Adrian Chendra, Sarah Gediman, Bryan Parthum, John Uelmen, Gabriel Mishaan, Zishen Ye, Joe Edwards, Emmanuel Fadahunsi, Jack Javer

Faculty/staff advisor attendees: Morgan White, Kristine Chalifoux, Shanadora Billiot, Adam Dolezal, Andrew Stumpf, BK Sharma, Yun Kyu Yi

Meeting Minutes

1:45pm: Meeting start (1st biweekly meeting)
  • Introductions & goals

1:50pm: Met quorum, confirm on elections
  • All in favor, all positions officially confirmed

1:52pm: Update on microgrant cap
  • Explanation of microgrants to faculty advisors
    o $5000 max of fees per year
  • Approved to bring the cap from $500 to $750 (but maintain a $5000 max a year)
  • Argument: $500 appears to be a little bit low, the extra $250 are additional supplements to any fees
  • Microgrant deadline in mid-October; rather than waiting to vote until then, it’s preferable to do this as soon as possible (to assist in student-led applications already submitted)
  • Microgrant vote approved (9 in favor, 1 abstained)

1:57pm: Scope change for Illinois Sustainability Juice Processing
  • Due to delays in instrument, equipment, and machinery procurement, they are asking to extend their time to implement the funding
  • Propose that we give them a year to get the funding completed
  • Original deadline to complete funding: May 2019
  • Motion approved (9 in favor, 1 against)

2:06pm: Discussion for the Clean Energy Transition Guest Lecture Series
  • Inform the group of what we can or cannot fund
  • Clarification: they are looking to have speakers from Chicago come here
  • Lecture locations: classrooms are free but other spaces aren’t necessary free (e.g. Union)
  • Concerns: there’s no guarantee for this pilot being sustainable in the future
Potential that if they don’t get additional funding, they may come back to us and we wouldn’t want to keep them funded

- What is the reach to students beyond those interested in the field of the speaker?
- And how will they/have they reached out to those “other” students?
- Microgrant Lecture Series approved (unanimous)

2:15pm: Discussion based on social media

- How can we improve presence? What can we do on the social media front?
- Students have access to a social media slack channel (but faculty don’t)
  - However, faculty have the option to be on there
- If anyone has something interesting to share, send to Dhwani for her to post/share
- Particularly interested in Instagram photos
- How can we make people follow up on their projects so we can be marketing easier/more?
- Goals of social media push:
  - Get more awareness and promote projects success/growth, hoping that projects will be more competitive and higher quality
  - Get the student body educated of these beneficial projects and be more active
- So far, our most successful/productive method for getting SSC’s word out: word of mouth
  - When projects get funded, the success story gets propagated within a department, among colleagues, etc.
- Tabled this discussion – it will be targeted to marketing specifically

2:41pm: Meeting adjourned