

B F2020.24

An Amendment to Chapter of the Bylaws to Improve the Sustainability of BAC Funding

A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government

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Whereas, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;¹ and,

Whereas, LSA SG utilizes its Bylaws to structure and facilitate official business, and recognizes the need for amendments to the Bylaws to improve its function; and,

Whereas, “The Budget Allocations Committee (hereafter known as BAC) shall make all recommendations for the allocation of Government funds to student initiatives and monitor the expenditure of these funds. BAC shall also submit a budget of these funds to the Government for approval;”²and,

Whereas, like the entire LSA SG budget, funds allocated by BAC come from LSA student fees, therefore, events that are funded by LSA SG and BAC should reflect student beliefs and values; and,

Whereas, environmental issues inspire a huge amount of student activism on the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor campus including the 2020 Global Climate Summit and organizing around the university’s carbon neutrality goals; and,

Whereas, The UM Office of Campus Sustainability offers free use and pickup of compostable materials for all students and student organizations³; and,

Whereas, LSA SG should encourage the sustainability of events on campus, especially if it comes at no extra cost for students; and,

Whereas, SOFC the funding committee for Central Student Government (hereafter known as CSG) also considers “Environmental impact of event/project/expense, including efforts to reduce waste, energy consumption, and resources intensity”⁴ when reviewing funding applications.

¹ The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

² LSA SG Bylaws. Chapter 13

³ <https://ocs.umich.edu/programs/waste-reduction/composting/zero-waste-events/>

⁴ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-9ps1a4Hxw4vjcpasbhw5nEy5JMVQk1SvS23ALoLTN0/edit>

Be it therefore resolved, that the Bylaws be amended in accordance with the language in Appendix A;
and,

Be it further resolved, that Chapter 13.02.12 be amended to include events that utilize “zero-waste”
techniques including but not limited to compostable materials; and,

Be it finally resolved, that these changes take effect as of the Winter 2021 semester.

Appendix A

13.02.12 **Group Criteria.** Preference for funding will be given to groups that:

- (a) affect large numbers of LSA students
- (b) put on events with an academic, cultural or community service focus
- (c) put on events that affect the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor community
- (d) have made an effort to receive funding from other sources if the total expense of the event is over \$2,000
- (e) thoroughly complete the application for funding with detailed descriptions. Applications with missing, misleading or false information will not be reviewed and may be ineligible for an appeal.
- (f) have demonstrated a history of utilizing allocated funds, should they have been allocated funds in the past
- (g) demonstrate financial need
- (i) demonstrate an active effort to increase the sustainability of their events via “zero-waste” techniques including but not limited to the usage of compostable materials*

13.02.13. **Funding Item Criteria.** The Committee will usually not approve funding for the purchase or creation of the following items unless integral to the funding request:

- (a) capital goods (electronic equipment, tools, sports equipment, T-shirts, etc.)
- (b) food or beverage
- (c) salaries for services
- (d) transportation
- (e) donations
- (f) events to raise money or distribute scholarships/awards, unless LSA SG’s name appears as part of the gift award or scholarship
- (g) events that are only open to specific groups of students on campus
- (h) events taking place beyond walking distance from campus

13.02.14. **Additional Criteria.** As per rules of the University and applicable state and federal laws, LSA SG will never fund the following items:

- (a) Political campaign activities
- (b) Staff salaries
- (c) Illegal activity
- (d) For-Profit activities
- (e) Charitable Donations to organizations outside the University
- (f) Alcohol and tobacco products
- (g) Religious exercise