SGA restructures committees, budget for Fall semester

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The Student Government Association unanimously voted to restructure the budget system, structure the appropriation system and give descriptions to executive position at its weekly meeting.

Amendments 8 and 9 were introduced by the ad hoc committee in a powerpoint presentation. The committee delivered their reports to the senators and proposed a new equation to balance the budget and promote more efficient spending.

“We wanted to see how we could remediate that and not make it disproportionate to where liberal arts does not get the most money because they are the biggest college on campus,” said treasurer Melanie Benit.

The new amendments also ensured that meetings are better streamlined. Appropriations will be addressed once a month and go through three stages of evaluation by multiple committees.

The treasurer has the ability to veto appropriations and send them back to the committee from which it came. This change will give individuals and organizations more time to get an accurate estimate of event costs.

In addition to streamlining the appropriation process, the amendments will also set the committee budget at $3600, which can be tweaked accordingly, according to Benit. More guidelines are also placed on friendly donations from colleges.

The SGA will also create three budgets a year corresponding with the spring, fall and summer semesters.

Chief Justice Tyler Quebedeaux introduced amendment 9, which was centered around committees. The new amendment says all SGA members will be in committees. It classifies the finance, elections and rules and ethics committees as internal committees and the structure and the rest as external committees.

While the amendments are changing the appropriations system, here are the ones that passed under the old system: the Electrical Engineering Robotics Team received $200 from the general fund, $245.60 from the College of Engineering, $100 from the College of Business to defray the cost of attending the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering Region in New Orleans from April 16-18.

Subasish Das received $275 from the College of Engineering, $100 from the College of Business and $200 from the College of Education to attend the 2015 Eno Conference in Washington, D.C. from May 30 until June 5.