

Motion for the Equitable Distribution of Funds to All Political Groups on Campus

Purpose:

To create more awareness regarding the equitable distribution of funding to political groups on campus. This motion also symbolizes SGA's support for future political action policy that guarantees equal representation and that SGA recognizes all political forms of thought.

The What:

This motion, if passed, would mandate that all political action groups on campus are entitled to equitable funding. Funding disparities between groups restrict political thought on campus and thus students aren't necessarily entitled to diversity of opinion. This proposal recommends that the treasurer and the parliamentarian should make political groups aware that they are entitled to equitable amounts of funding during their review of club budgets. In addition, this motion would propose that the Finance Committee keep a separate record of funding requests from political groups on campus to ensure that all groups are receiving equitable funding. Although this motion does not explicitly propose changes to the Constitution at this time, it sets the precedent for SGA to include guidelines on equitable funding in a future political activities policy.

The How:

Once approved the Finance Committee would begin to keep a record of all funding requests and funding allocations to all political action groups on campus. In addition, the Treasurer and the Parliamentarian would serve to inform political groups on campus that they are entitled to equitable funding.

Strengths and Importance:

Colby is a campus for all forms of political thought. By allowing all groups to be entitled to equitable funding, the college can uphold its promise to allow for the pursuit of intellectual thought of all forms. As per Section V of Colby's Political Activities Policy, Student Government Association may establish non-partisan policies and guidelines as to the management of political groups. Thus, this motion serves as a precursor to a potential SGA policy on political action and also lays the groundwork for SGA leaders to ensure equitable funding.

Possible Risk Areas:

-Finance committee still lays the groundwork for the approval of funding. Unfeasible requests may still be disregarded.

- The definition of "equitable" is fluid and could lead to unnecessary vagueness in the proposal. As a result, the Judiciary Committee can lay the groundwork for what they define as equitable.

Contact Information for questioning, clarification, or pre-meeting critiques:

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Favorable Hours to Meet: By Appointment