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SGA allocates money to groups

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Members of the Barnard Student Government Association (SGA) dealt with allocating of funds to various organizations at its weekly meeting on Monday.

Both the Chicano Caucus and Barnard's class councils of '98 and '99 successfully appealed to the SGA representative board for increased funding

Chicano Caucus representative Layla Lozano, BC '98, presented the group's budget for an Alumni Homecoming Weekend it ran in mid-October, and cited the group's lack of a budget allocation in asking for SGA funding.

SGA members granted the Chicano Caucus \$200 by a unanimous vote, and then \$150 more, on a unanimous second vote.

Barnard Sophomore Class President, Sucheta Sharma and Barnard Junior Class President Helen Elissian requested SGA cosponsorship of this Friday's sophomore-junior Halloween party in Earl Hall. While the event's sponsors have already secured a combined \$400 in co-sponsorships from the Undergraduate Housing Council, the Columbia College Student Council, and the Engineering Student Council, the SGA granted another \$100 towards the \$1510 budget.

SGA members not only doled out funds at Monday's meeting, but also saw the benefits of past expenditures when two students who had received SGA funds for summer projects returned to share their experiences.

Eileen Doyle, BC '97, received SGA funding last year to research AIDS medicines at the University of New Jersey. Doyle said the ultimate aim of the project is to make drug designs that inhibit the development of AIDS. The high cost of the chemicals in her research, \$100 per milligram, led Doyle to ask the SGA for funding.

Another recipient of a summer grant, Kameron Lewis, BC '98, returned to show how she made use of the SGA's \$970 allocation. Lewis choreographed, directed, and produced a dance concert with 11 other dancers in Miami, Florida. Lewis thanked SGA members for providing her with the invaluable experience she said will benefit her future artistic endeavors.

In other SGA news, SGA president Michelle Katz, BC '97, stated the importance of increasing the avenues of communication between student clubs and the SGA board.

"It's important for us to start calling clubs, and finding out what is going on with all of them," Katz said.

SGA Treasurer Yuliana Gomez, BC '98, added that lists of club interests, program summaries, and members' phone numbers will be forthcoming.

Junior Representative to the Board of Trustees Kafi Brown, 'BC '98, described the highlights of the first Board meeting from last Wednesday. The trustees voted to allocate funds to renovate the greenhouse atop Milbank Hall and to convert 304 Barnard Hall, a highly-used lecture hall, into an multimedia classroom.

Brown said trustees also communicated a desire to increase overall computer technology on campus and "to discuss with students what their computing needs are."