I. Call to Order
Chair Best called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Chair Best announced that there are lots of groups on the agenda – twenty-one different organizations – and requested that everybody in the room please be patient. The university should recognize all organizations in the room, and organizations are allowed to leave after they’ve been heard.

Vice-Chair Hardeman announced that as of an hour and five minutes ago, he had the final inventory for the night.

Ethics Chair Woodward introduced himself, and said that he was asked to come speak to Congress about things that happened last semester. He asked that non-congress members remember that congress does listen to feedback about how the requests went, comments, concerns, etc. He told congress members that last semester they did get complaints about the decorum in the room during requests. He said that obviously finance committee members are more experienced than some of the groups presenting, so it’s understandable that the members might see something they don’t understand in the finance requests, but he asked that congress members remember that these groups aren’t just a number, so don’t try to just cut numbers in half. He reminded members that their conduct does affect the opinions of the groups presenting, and it’s not easy to present that information. He urged student groups to report any comments, complaints, feedback, etc. to himself or Chair Best. He also addressed the idea of precedent. He said that precedent is a thin gray line as far as finance committee goes, because there simply isn’t a lot of precedent in existence. He asked congress members to remain respectful and logical when talking about cuts, because the idea isn’t necessarily easy to understand for student groups. He asked the student organizations to remember that if their funding is cut, it’s nothing personal to them (and it probably will be cut at least a little, because there are a lot of groups throughout the entire semester, so it’s not easy to simply dole out a lot of money.) Finally he asked congress members to please use logical explanations about why they’re advocating for cuts.

Chair Best added that student congress is one of the groups that the members are participating in, and members should remember that the people here in the room are just as passionate about their organization as the members are about congress.
II. Attendance
The following members were present: Chairperson Brittany Best, Vice Chairperson Ross Hardeman, Josh Aristy, Meghan Boyles, Michael Braxton, John Caison, Shawn Griffin, Wes Hodgin, Derek Murray, Daniel Rojas, Michael Smalenberger, Austin Root, Conor Winters, Speaker of the House Paige Comparato, Speaker Pro Tempore Connor Brady, Student Body Treasurer Shrija Ghosh

III. Student Group Funding Requests
a. Triangle Dance Festival for AIDS
The treasurer of Triangle Dance Festival for AIDS presented the funding request. She said that the dance festival is a fusion of arts and advocacy, with a four-pronged mission: to bring together student and professional groups from the triangle to perform at Memorial Hall on February 15th (groups from Duke, NC State etc.) to incorporate their art into reducing the HIV/AIDS stigma. Following the performance there will be a health gala where HIV/AIDS organizations from the triangle will come to displace their mission and can help people get connected with different resources as well as encouraging them to get involved in the mission. They will also be collecting funds to provide support to beneficiaries – this year it’s the NC community AIDS fund, and Health Alert Uganda, which works with preventing pediatric HIV/AIDS.

Vice-Chair Hardeman asked if she was holding the statement from Memorial Hall from last year. He pointed out that in the budget description this year, Memorial Hall was listed at $3100-3500, and the statement from last year was $3,324.86, so that’s something to keep in mind.

Representative Griffin said that the treasurer said that they donated the profits from the event. He asked how they made profits. The treasurer said that the student government funds this event, so it’s free to all students and staff, but the event is also open to the community and admission is $8 in advance, $10 at the door, and they also encourage donations.

Austin Root cited that student congress could only allocate $25 for the purpose of publicizing. He moved to strike printing and publicity to $25. Seconded.
Consent. No objections – motion passes.

Speaker Pro Tempore Brady said that that was just the student congress policy; there was nothing wrong with the request. He asked for a clarification of the number for Memorial Hall: $3,324.86

Representative Aristy asked how Triangle Dance Festival for AIDS normally receives funds for the events. The treasurer answered that RHA and UNC Center for AIDS have both sent funds, but they’re for additional needs, not anything mentioned in the funding request.
Representative Hodgin asked if the price of Memorial Hall had gone up in the past. The treasurer said that it very slightly has. The previous year’s invoice is a good estimate, but there are always changes – for example one year they had to rent out a piano – that add to the price.

Representative Root asked if the other schools that are involved are partnering to help with the event. The treasurer said no, they’re just dancers. He asked what the total cost of the event was. She said $4,487.13.

Representative Griffin asked what the $1,500 they already had was going to. The treasurer said that that money will cover what SGA can’t fund – for example, publicity was cut down to only $25. Those extra funds help supplement the gap. Representative Griffin said that if they’ve already given the dance festival $1,500, and what the treasurer has requested is the full cost, congress is more inclined to cut down on funding, since they already have some money.

Representative Hodgin asked what, assuming congress grants the full amount, would the organization do with the extra $1,500? The treasurer said that RHA says they have to give back whatever they don’t use, but UNC Center for AIDS research lets them keep the money and use it for the beneficiaries. They donated $500.

Representative Hodgin moved to strike $500 from the request. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passes.

Representative asked what the building rental was last year. Representative Best clarified the number one more time. Representative Root said that last year, the organization only requested $2,900, so how did they make up the rest? The treasurer said that RHA and UNC Center for AIDS research donated money, but they also used the invoice from Memorial Hall for the previous year, and everybody could see how the price went up.

Speaker Pro Tempore asked if the price for Memorial Hall was absolute, or if it could go lower. The treasurer said that that was the price they discussed and agreed upon.


**b. UNC Wordsmiths**

The treasurer of the organization presented the funding request. He said that UNC Wordsmiths is a poetry and poetry slam organization. Every second Saturday of the month they host an event that fills a room twice the size of Gardner 309. Each event costs about $75 each to host, and they get free publicity from Bulls Head Bookshop. They also help campus committees advocate their own causes through poetry – they’ve worked with Project Literacy, Nourish, etc.,
so every month they have a sponsor for the poetry events. Half of the event is open mic, and half of the event is a slam competition. The point of the slam competition is to find a way to gather a team of slammers to go and compete national at the College Unions International Invitational. The funding request is to get funding to attend this competition. Last year they placed 12th out of 48 teams, but this year they’re hoping to go and win (or at least place second!) This organization offers a place on campus for students to go and share themselves freely, and poetry slam offers an outlet of a more competitive nature. They help poetry flourish on campus, and they hope to represent UNC in a way that will make the university known as more than just a basketball school. We should be the best at everything!

Representative Root said that he doesn’t understand certain parts of the budget.

The treasurer said that the workshop fees cost $550 to register for the team, and $50 for every participant that isn’t competing. The team wants to take eight people – five members, a coach, and two videographers to share with people to helped the team get there as well as showcase the talent of the team. They also need a hotel – last year they tried to fit six people in a room, but that didn’t work. So the hotel is $90-per-night for two rooms and four nights. They’d also need metro transportation because of the cheaper hotel. There are also other events in the area that they’re hoping to attend -- $10 a night per person. They’re trying to get more involved in the poetry community, but he said that if congress needs to cut something, this would be an understandable place to start. They can also cut the rental for equipment, because he’s working on finding free rentals. He said that travel is how much it will cost based on the rules for mileage on a car – 14 cents per mile, for two cars there and back. He said that for programming, they host events and have two features coming in.

Representative Root said that he doesn’t know if it fits the description for subsidized transportation. He asked about where that money was going. The treasurer said that there would be eight to ten of them in New York trying to get between the hotel and the venue (Barnard College), and they’re also trying to get to other venues. There’s a historical place that holds event on Wednesdays and Fridays, costing $10 on a Friday, and for ten people to go it would be $100. They would be participating but not competing. That would take place after the competition, as they want to engage in as much poetry as possible. They’ll also record everything.

Representative Root asked if they’d sit in the audience or if they’d participate. He also asked how slam poetry worked. The treasurer said that the audience will rate a poem by booing or agreeing with the judges, and then the judges actually judge the poem. It’s an open dialogue between art and the way that they’re sharing it. He said that it was difficult to fully explain slam.
Speaker Pro Tempore Brady asked if he could demonstrate slam poetry, but Chair Best said that they will not be making a spectacle of the guest.

Representative Root wanted to float an idea around to the committee: the extra events are in a gray area between a social event and actually participating in something. He said that anyone can participate, but they’re not required to, so it can’t fully be considered a social event, but at the same time he wasn’t sure quite how close to a social event it ranked. If it’s close enough, then congress can’t fund it, and he’d lean towards cutting the $200, but he wants to hear consensus among his peers on how they view the event.

Representative Hodgin asked the treasurer to demonstrate the educational value of the event. Chair Best said that the competition was something that congress is definitely funding, but the treasurer had said that the extra even was something they could cut, and that the $10 for admission is probably something individual members could afford. The treasurer said that the organization members also have to pay for food, which is expensive, as well as the workshops. He said that he can work with the $200 stipend and it if needs to be cut it’s okay. He’s willing to work with people.

Representative Smalenberger said that congress tries to fund things that allow students at the university to learn from the engagement and help portray the university. He said that he feels what they’re doing in the competition is exactly that, competing and showing UNC is the best. But he said that in terms of the event where they’re not specifically representing the university... he doesn’t feel that the students would want to pay for that event.

The treasurer said they would be networking with poets the whole time they were there. They generally cost $300-350 for a small poet and thousands for a better poet to be featured, but these events are ways to network and form relationships that can lead to discounted prices, just as the poet that was featured before.

Representative Smalenberger asked if they make it to the competition, would they be attending the events? The treasurer said that they probably wouldn’t make it to the Wednesday open mic night, but they were definitely planning on going Friday after the event, which ends at 9:30 pm. The event doesn’t start until 11:00 pm. Then Saturday is the Grand Slam competition, where the top four teams compete, similar to the March Madness of poetry.

Representative Aristy suggested that possibly the money should be categorized somewhere else, not under stipends, simply because of the way congress treats stipends.

Chair Best asked if there was an estimate of how far a hotel was from where they’d be going, because congress could consider subsidizing that. Student Body
Treasurer Ghosh asked if the coaches were adults or students. The treasurer said that they were former students.

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh moved to cut stipends down to fifty dollars. Seconded. Representative Root objected. He said that he doesn’t even think they should provide fifty dollars; it should be struck to zero because it’s a social event.

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh changed her motion. She moved to zero out stipends and add fifty dollars to travel. Seconded. Consent. The motion passes.

She made a motion to move programming to speaker fees, zero out programming, and move $500 to speaker fees. Seconded. Consent. The motion passes.

The treasurer also said that they could cut the equipment funding, because they’re going to find a way to get that from somebody else.

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh asked how many nights they were staying in New York – the treasurer answered four nights.

Representative Ghosh moved to strike lodging to $540, assuming that it’s ¾ educational and ¼ social. Seconded. Consent. The motion passes.

Representative Root moved to report favorably. Representative Smalenberger objected. Representative Root withdrew his motion.

Representative Smalenberger said that the coach is an alumnus, but congress only funds students. The treasurer clarified that it costs $550 for a team of five students and a coach, and the team will be charged the same price whether they take a coach or not. They just happen to fit in a car with the rest of the team, but the coach isn’t accounted for anywhere in the funding request.


c. Carolina Economics Club
The treasurer of the economics club said that they were here asking for funding in order to bring David Gardner to the school to speak. Normally he costs $25,000-$100,000, but with the connections of the Carolina Economics Club, he only costs $5,000. The funding request also covers travel fees, airfare, and room and security fees.

Representative Root said that he read the request and it’s fairly straightforward. Admission to students is free, and attracting David Gardner is an excellent idea for the school. He moved to report favorably. Representative Griffin objected. Representative Root withdrew his motion.
Representative Griffin asked that when congress funds travel, do they apply the same 14-cent per mile rule to speakers? Speaker Pro Tempore Brady said that it didn’t count for airfare, but it did count for transit to and from the airport.

Representative Griffin asked if he had to fly to RDU from DC.

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh found a flight for $261 from Expedia. She moved to strike travel to $266. Seconded. Consent. The motion passes.


**d. Converge NC Music Festival Student Planning Committee**

The treasurer from the student planning committee said that they want to sponsor a music festival for the music of the American South. They aim for the festival to take place annually, and they’ve reached out to Carolina Performing Arts, which is interested in sponsoring the event in future years. Unfortunately, the festival needs to get off the ground first. The event would take place in the Bell Tower Amphitheater, which is a new space used for concerts before football games. They also have a lot of departments and community partners that want to be involved with the event. They want to have local artists and people who want to demonstrate music in the south. The $4,500 for equipment rental covers the stage at $1,600 (they need a stage slightly larger than the union production stage), $2,900 is for the labor of set up, maintenance, breakdown, lighting, and the PA system – these are the bare minimum, nothing fancy, and the quote is directly from the services. $3,500 for programming – booking fees for artists (which are all totally accurate). The artists aren't huge, but people with a certain following. Mipso generally brings in 600-800 people alone. The event will be free for students, and the security fees were estimated with DPS.

Representative Rojas said that this is only the third request out of 21 for the night, and $9,000 is a lot of money to give out. He asked how much congress should value something that sounds more like a social rather than an educational event. He said it sounds merely like they’re funding a music festival. He wants to hear more comments about that and what others thing, as far as how much they should plan on funding out of the $9,000. Compared to the $3,000/$4,000 other groups are asking for, $9,000 is a lot of money.

Chair Best said clarified, asking if this event was a start-up event, where they hope it will be successful and gain more partners in the future.

The treasurer started by pointing out that the music festival is the sole mission of the student organization – it is what their full time work goes for. The funding is vital to the organization existing. They think this event, because it’s held on UNC’s campus and are involving various departments, won’t be purely entertainment. They hope it will become an iconic Carolina event, and they want to bring artists in from all around the south, to create an event that couldn’t
happen anywhere else except Carolina. Faculty are planning a class around the event, speakers for the American South, and people who hope to challenge notions of what makes southern music southern should want to attend. They plan on partnering with southern folk-like collection for advertising efforts and the festival.

Representative Roots said that they listed a couple of places they applied for grants and for partnering. He wanted to hear a little bit more about those plans, especially with Carolina Performing Arts. The treasurer from the organization said that the event is far too soon for them to partner this year, they typically plan events a year or a year and a half in advance – so they won’t be funding the Converge Music Festival until 2014, definitely not 2013. They also can’t apply for other grants until 8 weeks before the event. They’d like to apply for both grants for advertising money, and they still need things like port-a-potties, fencing, tents for artists, etc. They haven’t actually asked for all of the money that they need.

Representative Root asked if they knew offhand what the requirements for the grants are, and if they thought they fill those requirements. The treasurer said that they definitely fulfill the Orange County Arts Council requirements --- they focus on school programs and programs that help the Chapel Hill area, both of which occur with the festival. They could possible earn $1,200 from the NC arts council, and $100-$500 from Orange County, though they don’t expect to be on the high end of that spectrum. They also don’t know whether to expect to receive the money by the event on April 5th.

Representative Smalenberger said that it sounds like a great event – anywhere you need port-a-potties is a good time. He said that he doesn’t find the festival very educational though. He understood that they want speakers and to structure a course around the event, but it doesn’t necessarily sound like something that a lot of UNC students will attend, so he wasn’t completely sold on the idea. He said it sounds like a great concert with fantastic local music, but it also sounds like a social event.

Chair Best said that congress has previously funded things like the Journey to Asia concert, which was broadcasting a specific type of music and dance to the UNC community. The group wants to have a course structured around it, so she doesn’t see education as an issue. She said she would love to fund the event entirely – it’s a startup cost and will help prove their worth, which could really impact the UNC community and become a long-term UNC thing.

The treasurer said that they would never again be asking for this money. It’s a start up cause. They also have faculty working with them who could introduce music and lecture and make students feel like it’s educational, and like music is something more than just something to be enjoyed. It’s beyond social and education as well, because UNC has a mandate to educate it’s student body on
the value of southern identity, and what it means to be a southern university. It prides itself and sells itself as a southern university, which is largely tied up in southern culture. This event would be absolutely relevant to the experience of being a southern university student. If the legacy is entirely football and not southern music, students will have missed what it means to come to UNC.

Representative Hodgin said that he feels they hit the idea right on the head – just because it’s entertaining doesn’t mean it can’t be educational at the same time. The event could be both academic and fun. They have a responsibility to project to the student body what is inherently the American South – that’s a goal of UNC, especially for the global studies programs. They have a responsibility to make sure music of the south continues to the forefront of our culture, and this highlights that tradition.

He moved to report favorably. Representative Root objected.

Representative Root said that in light of the fact that there are still funds that they could get, if they are denied eight weeks before the event they could come back to congress. He said that a compromising to funding the event in full would be to put money towards fundraising, so that SGA can get some money back and help other student organizations.

Chair Best said that this is the committee’s decision, but if they get grants they won’t be using it for what they’re asking congress for. The treasurer agreed and said that another issue is that they have to book the artists ahead of tie, so 8 weeks in advance is just too little time to plan it.

Representative Hodgin refused to withdraw his motion.

Chair Best motioned for a vote in favor of voting to report favorably. The motion passed. They moved to vote.

Representatives Rojas, Smalenberger, and Root opposed. The motion was passed.

e. UNC Ballroom Dancing
No representative was present

f. Students for Justice in Palestine
The treasurer from this organization said that this organization was started three years ago, and they work for justice in Palestine. One of the ways that they do that is by holding educational events on campus. Last semester with congressional funding, they were able to go to the national conference as well as bring multiple speakers on campus, and they could hold both educational and social events as well as fundraising. This semester they asked for a little bit less money than last semester for speakers they have lined up. They lined up a movie
screening and want to bring in a speaker two weeks later from Palestine who is already touring the United States, so they’d only be paying for his flight to UNC, and the next organization would pay for his flight out. For that event, the only money that would be needed would be transportation and two nights in a hotel. Another speaker could be coming in to talk about books that were taken during 1948, and a documentary that goes along with that, so they’d have to pay an honorarium for the speaker, but that includes the movie rights. The last person line up was somebody that was supposed to come last semester, but it didn’t work out, so they replaced that speaker with somebody else. They want to try to bring in the LGBTQ club to cohost a speaker that talks about gay rights in Palestine and Israel. They also asked for $25 to fundraise each event.

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh said that they had awesome events lined up, but not all of the numbers in the request seemed to be in the right categories as far as expenditures go. She suggested they table the request and move out into the hall to fix it. The treasurer explained that they had leftover amounts from last semester, so they subtracted the extra money from current events, because they replaced the speaker that didn’t work out with a cheaper one. Student Body Treasurer Ghosh said this mostly cleared up her question.

Representative Aristy said that he approved of everything, and he really enjoyed the last speaker they had a lot. He looked forward to what everybody else had to say, and hoped that they would end up reporting favorably.

Vice-Chair Hardeman said that he knew they were passionate about their cause and felt like they were getting the most value as possible out of the funding – five events!

He moved to report favorably. Representative Root objected.

He said that he found a flight that was cheaper from Philadelphia to RDU, and he wanted to strike some money from the Great Book Robbery event. He said that $16 can go a long way for some student groups.

Vice-Chair Hardeman withdrew his motion.

Representative Winters asked about the poetry night. The treasurer reference the UNC Wordsmiths, and said that some of them will come along to the event as well as other groups from campus, and they host a poetry night about social justice that doesn’t have to specifically be about Palestine.

Representative Root said that last semester everybody remembers how congress ran out of money in the first two weeks of school. He said he knows $16 doesn’t sound like a lot of money right now, but later down the road it could help.

He moved to strike $16. Representative Hodgin objected.
He said he didn’t know if the flight fit their timetable. Representative Root said that the flight is offered all throughout the day.

Chair Best called for a vote on the amendment. In a hand raise vote, the amendment didn’t pass. Representative Root called for division, but only he objected.

The amendment didn’t pass.

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh asked them to explain the $10 in capital expenditures, and if it’s just a random $10 then applying Representative Root’s logic, it should be cut. The treasurer said that he didn’t know what it was for. He guessed maybe supplies, but they didn’t use all of their money last semester.

Student Body Treasurer moved to strike capital expenditures to zero. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

Representative Hardeman moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

The Advocates for Human Rights organization was added to the end of the list for funding requests.

**g. Epidemiology Student Organization**

The treasurer announced that the budget she created was actually an annual budget, not for spring, because she was misinformed. She said they had plenty of funds for spring.

Representative Griffin moved to zero out the request. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

**h. J Street UNC**

The treasurers of J Street UNC said that they were founded in fall of 2011, and are part of a national movement called J street U, that organizes on college campuses. They do education and advocacy work on campus, work with the American political community, and they work on the national, regional, and local campus Y level. They were requesting funding to try to bring a man from the Carter Center – a national expert on Palestinian projects who has worked in Afghanistan. They were hoping to bring him on February 28th, and they’d need funding for the flight, hotel, and publicity, as well as $9 to drive to and from the airport. They also want Daniel Sideman, a world expert on Jerusalem, a magnificent public speaker, and obsessed with maps. He was Bill Clinton’s right hand man on the conflict in Jerusalem. He’s coming to Duke, and they could get a co-sponsorship to talk about UNC, and attract 25-30 people from UNC to the event. There’s also a workshop in February for chapters in DC and the southeast
region, and it’s one of the biggest in the southeast. They would want to bring 20 students in four cars to DC to experience training and speakers who are experts in politics as well as an action piece. It would be great for the chapter and get more people on the leadership board. The National Summit happens in DC in March. Ten kids in two cars would require gas money. There would be over 300 students there with top name speakers. They also were hoping to bring Laura Freedman as a speaker, who has been working in DC with Americans for Peace Now, and helped on the Oslo accords. She continued to be the most active lobbyist. They believed her specific perspective would be valuable for the UNC campus. Finally they were hoping to do other events on campus that they won’t ask for money for. They did want money for training for their work, and that could be applicable to other student organizations on campus, and they’d also want printing and material money for three trainings over the semester.

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh found a flight for Freedman that was cheaper than what was listed. The treasurer said that they weren’t able to get her to agree to anything other than a nonstop flight. Student Body Treasurer Ghosh said that in past with this issue they simply go with the cheapest listed price.

She moved to strike the cost to $1,005.04. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

Representative Griffin moved to report favorably. Seconded. Representative Root objected. Representative Griffin withdrew his motion.

Representative Root asked about the two different DC trips – the Southeast regional workshop and the student summit. The treasurer explained that for the workshop, 70 students from campuses across the southeast would attend, and they’d experience mostly training to help students run the chapter. They’d want to bring about 20 students from UNC to the workshop. The summit is a large conference, with 300 kids from across the nation. They’d want to bring 10 students to that, and it would be more focused in talking about issues and doing stuff publicly for the national movement.

Representative Root said that he thinks it’s great they’re going to these events but for the Southeast workshop, he doesn’t feel comfortable funding four cars taking everybody. He thinks congress should fund the event, but not the four cars.

He moved to strike $159.04 from travel to make it $846.

The treasurer said that they also have to cover housing and registration for the events; the only funding they’re asking for is travel. Representative Root said that he didn’t think it would hurt the vitality of the organization to only take two cars. He said that congress has a responsibility to allocate money in a more responsible manner.
Representative Hodgin objected.

He asked if there was a reason they couldn’t take two cars. The treasurer said that they want to bring 15-20 students because they have at least 7 who are helping to actually run the workshop, and it’d also be beneficial if they could bring new leadership in for the spring semester, so when the seniors graduate the younger students can take over. They said that a lot of the people who go to the J Street workshop are new to the organization and they can learn about Jerusalem and Palestine, but it’s also an investment to the campus as a whole because it teaches many useful skills.

Representative Hodgin said that he thinks they should allow five extra people to go. He asked for somebody to find the number for three cars instead of four – he felt that was a reasonable compromise.

Representative Root didn't withdraw his motion.

Chair Best said that Representative Hodgin’s motion would add $79.52 back to the travel funding. She called for a vote in favor of voting on the amendment. Motion passes. Division was called for the amendment – the no's have it. Representative Root’s amendment didn’t pass.

Representative Hodgin moved to add $79.52 back into the total, bringing it to $952.52. Seconded. Consent. Two objections: Representative Root, and Representative Aristy.

Representative Aristy didn’t think they should reduce the price at all.

Representative Winters asked if they had a number of students that they know are definitely going. The treasurer said that they estimate a full four cars, so about 20-ish students. There are 9 students who have already registered, and some who are required to go that haven’t yet registered. Last year they had 22 people go to the program.

Chair Best called for a vote to move to voting.

Division was called for Representative Hodgin’s amendment. The motion didn’t pass.

Representative Root moved to strike printing and publicity down to $25 from $67, as per congressional rules. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

The treasurer said that the office supplies section was for printing and materials for training, so technically it could also be considered for programming.
Representative Root said that he wanted to strike from the printing of packets, poster paper, markers, and books. Representative Aristy objected – he said that multiple times people have funded things like office supplies for their own student organizations. He said he felt like a double standard was present that he didn’t want to apply. Chair Best said that there were also instances where office supplies weren’t funded. Representative Root said that the SGA office has tons of supplies that organizations are able to use, and there are other sources that they can utilize.

Representative Hodgin asked if the supplies are specific to the vitality of the training, or if they’re more generic. The treasurer said that they’re used specifically for the training, but they’ll survive without it.

Representative Smalenberger said that they were going there for training, he didn’t think that congress should need to fund pencils.

Chair Best moved to strike $50 from office supplies. Seconded. Consent. The amendment passes.

Representative Root moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

i. Carolina Review
The treasurer of the Carolina Review said that the request was fairly basic. At the annual budget they requested $9,000, calculated based on the number of issues. Congress had suggested they fund the first two-thirds of the request and then come back. He said that this was them coming back.

Representative Rojas moved to report favorably, since the request had already been reviewed. Representative Smalenberger objected – he said he wasn’t here for the last time the request was reviewed.

Representative Rojas refused to withdraw his motion.

The treasurer explained that they are a publication that publishes 3,500 magazines or so, and they’re trying to start a campus dialogue. They have a blog with a lot of hits, and everything’s online and professionally done. More information can be found online.

Chair Best asked for further objections. There were none. Consent called. No objections – the motion passed.

Representative Aristy voted no.
k. Carolina Students for Life
The treasurer of the organization said that they’d been around for ten years, and their goal is to respect life on campus and provide education and awareness for life issues. The request is retroactive for a speaker that was brought to campus last semester. They invited the director of American’s Against Abortion for two days, one to speak about how abortion affects women, and the second day for a workshop. The request is for a $200 honorarium, $180 for lodging, and $75 for driving from DC and back.

Representative Griffin asked if they’d already paid for the event. The treasurer said they’ve paid some, but they haven’t paid the honorarium yet. Representative Griffin clarified that the speaker still expected to be paid the honorarium.

Representative Root asked if admission was charged for the event, or if they made any money or received donations. The treasurer said no. Representative Root asked if the group funded it all, and now she was expecting to get paid for this. She said yes.

Representative Aristy asked why she didn’t come last semester. The treasurer explained that congressional funds ran out.

Representative Griffin moved to pass favorably. The motion passed. Representative Aristy voted no.

l. Carolina Boxing Club
The treasurer of this organization said that they’re a club where students can come in and get a good workout while at the same time learning good boxing skills, and will hopefully join their nationally competing team. She said basically they’re asking for money for new equipment – the organization is growing and they have 100 people a week coming in to use the equipment two hours a day for two days a week, and then they have the team that uses the equipment five days a week, so the equipment gets worn down fast. The travel money would be going towards the competing team, and gas – they would be competing in Virginia, Maryland, Connecticut, and New York. They also would have a few people going to San Francisco. She apologized for being new, and she simply based the funding request on things the coach told her.

Chair Best said that it was reported that the group doesn’t have an office. She asked if they got the equipment, where would they store it? The treasurer said that they have a closet in the Eddie Smith Fieldhouse that can be locked.

Representative Aristy mentioned that they have due-paying members – he asked how much they pay. The treasurer said that new members pay $35, and returning members pay $20. Representative Aristy said that he doesn’t think she
meant for congress to pay those dues and fees. He moved to strike that from the funding request.

Chair Best suggested that Student Body Treasurer Ghosh meet with the treasurer in the hall to go over the request and clean it up.

Motion to table the request. The motion passed.

**m. Carolina Quarterly**
The treasurer of this organization said that the Quarterly has been on campus since 1948. They differ from similar publications because they bring the best writing from the United States nationally onto campus. They distribute for free as well. They asked for 3 times the stated amount in the annual budget, but only got enough for one issue. They came back last semester and got money for one more issue. Now the treasurer said she was here to get money for the final issue.

Representative Aristy said that he approved of this request last time, and consistently looking back congress has always funded this. He said that the Carolina Quarterly is a wonderful literary art journal.

Representative Root asked if there was any advertising revenue from the Carolina Quarterly. The treasurer said that there was back in the 1980’s and 1990’s. They’ve been trying to get ads from local businesses, but businesses have been less responsive this time around. They do exchange ads with other journals.

Representative Griffin clarified that they have a subscription fee for people who aren’t students, so they money that’s being requested would only produce the free issues, and the subscription money would pay for the others.

Representative Root moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

**n. Carolina Undergraduate Bioethics Scholars**
The treasurer of this organization said that they are a newly founded group, just last semester, and their goal is for people who are and aren’t science majors to discuss bioethical issues, not just pre-med students. So far they’ve been involved in the bioethics department as well as the philosophy department, and the Duke undergraduate bioethics symposium. They’ll also be hosting a symposium here with the money from a grant they received. They want to go to a national undergraduate bioethics conference to see how they host their event, and then they can host the symposium here with the hopes of a national undergraduate conference way in the future.
Vice-Chair Hardeman said that he appreciated their effort in applying and receiving a grant. He pointed out that they only requested $10 to paint the cube out of their publicity funds.

He moved to raise the amount from $10 to $12. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

Representative Root moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

o. North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation
The treasurer from the organization said that they had a few items they wanted to amend. They changed lodging and required everybody to go home after the symposium, and there’s also an individual who can’t some. So now lodging is only five people for one night, which is $450 (cut down from six people for two nights). That individual’s airfare can also be cut from the total, and they also found a lower price, so they would need $2,100, not $2,500. She said that they are a student run publication at UNC that collects writings from the authors outside the university community and publish to students. They’re a legal journal, but they invite students from all over campus to attend the symposium. Last year it was held at Carolina Club, but they’ve moved it to Gerard Hall to get more participation. The topic will be medical markets, which is an emerging issue in global health and commerce. They do the symposium every year. They also get money from the law school, the dean of the law school, and the student association at the law school. They also do receive revenue from subscriptions, but that only covers the printing costs for two of the four volumes that they publish each year. She also mentioned that they want to request funding for somebody to fly from France for a day – and it should be known that they’ve never requested funding for that before, and the board decided it would be a good idea. They’ve requested less money than they need because they should be able to cover the extra from other sources as well.

Representative Root said that he appreciated that they’re trying to expand the symposium and that they want to attract a wider audience, but they said that with the average cost of other organizations’ flights, this request is still significantly larger than more. He felt they could subsidize the flight, but couldn’t fund it entirely.

He moved to strike travel to $1,100.

Representative Winters agreed – he didn’t know if one person would really be worth $2,000 to the campus in just one day.

Representative Aristy objected – he said that the organization has already cut it down by $600, and they’ve previously paid a lot of money for speaker on the
He felt that this would be a wonderful opportunity to bring somebody to the campus, and he believed that this is what student fees go towards.

The treasurer explained that the speaker’s not just a random person, but she’s actually the only speaker with both a law and a medical degree. She had been recommended by Dean Harris, and has made it possible for UNC students to attend UNC summer school for law and bioethics. She has strong connections to the university.

The motion did not pass.

Representative Root asked if, hypothetically, the group wasn’t funded the full amount, would the speaker still be coming to UNC? The treasurer said yes, she’s confirmed.

Chair Best said that she felt like since they’ve already dealt with this, they don’t need to deal with it twice.


**p. Carolina Boxing (Revisted)**

The treasurer re-presented the funding request, saying that dues and fees would go towards registering for USA boxing as well as purchasing a certificate so they can go and do contact practices. Equipment pays for gloves, mitts, sparring gear, etc. Traveling pays to go to Virginia with two cars and nine people.

Representative Griffin asked what the volunteer coaches registration was and why it fell under the equipment category. The treasurer explained that it doesn’t.

Representative Aristy moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent. No objections -- the motion passed.

**q. Pursuit Magazine**

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh represented Pursuit Magazine. She said they publish two issues a year – fall and spring. They have a website, but she wasn’t sure if it was 100% functional yet. They applied for money for the website last semester, but were never heard. They also applied for money for the fall issue, but they were never heard. She didn’t know anything about the fall issue, but the funding request was for the spring issue. She said it was up to student congress to decide whether to fund the full issue or not.

Representative Griffin asked why she was presenting for Pursuit. She said that they asked her to – their treasurer seemed to be AWOL.
Representative Griffin asked why all the money was listed as capital expenditures. Student Body Treasurer Ghosh referred back to the treasurer being AWOL.

Representative Griffin requested the funding be moved to printing and publicity. Student Body Treasurer Ghosh said that the treasurer appears to have issues with dedication to the issue. In response to a question from Representative Aristy, she said that the treasurer of Pursuit Magazine hasn't taken the treasurer's test, but the president has.

Representative Smalenberger pointed out that congress would be giving away $2,000 to a president that doesn't know what he's doing. Student Body Treasurer Ghosh said that the president does in fact know what he's doing, but the treasurer certainly doesn't. She believed the president didn't feel comfortable presenting because he wasn't the treasurer. Representative Rojas said that he didn't feel comfortable giving money to an organization that is so disorganized. He didn't feel like they knew what they were doing at all.

Representative Griffin pointed out that it was still up to congress to decide what to do. Representative Murray suggested a motion to table the funding request, but Chair Best said that they weren’t able to table.

Representative Rojas moved to report unfavorably

Chair Best requested without prejudice, so that Pursuit can appear before full congress and make their case.

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh explained that $1,600 is the cost per issue. They print two issued and have a web presence. The maximum multiplier is $2,250. They're asking for $2,500 presumably to pay the spring issue and back pay the fall amount from when they were never heard. Chair Best clarified that they never showed up in the fall.

Representative Winters moved to strike the amount to $1,600. Seconded. Consent – the motion passed.

Representative Rojas withdrew his previous motion.

Chair Best said that they could still pass the request without prejudice.

Representative Rojas asked if he was able to make a motion to strike the bill to zero and require Pursuit to show up and present their case. Chair Best suggested that, if everybody were comfortable funding the $1,600, she'd encourage this motion.
Representative Griffin moved to pass without prejudice. Seconded. Consent – the motion passed.
Representative Aristy abstained.

Representative Griffin suggested that somebody talk to Pursuit to make sure they show up to full congress.

r. Every Nation Campus Ministries
The treasurer for the organization said that they emphasize four things in their organization. First is reconciliation – they believed that through Jesus, God is reconciling between man and woman and himself, as well as between each other (race and gender.) They have a holistic life vision. What’s unique about their organization is that they’re very diverse, he said. They have different racial and international backgrounds – Ethiopia, Kenya, Indonesia, Singapore, Korea, and Canada. They are just a group of people who love Jesus and God, and are excited for what’s in store for them. The group is nice and loving and hangs out for hours after events. They center around two major events on campus – the Harvest fall and spring conferences. The funding request was for the Harvest spring conference. The conference is a two-day intense training session in Durham that focuses on leadership and reconciliation. The speaker would be a business consultant from Deloitte who is also on the board of trustees for Oral Roberts University and fights child trafficking. For the past two years, the committee and student congress have graciously funded a scholarship for the fall conference. Now they were there requesting for spring. It would be an 18 minutes drive, so they can carpool. It’s a larger event, which would involve North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, etc. They would want to provide forty-dollar scholarships to forty students.

Representative Aristy asked if this organization reaches out to other organizations with more diversity in order to get them involved. The treasurer said that anybody is welcome to come, and they heavily emphasize student leaders to join.

Representative Griffin said that scholarships are generally based on need, and asked how they would determine that. The treasurer said that it would be based on students coming to the leaders of the organization saying that they couldn’t afford to go without the scholarship.

Representative Rojas asked what the scholarships were for, and the treasurer explained that they are solely the registration fee, it didn’t include lodging or food.

Representative Root asked if anybody had come to them saying they have need, or if 40 students was an arbitrary number. He also asked if they gave away the same amount. The treasurer said that for the fall conference, they gave away all
twenty of the $40 scholarships to students, and they still had more students who needed it.

Representative Smalenberger asked if the money would be going towards speakers. The treasurer explained that the funding request is solely for registration fees.

Representative Rojas pointed out that for J Street UNC, congress made them reduce the number of cars that were going to the event from four to three, but Chair Best pointed out that that motion didn't pass.

Representative Root pointed out that in the fall they gave away 20 scholarships to subsidize the fee. He would feel more comfortable funding $800, since that's what they had the previous semester, and he didn't know if they could find forty students with need.

He moved to strike the amount to $800. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

Student Body Treasurer pointed out that the organization already received funds for this the previous semester, but the treasurer explained that that was for the fall harvest, this funding request was for the spring harvest conference.

Representative Root moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

5. Homeless Outreach Poverty Eradication
The treasurer for this organization said that they were specifically here to discuss Talking Sidewalks, which is a literary magazine that HOPE puts out. It aims to reach between the homeless of Chapel Hill and UNC students, and they put it out twice last semester. The number on the request was the lowest offer they got for printing after viewing several quotes from several companies. They would like to print 2,000 copies with as many people as possible and the voices of the homeless and poverty stricken community that aren’t normally heard. They have magazine racks for the issue from funding from the previous semester, and they would like to distribute on Franklin Street, in libraries, dining halls, bookstores, etc. The organization is about reaching the students of UNC with stories they wouldn’t otherwise get a chance to hear.

Representative Aristy pointed out that the organization is a Campus Y affiliate, and asked if they received any money from the Y. The treasurer said that they have in the past, but the stipulations require groups requesting funding to be new this year, and Talking Sidewalks has been around for several years.

Representative Aristy asked who writes and designs the magazine – students or community members? The treasurer said that it’s a combination, because
students are the ones putting together the stories, but they get stories from community members during weekly discussions at the men’s shelter.

Representative Root asked what the quotes for printing were. The treasurer said $737.59 for printing costs. Student Body Treasurer asked if this was for the winter 2012 issue. The treasurer said that it was for the spring 2013 issue – forty pages. Representative Root asked if it was available online – it was. Student Body Treasurer Ghosh said that this was a good request.

Representative Griffin pointed out that they plan on distributing it to locations off campus, so members of the community will be able to get it for free as well as students. The treasurer said that they haven’t done that yet, only talked about it, so if it’s an issue of student fees, they can limit the distribution places.

Representative Aristy moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

t. Carolina Eats
The treasurer for this organization announced that they were new as of last semester, and they were working on a blog that they were hoping to publish sometime next semester. They’re focused on culinary arts the diversity of culinary arts, specifically in the south and around Chapel Hill. Their biggest issue is giving to food charities, like Table in Carrboro, so they would want to concert to benefit the charity. They’re also hoping to go in a culinary spring break restaurant tour. He said that the only expense congress would be paying for would be travel. Since they do food writing, they’re not asking congress to pay for food, but just for travel costs so they can travel to some of the best restaurants in the country and write about them, and then coming back and teaching UNC students about southern culinary arts. They said they were very frugal with hotel costs and travel expenses. For the charity event, they want to find a free venue, probably Chapel Hill Underground. They’re hoping to get student bands to perform, and they’re trying to get a good student turnout. They would donate all the money they made from ticket sales to Table. They’d also been in contact with Carolina Creates, which would help find bands and recruit them for the concert.

Representative Rojas said that he liked the idea, but he doesn’t feel comfortable funding the spring break trip. He said that it seems like there is a lot of money being allocated to very few students, because it doesn’t seem like the blog has a very large impact.

Chair Best said that they also refused to fund a group who wanted to go to a local restaurant.

Representative Aristy said that he also had some resignations about the spring break trip.
He moved to strike $150 from the website category, on the congressional grounds that they don't fund websites. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

Representative Root said that he's torn about the spring break trip. He said he knew that they would be eating food, but they’d also be writing about it in an educational manner, and there seems to be a fairly strong vitality component to the trip. He thought it was a good idea for congress to fund it, but he didn’t agree necessarily with how much they should fund it. He said the travel distance is 770 miles, at 14 cents a mile, so it would just be $107.80 for each car, at three cars.

He moved to strike travel costs to $323.40.

The treasurer said that the travel also included the cost of the food tour -- $45 for 15 people.

Representative Root said that he didn't feel comfortable funding the food tour.

The motion was seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

Chair Best said that her reservation is that they didn’t fund the group earlier who wanted to eat out. The treasurer said that they weren’t just going to restaurants, but they’d also be writing about the food – the trip is as much to practice their skills, as it is to eat the food.

Speaker Comparato said that the difference between this group and the other group is that the other group wanted to embrace their ethnicity, but the purpose of the organization was different. Since food is the sole purpose of this organization, it would be vital for them to be able to go and eat places and write about it. She thought it was more important to this group.

Chair Best cautioned congress against gauging how important something is to a group's vitality.

Representative Rojas said that he agreed it was vital and great, but he didn’t agree with the way congress would be funding it. He agreed that the trip would be good practice, but if they plan on communicating with the Carolina community, they wouldn't necessarily have to go to all those places to do it. He thought that they could build a portfolio out of local restaurants. The treasurer said that in order to gain credibility in the field of restaurant reviews, they’d have to go to renowned places. They also haven't ignored local restaurants; they've been talking to many local chefs.

Representative Root said that he understood that they didn't fund an organization to eat Chinese food, but he didn’t agree that it was a similar
situation. He thought that this was something that reflected the vitality of the organization, because they don’t have enough material to publish yet. He said that this was basically their signature event. He said what he thinks is throwing people off is the fact that it's a spring break trip. He said that if everybody ignored the fact that it was spring break and just looked at it as a trip, it seems more reasonable. He said that funding them for gas to help their organization isn’t unreasonable, and the number one priority of congress was supposed to be preserving the vitality of organizations. He said that if they don’t get the money, he wasn’t sure if they’d be able to go. The treasurer said that they didn’t have anything currently published, so he understands why congress would be hesitant to fund $50 for an abstract concept that hasn't yet started. He said that their advisor is Randall Kenan – a world-renowned food writer. He hoped that would add a little credibility.

The amendment passed. Representative Winters abstained.

Representative Winters asked for an explanation of the subscriptions and periodicals section. He said the sales came out to $119.

Representative Griffin said that through UNC libraries, there was a subscription to the New York Times Food, Wine, and Gastronomical section, and there’s also a process through which they could petition the library to get another subscription.

Representative Winters moved to strike subscription and periodicals to zero. Seconded. Consent. This motion passed.

Representative Rojas said that he wanted to hear comments about what other members think of funding lodging for the event. He was leaning towards cutting it.

Representative Smalenberger wanted to know why they needed the concert. The treasurer said that they were hoping the admission price would give them money back as well as to form a donation for Table in Carrboro. This event is what the fundraising money would go towards as well.

Representative Smalenberger asked if there was any guarantee they’d get the money back. Chair Best said that congress would give them $300 in fundraising, and they would charge for the concert. Then they’d coordinate with Student Body Treasurer Ghosh to pay congress back. She said this case was pretty typical.

Representative Smalenberger said that it sounded like the event would be an opportunity to expand their horizons past the Chapel Hill area, so they would be able to write about stuff that isn’t just local. He understood that it was important for their organization. He also had reservations about the fact that they’d be
funding them for an extensive period of time, and even though it was a start-up cost, he expressed concern about not gather much interest in the organization. The treasurer said that they had 15 people that were willing to go – the 15 writers. They also have 80 people on the listserv. He said that for lodging they listed the bare minimum pricing.

Representative Root asked about the venue for the concert, and the treasurer said that they’d been talking to Chapel Hill Underground.

Representative Rojas said that he thought they funded organizations about how vital money was for the survival of a group. He said that he knows it’s possible to drive to South Carolina and come back within a day, he didn’t think it was necessary for them to stay over night to visit a restaurant.

He moved to strike lodging to zero.

Chair Best clarified that they’d be going from Holly Hill to Charleston to Savannah. The treasurer added that they’d also be eating lunch at places along the way, and they can’t eat that much food in one sitting. They said they had tried to make the trip as cheap as possible, and he understood that it was a gray area.

Chair Best said that it sounded like the organization was trying to start up a publication, and obviously they have to have material to write about before they can do that. She said that she hoped they’d gain a following. She didn’t feel comfortable with the exclusivity of the writers on the trip. The treasurer said that they haven’t denied anybody yet, but they know that there are 15 writers who absolutely are interested, and they were concerned that if they opened it up to everybody, they might not necessarily bring anything out of the experience except good food.

Representative Aristy said that it was similar to sending a group to a summit or a competition. The treasurer said that they could view it as a competition, because they are in competition with other established magazines.

Chair Best said that the more she listened, the more they sounded like a credibly organization.

Representative Root said that they didn’t really break down the lodging expense for the spring break trip, so he asked them to do that. The treasurer said that they have $15 per person, similar to a hostel setting, and they’ve multiplied this number by the number of nights they’d be staying.

Representative moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent. No objections – this motion passed.

u. Black Law Students Association
No representative were present.

v. Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy
The treasurer for this organization said that they seek to improve the health care system and efficiency aspects by using pharmacists more effectively. They're requesting money to attend a national conference in San Diego to represent UNC as the #2 pharmacy school as well as UNC in general to network. This is a competition they competed in last year. He said they're not likely to make it to nationals, but they'd like the opportunity to go.

Representative Root asked if they get money from other funding sources. The treasurer said that GPSF requested that they go through funding for conference, but they have to present original research, which they don't have. They said another funding request was denied on the basis that the organization didn't have any more funds to give out.

Representative Root asked if it primarily graduates or pharmacy students. The treasurer said that you have to be a pharmacy student, but if you’re pre-pharmacy and have paid the AMCP dues, you can also attend.

Representative Root asked how much dues were. The treasurer said that dues are only $35. They don’t collect any local dues, which puts them against all the other chapters, they only requires that the members pay national dues.

Representative Rojas asked if this travel request would be just a subsidy for each student. The treasurer said that was correct – if they were to drive to San Diego, it would take three days there and three days back, and over 100,000 miles between two cars. Airfare is only $450, so they’re asking members to help pay.

Representative Smalenberger asked if there was a competition. The treasurer said that it was a national conference, and members would go through what a pharmacist working for an insurance company would go through in deciding whether to cover a drug or not. They hosted the local one, and eight teams are chosen to go to nationals. He said their odds aren’t great, but they want to learn about what’s going on anyway.

Representative Smalenberger asked if they go to the conference, what would they be doing there if they were not asked to compete? The treasurer said that it’s a 3-day conference, and the last day there would be day-long student programming with other chapters where there would be discussion and presentation and activities that they’ve done on their local campuses about how to finance, what the goal is, and how to get students outside the pharmacy field to participate. It would greatly help to get advice from older chapters. The other two days are on topics like Medicare fraud, which all pharmacy students work with in a pharmacy, and the field is also a small work, so it provides a great opportunity to network.
Representative Smalenberger asked if they'd be learning stuff the first two days, how is it going to benefit the UNC community in general – or would it just benefit the small group of students in the pharmacy school? The treasurer said that it would be a significant contribution to work in a pharmacy to the UNC community and the community in general.


w. UNC Relay for Life
The treasurer of the organization said that they’d been at UNC for 15 years, since 1988. They work to raise funds for cancer research as well as advocacy work for American Cancer Society all year long. The actual relay happens in April, to remember those who have lost their lives and honor those who are surviving, as well as to help student fight back. For the building and venue rental, they mainly would have to pay for parking spaces rented at Fetzer and the Fieldhouse and the navy lot. They spent $110 on that last year, so that’s what they’re requesting this year. They also need to pay for equipment rental – stage and sound for entertainment set up on the track outside, with performers throughout the entire event, which is the biggest expense. The office supplies include tape, posters, and markers to create signs all over the event and the Fieldhouse, outside of each of the team fundraiser tables, and they also need paper and pens to check people in, and printing and publicity is for advertising. They requested $87, but they know they only fund $25. The production cost includes the luminary ceremony, which requires bricks, sand, helium, tanks, props, and lighters to light the luminaries. Programming also includes walkie-talkies for communication between the executive chairs and labor for sound and stage rentals. They were requesting money because the event is completely nonprofit, and anything they spend comes out of the money that they raise at the end of the year. They’ve never requested funding before, but they want to pursue it this year to improve the event.

Representative Aristy asked them to explain in further detail about the luminary ceremony. He was excited about the helium tank! The treasurer said that the ceremony was one of the biggest attractions during the event. They would have luminaries all around the track, normally 600 bags. They have them in memory for the deceased and in honor of survivors. The helium tank is also for balloon arches.

Representative Griffin asked how much they were able to raise last year without student congress funding. The treasurer said $196,000. Representative Griffin pointed out that that seemed to be a fairly substantial amount. The treasurer said that expenses for last year were $12,000, so they were only able to donate $184,000. Student Body Treasurer said that that amount was still more than the
Congressional budget for the entire year. Representative Griffin said that he felt like Congress could use the student fees better if the organization is already doing so well without them.

Representative Root asked if Congress were to provide the money in the form of fundraising, would it help the organization – is the request urgent? He pointed out that they’re making over $100,000, and he knows that it’s not for profit, but $4,000 could be spend on a group that doesn’t make that much money. The treasurer said that the money was important, because spending on nonprofits has gone down 3% in the past few years, and it’s affected UNC relay as well as Relay for Life on a national scale. They’re considered one of the top relays in the nation, but that prestige is less and less every year the less they give, because it affects how UNC and UNC hospitals are viewed. They’re used as marker for how much the community does for cancer research. The American Cancer Society gave around $11 million to the UNC Hospitals based off of the UNC relay and the Orange County relay. If the money goes down, that amount would probably go down too.

Representative Root asked if they had any money in their account. The treasurer explained that they don’t have an account; anything they spend comes out of the final total of what they raise.

Chair Best asked if it would be useful to give them the money in the form of fundraising, which has to be paid back. The treasurer said no, it wouldn’t.

Representative Root said that it didn’t sound like the vitality of the organization was threatened.

He moved to strike the request to zero. Seconded. Consent – The motion passed. Vice-Chair Hardeman and Representative Aristy abstained.

Speaker Pro Tempore Brady said that although the account is zeroed out now, they could be heard in full Congress. They’d just have to let Chair Best know so she can be heard again.

Representative Root moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent – the motion passed.

Representative Smalenberger said that he understood that they’ve waited forever, and they just dropped their account down to zero, but the money they make is more than Congress is allotted each semester. He said he was sure this wasn’t sitting well with them, but there are other organizations that need this money or are otherwise unable to operate.

x. Advocates for Human Rights
The treasurer of this organization said that they are subcommittee of the campus Y, and they work to bring awareness to social injustices locally and globally in addition to an ongoing community outreach program each semester. They have spoken word, photojournalism contest, dinner, and a public policy event, and the main event is a keynote speaker. They were asking for funding for the honorarium for the speaker, which will be the highlight of human rights week. Attendance is based on past years in the Nelson Mandela Auditorium. The speaker would be the former president of the ACLU and the first female as well as the youngest member of the organization. The speech topic would be current challenges in civil liberties today. They were working with sponsors on campus for the event. They’ve raised over $1,000 from the PWAD, Political Science, and etc. departments. The Campus Y would fund Human Rights Week for just under $800. They have 5 additional cosponsors that would help publicize the event. The funding request is $5,350, which would be the rest of the $6,500 honorarium that still needs to be covered. The event would be free.

Chair Best asked if the departments and the other organizations would be giving any monetary donations. The treasurer said no, they’re not able to, but the International Studies department helped to secure the location, and the social justice center helped with public policy funding that week.

Representative Griffin asked if the speaker has agreed to come if they fund the honorarium, and the treasurer said yes.

Representative Winters said that they have three sponsors with $1,150, and he asked if they were trying to get additional funding before the event. The treasurer said they had tried, but the people who have provided funding were the only ones who responded. She said they were getting really close to the deadline – less than one month away. All they were requesting were speaker fees.

Representative Smalenberger moved to report favorably. Seconded. Consent. No objections – the motion passed.

**IV. Announcements**

Speaker Pro Tempore Brady said that by Friday, the website should be up and running. He said that he and Speaker Comparato have also established a date for a full congress public forum – Wednesday, January 30th – and it will be a mandatory event. It will be somewhere in the union or in a classroom, and they’re planning on having food (funded by RHA). He urged everybody to let his or her constituents know. He said to let Speaker Comparato know if a person cannot make it. The event will give constituents a chance to meet the representative, let them know what the representative do, and just mingle.
He also announced that the mandatory candidates meeting would be on Tuesday, and if somebody is deciding to run again they should go to Union 2401 from 6:30-7:15 pm.

Student Body Treasurer Ghosh said that there would be student storage lockers next fall for day use, which is especially exciting for graduate students. There will also be miniature closest for student organizations – a closet/locker hybrid – for organizations to have a safe place to store equipment.

Chair Best congratulated Vice Chair Hardeman on getting into law school. She also said that in such cases with Relay for Life, it’s good to make it clear that congress loves their organization, but they don’t need thirty minutes of explanation.

**V. Adjournment**
Chair Best adjourned the meeting at 10:09 PM.