

DMAC Meeting

Wednesday, August 14, 2024, 1PM-2PM EST

Attendees:

Agudemu Borjigin	Jeffrey Cheng
Betsy Driver	Karina Cramer
Melanie Barzik	Michele Insanally
Radha Kalluri	Reza Amanipour
Tejbeer Kaur	Jarnail Singh
Marina Silveira	Ilkem Sevgili
Kristin Johnson, Executive Office	

Minutes:

Fundraising Efforts for ARO Scholar Test Group

The conversation shifted to the current fundraising initiatives for the ARO Scholars program. The email based fundraising campaign efforts have raised just under \$1,000, with a target of reaching \$2,500. The committee is also preparing to submit a proposal to the Henderson Fund for additional funding, emphasizing the need to tailor the proposal to address the problems that the ARO Scholars program solved, and the opportunity for the Henderson family to contribute to the solution. The proposal will highlight the long-term goals of the program and areas of growth from last year to this year. A one-page proposal is deemed sufficient, and the timeline for submissions and reviews was outlined, with plans to open applications in September. The council has already approved \$20,000 for the program, and there are discussions about potentially saving any surplus funds for future years.

Coffee Hour Event

The success of the recent coffee hour event, which attracted close to 50 attendees, was celebrated. Plans for the next coffee hour in September were discussed, including potential topics and the use of the most recent post Coffee Hour survey to guide topic selection. Kristin sent the results out to the group, and they can also be viewed [here](#). The task group will meet to finalize these details so that a date can be scheduled as soon as possible.

Special Session Acceptance and Funding

Michele raised a request for an exception to the current funding restrictions for non-member Dr. Ambroise Wonkam, seeking an additional \$1,400 and ARO member Dr. Andrea McQuate who requires \$1920 in support funds. The total amount approved by the Program Committee during the review process is \$1,500, which is less than the requested \$3,000 to support both non-member speakers in the Special Session. The subcommittee was tasked with reaching out to speakers to confirm attendance and share funding information. The Special Session task group will write a proposal to request the funds from ARO Council. Kristin noted that they would need to provide it within a few days if it is to be included on the agenda for the upcoming Council meeting.

Task Group Work

Some task groups have not met recently, and it was emphasized that the groups will need to get together as soon as possible to make the necessary progress on their goals.

Task List

1. ARO Scholars Task Group- Update the proposal for the Henderson Fund
2. Executive Office & ARO Scholars Task Group- Finalize this year's ARO Scholars announcement language and guidelines
3. Coffee Hour Task Group- Plan the next coffee hour in September or October depending on how soon plans can be finalized

4. Special Session Task Group- Reach out to speakers to confirm attendance and share funding information.
5. Special Session Task Group- Explore external funding options for travel expenses for speakers.
6. Special Session Task Group- Prepare a budget proposal for Council consideration for speaker funding.
7. Radha to send example R25 applications and metrics to Kristin to be put in a shared file.