

**SENATE RESOLUTION 2024-2025-05**

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| Date Presented: October 4th, 2024 | **Comment on the use of the student fees to fund Professional Development by Student Life & Campus Community** |
| Authorship:Sponsorship:  | Cesar Rodriguez Munoz, Civic Engagement Committee Chair. Jalissa Vega, Civic Engagement Vice Chair AnnaRose Craig, SACAB Representative |

**WHEREAS,** The University of Colorado Denver Student Government Association (SGA) is committed to ensuring that student fee money is used in a responsible way and;

**WHEREAS,** The SGA emphasizes that Student Life is funded by student fees, which represents the hard-earned contributions of our students and their families and;

**WHEREAS,** The recent information on conference spending in the Student Life & Campus Community Department presented by the Director of Student Life, raised multiple concerns in regards to professional development spending and the allocation of funds and;

**WHEREAS,** The SGA is disappointed by the fact that the professional development budget had to be requested by the Student Government instead of being directly communicated by the Student Life Department, resulting in a lack of transparency and trust and;

**WHEREAS,** The SGA acknowledges the importance of professional development to keep up with trends and to improve the Student Life & Campus Community Department for the benefit of students who attend the University of Colorado Denver and;

**WHEREAS,** The SGA acknowledges that $37,118.18 spent on staff attendance at six conferences was a one-time expense though is outraged by the excessive and irresponsible nature of the expenditure and;

**WHEREAS,** the SGA believes that this spending was reckless, especially in light of budget cuts faced by both the Finance and Funding Committee and the SGA operating budget as well as the Campus Activities Team this academic year, raising concerns about the responsible stewardship of our limited resources and;

**WHEREAS,** the SGA firmly believes that funds should be prioritized for supporting staff members directly involved in the Student Life Department and addressing student needs and initiatives, and finds the allocation of resources to areas not directly benefiting students or the department to be a blatant misuse of the budget, which we strongly condemn and;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, The SGA encourages open and honest communication between the Student Government Association and the Student Life Department Director to ensure transparency, collaboration, and alignment of priorities for the benefit of the student body. The SGA will continue to monitor student fee expenditure and promises to contact and have discussions with all departments at CU Denver if a concern is raised and;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the SGA requests that the Student Life Department employees provide a detailed explanation of the budget utilized during the previous year. Additionally, the SGA asks the department to create a concrete report outlining the specific benefits and application of the knowledge gained at conferences, to be presented to the SGA at the end of the 2024-2025 school year and;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED,** the SGA requests the establishment of a permanent structure that ensures the SGA has the opportunity to provide input and remain informed on how the budget is allocated and utilized.

Ratified by the Senate:

 [Date of Ratification]

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| Savannah Brooks, *President* | Mitchell Mauro, *Vice President* |