

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Has your VSO received funding from the ASSU Undergraduate Senate Appropriations Committee in prior years? If so, how much and when?

We received \$45, 159.67 in Special fees last year.

Have you registered your events/organizations with events.stanford.edu? (note: registration is mandatory) (yes/no)

Yes

How large is your officer core?

ASB has a lean officer core and a large participant base. ASB has 4 program coordinators who oversee the operations (financial, administrative, and general guidance) of the entire organization.

If you applied for Special Fees last year, is there an increase in the amount you're seeking this year? If so, why?

Yes. Because of increase in gas prices, van rental prices, postage costs,

Please define the services provided by your group with the Special Fee, as per the ASSU Constitution:

Our commitment to service learning enhances the Stanford community.

Please list all: 1) assets, 2) reserves, 3) authorized and unauthorized non-ASSU bank accounts, 4) sources of funding other than Special

this is unknown at this point since we haven't finished disbursing our funds for the majority cost of our events - the ASB trips.

Have you applied for Special Fees in the past 3 years? If so, please detail the outcome of each attempt.

Yes, for all three years. We recieved the requested funding each year, except for last year when we requested \$60,317 and received \$45,159.67. We

How do you plan to publicize your events/programs to the greater Stanford community? Have you registered with Events at Stanford?

events@stanford, flyers, banners, participation in activities fair, Facebook ads, etc.

How many members are on your email list?

About 200.

If you are an umbrella group, please list the groups for which you are applying for Special Fees, their ASSU account numbers, and contact

information for their financial officers.

N/A

Please describe a few past events organized by our VSO (please limit your response to 50-100 words).

We have several trips this year that are similar to ones that have been conducted in the past: Black Identity, Social-Entrepreneurship, Post-Katrina Recovery efforts

What are the three largest line item requests in your budget and why?

1. Car/Van Rentals: Where possible, local public transportation and walking is used as much as possible. However, most of the trips involve traveling around a broader area (for example, the Bay Area) and require flexible travel options. Thus, where local public transportation is lacking or insufficient, vans are critical for quickly and efficiently transporting a group of fourteen students. As each group requiring vans requires two vans to hold all fourteen students, these costs quickly add up, causing car/van rentals to be the largest line item request for the group's Special Fees Budget.

2. Meeting Food: In addition to a Fall Quarter trip leader welcome dinner and a Winter Quarter trip leader send-off dinner, we have more than 170 mouths to feed during the 6 day period of Alternative Spring Break. With our current line item request for food, Special Fees pays for about \$5.00/day during the spring break week.

3. Accomodations: Being close to the physical location of the populations that the trip is serving is key to the success of the program (as the goal of the program is true immersion). However, accomodations in many urban trip destinations, such as the SF Bay Area, Atlanta, and Hawaii, can be expensive. While all groups are usually able to secure extremely low-cost housing at churches or local organizations, such groups usually require a small honorarium in exchange for allowing our group to use their space for a week. With our budgeted amount, each group has \$200 to provide week-long housing for 14 students.

What events/programs does your group hold throughout the year for the Stanford Community?

As the group's name suggests, ASB's flagship programs are the spring break service-learning trips. While the issues addressed each year are different depending on the interests and selection of the trip leaders, below are the fourteen trips that are offered in the 2005-06 year:

1. Scenic Monterey: Questions Surrounding Land Development
2. Arts and Activism
3. "Cripples" and "Crazies"? Beyond the Myths of Disability
4. HIV/AIDS in San Francisco
5. Real World Hawai'i
6. (TWO TRIPS) Dynamics of Disaster Relief (in Louisiana)
7. Piecing the Puzzle: Exploring the Social Construction of Black Identity
8. Navajo Nation: Native American Issues
9. Gender and Power in the Bay Area
10. Identity in Crisis: the Pilipino-American in California
11. Asian-American Issues
12. Sex and the City: Exploring Sexuality and Gender-Based Rights

During each of these trips, students are immersed in the issue through direct service, speaking with relevant constituencies, as well as group discussion and reflection. ASB also organizes programs before and after spring break. Prior to the trip, all participants engage in a winter-quarter GDR (goal directed reading) on their topic, organized in a similar format to a student-initiated course. The 1 or 2 unit course is sponsored by a faculty advisor and is led by the two trip leaders. These seminars encourage participants to think critically about their topic prior to personal involvement during spring break. After the trip, ASB organizes a reunion for all trip participants and leaders. The organization also invites representatives from local organizations who were involved in the success of the respective trips. The event provides a space for reflection about the spring break experience as a whole, as well as a forum and springboard for new ideas.

What is the fundamental goal/purpose of your VSO (please limit your response to 50-100 words)?

PURPOSE: The purpose of Alternative Spring Break is to allow students to expose and immerse students in social, economic, political and cultural issues through service-learning experiences. Service-learning is a theoretical and methodological framework which emphasizes the interplay and feedback between direct service communities and learning about the issue through directed reading, discussion, and reflection.

What percentage of your total membership is undergraduate? Graduate?

Everyone is either an undergrad or co-term student

What is the average attendance at your events?

In the Fall Quarter trip leaders' class: 30. IN the Winter Quarter directed reading classes: 160. On spring break: 196

What is your total membership?

In the current academic year, we have 13 Spring Break trips, 1 with 4 trip leaders, 3 with 3 trip leaders each, and 9 with 2 trip leaders each. Each trip, excluding two this year, has 12 participants. One trip (the Katrina one) has 23 participants, and another has 10. We are effectively serving 196 students.

When and why was your VSO established (please limit your response to 50-100 words)?

MISSION: To expose and immerse students to complex social issues through direct service, experiential learning, group discussion, and individual reflection, thereby transforming them into advocates for social change.

Why are you requesting Special Fees?

Alternative Spring Break is requesting Special Fees because the group requires funding that lies outside of both the amounts and policies for funds granted under General Fees. ASB runs between thirteen and fifteen spring break service-learning experiences each year, making it one of the largest community service organizations on campus.

During spring break, ASB covers almost all expenses for participants (in a frugal way), including housing, food, local transportation, and honoraria and program fees. While ASB charges a participant fee (see below for further explanation), the fee covers only part of the full cost of the program for a participant. The program relies on the support of Special Fees and other funding sources for sustainability. Furthermore, ASB provides a financial aid program that partially subsidizes participant fees and travel fares for participants that are designated by the Financial Aid Office as needy. (Students are ranked from 1 to 5, with 5 having the least need. We usually hope to provide partial subsidies to the 1, 2 and 3 participants.) The limited budgets of trips, and the goal and nature of the program, mean that the trip leaders and participants will live simply and frugally during the one week, but the spending that is necessary is funded in large part by Special Fees.

As a community service organization in which participants travel to various locations to perform service and learn about social issues, there are various costs that are not typically awarded through General Fees. These include housing costs, which are typically paid as honoraria to churches, schools and local youth centers. Also, car and van rentals are necessary for transport around a metropolitan area.

ASB also delivers substantial value to the Stanford community. We are a nationally recognized and renowned Alternative Break program, and coordinators regularly field questions from other campuses seeking to initiate or improve the program at their University. We have been quoted in newspapers such as the San Francisco Chronicle and were featured in The Stanford Fund newsletter, which seeks to raise funds available to all student groups on campus as well as other academic initiatives and financial aid. On campus, ASB is a resource for other groups seeking to create similar programs, like Hillel's new Alternative Spring Break program and the SPOT trips that precede Freshman Orientation for interested Freshmen. ASB has directly inspired the creation of other campus groups, including Stanford Beyond Bars, AIYME and Street Forum.

BUDGET DETAIL

	Budgeted	Requested	Recommend	Approved	Petitioned	Elected
General Operating Expenses	\$(3,700.00)	\$3,700.00	\$3,700.00	\$3,700.00	\$3,700.00	
These expenses are for the administration of the entire ASB program that involves about 200 students every year. Most amounts in this budget remain the same as last year's						
6500 Training Mat (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	ASB Handbook for trip leaders. \$2 per book X 30 trip leaders. \$(60.00)	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
7120 Phone (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	Phone calls to local organizations to coordinate meetings. \$(20.00)	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
7130 Postage/Courier (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	Postage for sending contracts or materials to organizations. \$(50.00)	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
7140 Copies (Not Marketing) (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	\$3 per week for: Agendas for meetings. Organizational reports, e.g. trip itineraries, budgets, student-initiated course syllabi for records. X 10 weeks = \$30 \$(30.00)	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
7150 Office Supplies (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	Personal journals for participants \$(90.00)	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90.00
7180 Educational Literature (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	Photocopies for course readers and purchases of books. \$(2,500.00)	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
7200 General Marketing Expenses (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	For 200 students on 14 trips: Scrapbook materials and disposable cameras. 2 Facebook ads - one each in the Fall and Winter quarters. \$(680.00)	\$680.00	\$680.00	\$680.00	\$680.00	\$680.00
7220 Marketing Copies / Print Expenses (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	Flyers for advertising participant and trip leader selection processes. \$(270.00)	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$270.00
Spring Break Trips	\$(60,275.32)	\$60,275.32	\$52,855.32	\$52,855.32	\$52,855.32	
Local Spring Break trips are within California (stretching from San Diego to Sacramento) and do not require airfare. We had 9 this year, and plan to have the same number next						
6310 Honoraria Fees (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	Honoraria is given out to guest speakers who come to campus as part of the group directed reading course in the Winter quarter, and to particularly helpful community organizations during the trip itself. Allowing for \$50 for the former and the latter, respectively, each trip will need \$100. \$100 per trip X 14 trips = \$1,400 \$(1,400.00)	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
6510 Regular Meeting Food (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	\$30 for group snacks over the course of the winter quarter class (\$3 per class X 10 weeks.) During the trip itself, subsidizing a modest meal per participant per day will total for each trip = \$7 meal X 7 days X 14 students = \$686. Total = 14 trips X (\$686 + \$30) = \$10,024 \$(10,024.00)	\$10,024.00	\$9,604.00	\$9,604.00	\$9,604.00	\$9,604.00
7710 Travel Fares (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	Subsidy of \$42 per trip for 9 local trips. For 5 travel trips with 14 students each, subsidy = \$350 per flight X 14 X 5 = \$24,500. \$(24,878.00)	\$24,878.00	\$17,878.00	\$17,878.00	\$17,878.00	\$17,878.00
7720 Gas (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	2 vans are used per trip. We are budgeting a modest amount of 3 tanks of gas on average per trip. \$90 per trip X 14 trips = \$1,260 \$(1,260.00)	\$1,260.00	\$1,260.00	\$1,260.00	\$1,260.00	\$1,260.00
7730 Car / Van Rental (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	There are 2 minivan rentals per trip. According to Enterprise estimates this year, each minivan weekly rental costs: \$551.99 + \$105 (underage 25 driver fee) + \$54.20 = \$711.19. 2 minivans per trip X 14 trips X \$711.19 = \$19,913.32 \$(19,913.32)	\$19,913.32	\$19,913.32	\$19,913.32	\$19,913.32	\$19,913.32
7740 Accommodations (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	There were 9 local trips this year, and we expect this to remain constant next year. Each trip consists of about 12 participants and their trip leaders (usually 2.) For a total of 14 students over 7 days, we are only asking for \$200 per trip for accommodations. Given this, we are asking for \$200 X 9 trips = \$1,800. There were 4 ASB trips requiring air travel this year, but one of them (the Katrina one) had double the number of usual participants, so in effect we had 5 trips requiring air travel. Next year, we plan to have the same. For a total of 14 students over 7 days, we will need \$200 per trip for accommodations. Given this, the total we will need for travel trips = \$200X5 = \$1,000. \$(2,800.00)	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00

Given our aversion to funding any travel fares whatsoever, we feel it appropriate to reduce your airfare rate to \$250 from the requested \$350. This amount should generally be sufficient if tickets are purchased well in advance at the cheapest available prices.

Alternative Spring Break 6868

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ASSU Special Fees

3/26/2007

APPLICATION TOTALS

\$(63,975.32) \$63,975.32 \$56,555.32 \$56,555.32 \$56,555.32
