

NEW BUDGET POLICY GIVES TREASURER GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN SPRING TERM AUDIT

Student clubs who have remained active throughout the fall will be eligible for additional funds in the spring, according to a new SGA budget policy agreed upon by Parker Umstead, Vice President for Finance. The policy stipulates that in the first weeks of the spring term the SGA will submit to the Vice President a list of clubs with supplemental budget requests.

After fall term, the SGA will conduct its internal audit. Club leaders will be asked to submit a progress report and a request for additional funds, if desired. Money will be withdrawn from the accounts of inactive clubs and shifted to the accounts of more active clubs. SGA leaders expect that even after this shuffling, the funds generated from withdrawals will not be enough to fill the additional requests of the active clubs.

It is this discrepancy which is addressed by the new policy. Becky Long, this

year's SGA Treasurer, will submit a list of projects which could take place with more money, and Umstead is obligated to address these concerns. He is not obligated to release any funds.

"The benefit of this policy is that the Vice President has to justify denying funds for very specific projects which will have relatively small price tags. It takes the allocation of funds to the SGA out of the abstract realm of 'x' amount of dollars per student for activities in general to the very concrete amount of money for a specific project," says Long.

The fall audit also serves to make allocations to clubs more fairly. In the fall, budget requests were merely speculations. By the spring term, the treasurer knows which club leaders achieve their goals and which are pipe-dreamers and can adjust budgets accordingly. ■