WHEREAS, there have been several language and policy changes mandated by the Board of Regents since the last Finance Bylaw revisions; and

WHEREAS, it is important to keep the Finance Bylaws as up to date as possible to reduce both confusion and liability; and

WHEREAS, the complete revisions are as seen in Attachment “A”;” and

WHEREAS, the revisions to Section 4.02 are simple language updates passed by the Board of Regents in the past year that make the Finance Bylaw viewpoint neutrality statement more inclusive; and

WHEREAS, the revisions to Section 7.03.1 are based on the language passed by the Board of Regents in Board of Regents Resolution I.2.f.(2) of December 9, 2006 as part of a policy change to protect the UW System after a recent court decision; and
WHEREAS, the revisions to Section 7.03.1 allow for limitations on membership and office holders based on commitment to a set of beliefs; and

WHEREAS, the revisions to Section 7.11 include a process to remove organizations from Organized Activity status; and

WHEREAS, the revisions to Section 8.03.1 are included in reference to Board of Regents Resolution I.2.f.(2) of December 9, 2006; and

WHEREAS, these changes have been approved by the UW System Legal Counsel;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the revisions to the Finance Bylaws as shown in Attachment “A” be immediately adopted by the Student Senate Finance Commission; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President Wagner transmit copies of this bill to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Andrew Soll, Vice Chancellor, Business & Student Services; Dr. Steven Tallant, Interim Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dave Gessner, Director, Business Services; Dr. Kimberly Barrett, Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Development & Diversity; Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Student Development, Student Development & Diversity; and Mary Ryan-Miller, Associate Dean of Student Development.
Attachment “A”

Section 4.02: Viewpoint Neutrality Statement

It is the guiding principle of this Finance Commission that all funding decisions will be made without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, political affiliation, age, or veteran status of either the organization requesting funds or its individual or collective membership. Allocation decisions and the expenditure of approved allocations must conform with constitutional requirements, including the decision of the United States Supreme Court in Board of Regents v. Southworth, 529 U.S. 217, 120 S. Ct. 1346 (2000), existing Wisconsin Statutes, Attorney General's opinions, Board of Regents' regulations, UW System Policy Papers, and State Department of Administration and Office of State Employment Relations regulations.

(7.03.1) Membership, Officer Positions, and Participation

- Organized Activities must be open to all students as members and officers without regard to any other affiliations of the students; however, student organizations that select their members or officers on the basis of commitment to a set of beliefs (e.g. religious or political) may limit membership, officer positions, or participation in the organization to students who, upon individual inquiry, affirm that they support the organization’s goals and agree with its beliefs. Student organization may not exclude students from membership, officer positions or participation on any basis other than the commitment to the beliefs of the organization, consistent with Board of Regents Resolution L.2.f.(2) of December 9, 2006. The Commission will not recognize as an Organized Activity any organization that excludes or restricts membership, participation, or the holding of officers’ positions, by either constitution or practice. Each Organized Activity must allow for the free and open discussion of any issue and for any and all student opinions to be heard.

- The number of students participating in and served by the organization or activity will not be considered in the determination of the status of the organization as an Organized Activity.

Section 7.11: Review of Recognition Status

(7.11.1) At the time an Organized Activity in the Campus Media or Student Organization category updates or revises its constitution, the status of its recognition as an Organized Activity shall be reviewed. The review shall follow the procedures specified in this article for initial determination of Organized Activity status. Further, a review may be initiated at any time by a Commission vote or through a resolution passed by the Student Senate General Assembly.
(7.11.2) Organized Activity status, once granted, shall be continuous unless revoked by action of the Finance Commission. Such action shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members of the Commission present and shall be based on a determination that the organization no longer meets the criteria for recognition as specified in Sections 7.03 and 7.05. Various actions by an organization can trigger a review of its recognition status including, but not limited to, failure by an Organized Activity to submit a budget and budget narrative or revenue and expenditure statements to the Finance Commission.

(8.03.1) To be considered for SUF support, Student Organizations must meet the following criteria:
- Activities and events of the Student Organization must be open to all students, except as outlined in Par. 7.03.1 of these by-laws.
- The Student Organization must make an effort to fundraise to match allocated funds.
- Allowable SUF funding for each Student Organization will be limited to a $200 maximum.