



Student Government
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

**University of Colorado Student Government
Legislative Council**

January 31, 2014

80 LCB 09 – Spark Boulder

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Legislative Council President
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Authored by: Bill Shrum

CUSG Dir. Of Neighborhood Relations

**A Bill to Amend the Student Group Funding Board
Code to Allow Funding for Spark Boulder in Student
Group Allocations**

Bill History

Spark Boulder began as an idea among CU-Boulder students looking for space appropriate for business-minded students looking to integrate further into a community and professional environment. What Spark has become is something serving much more of a need in the community than originally anticipated, drawing interest from students and alumni, faculty, business leaders, and residents. The fields of interest of those

looking to utilize Spark Boulder has also grown to be much broader than expected, including students from Visual and Studio Arts, Environmental Design, Communications, Technology Arts and Media, Computer and Mechanical Engineering, Marketing, Finance, Business Administration, and more.

Those students who started working on the planning and implementation of Spark Boulder back in October 2012 included a working group of undergraduate and graduate students representing CUSG, Engineering, Law, Business, and Environmental Design. Through the past 14 months, major corporate sponsors and individual donors alike have joined with the City of Boulder and other organizations to contribute funds to the creation of Spark Boulder, yet despite its non-profit and student-centric focus, there has not been a commitment of funding from the University or any of its direct departments or colleges, and CUSG is looking to change that.

Recognizing the value of having a professional work environment with the technology relevant to today's modern business world, the Executives of CUSG are committed to providing a resource different than anything currently available on campus. Spark Boulder physically bridges Broadway by bringing students into the community to work alongside professionals and utilize professional resources. This funding resolution and change to SGFB bylaws will ensure that Spark Boulder will continue to maintain a student-centric focus for its programming and co-op partners through the ebb and flow of business cycles, and provide students a facility similar to those of top-tier universities like Stanford, Columbia, Virginia Tech, and others who have already invested in their students and reaped the profits of their innovation, creativity, and drive to change the world around them for the better.

Bill Summary

This bill seeks to amend the Student Group Funding Board Code with the following sections.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Government, THAT:

Section 1: Amend section **602: Allocations** of the SGFB code to include the following:

“8. Non-profits with CUSG oversight: All student groups are eligible to spend SGFB funds toward any normally allocated uses at non-profit organizations that have CUSG oversight. Requisite oversight of qualifying non-profits include CUSG representation on advisory committees and scheduled reporting to SGFB on the fiscal activity of qualifying students and student groups.”

Section 2: Up to \$24,000 per year within the current SGFB budget will be available to students through SGFB funding for SGFB student group application by category. Pursuant to the amended change to the SGFB code, Section 602.8, Spark Boulder is a

non-profit with CUSG oversight, and money spent with Spark Boulder will only be spent on items normally considered proper expenditures of student funds as described in section 602: Allocations of the SGFB code.

Section 3: CUSG shall instigate discussion regarding a Memorandum of Understanding “MOU” with Spark Boulder such that each year up to 12 licenses will be made available for student, student group, and CUSG use within Spark Boulder, conferring all on-site privileges and uses relevant with the membership equivalent made available to the general paying public.

Section 4: CUSG oversight within Spark Boulder will consist of the following:

A member of the tri-executives or a designee within the executive staff will hold a reoccurring seat on the Spark Boulder advisory committee.

The Legislative Council President shall appoint a member from the Legislative Council, ratified by a majority of the Legislative Council, who will hold a reoccurring seat on the Spark Boulder advisory committee, under the regular process of serving on a Joint Board as elected representatives are required to do.

A report will be available upon request from the CUSG tri-executives, Legislative Council President, or the SGFB board chair in either print or email format outlining the hours of use by funded student groups within Spark Boulder, and an account of expenses incurred by the funded student groups.

A bi-annual presentation by the students serving on the Spark Boulder advisory committee along with the acting director for Spark Boulder to SGFB and Legislative Council outlining the previous year’s activity by funded student groups and outlining operational plans for the forthcoming year.

Section 5: Spark Boulder has a stated priority to serve students and the CU community first and foremost. Students and student groups of any background, experience, or affiliation are encouraged to inquire and participate at Spark Boulder. Spark Boulder will create a plan for any student or group looking to participate at Spark with SGFB funding, analyze expenditures, and forecast appropriate costs through the SGFB funding calendar. This process and worksheet will be available to the general public to anticipate the inquiry, and a summary of our review will accompany any group approaching SGFB for categorical requests for spending at Spark Boulder. If there is a student or group who requires funding for Spark at SGFB *without* this review, they will be referred to Spark to suggest completion of this process.

Section 6: The Student Group Funding Board (SGFB) Funding Application will be amended in the “**Operation Budget Request**” to have the initial description to read as follows:

“Please provide a brief description of what your student group’s operational needs are, which includes approximation of cost and how these purchases will help your group complete its mission. *Please detail any expenses you plan to incur through Spark Boulder, and attach the requisite worksheet along with your application.*”

Section 7: The CUSG website shall be updated with clear guidelines for student groups to request Spark Boulder funding within 30 days of the passage of this bill.

Section 8: This bill shall take effect upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

See attached Appendices A-D expressing student group support for this legislation.

Vote Count

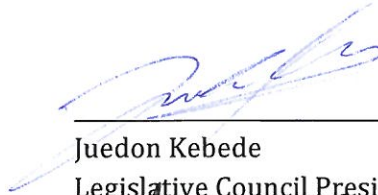
02/06/2014	Amended Sec. 2	Acclamation
02/06/2014	Amended Sec. 4	Acclamation
02/06/2014	Amended Sec. 5	Acclamation
02/06/2014	Passed on 1 st reading	Acclamation
02/13/2014	Passed on 2 nd reading	Acclamation



Chris Schaeffbauer
President of Student Affairs



Ellie Roberts
President of Internal Affairs



Juedon Kebede
Legislative Council President



Marco Dorado
President of External Affairs

Appendix A: Letter of Support

Dear CU Legislative Council:

My name is Brian Pignanelli and I lead the Leeds Entrepreneurs Alliance (LEA). We are an organization based in the business school, designed to promote entrepreneurship among all CU students. We have been in need of a space for some time but have been unable to procure one from the business school or CU. We have not applied for space in the student center for two reasons: it is extremely difficult to obtain (involving a long wait list) and the environment is not conducive to achieving our objectives.

We have recently been considering a space at the Spark facility for several reasons: the proximity to campus is good (the hill being the center of much student activity) and the Spark mission aligns well with our objectives. Spark's emphasis on student entrepreneurship, collaboration, and mentoring is important to the LEA leadership and would provide exactly the environment we require to grow our organization and reach more students.

We have been told by SOFA that we cannot use CUSG money for off campus space. This leaves us in a bind as much of our funding is through CUSG. For this reason and those mentioned above LEA would greatly benefit from an allowance permitting funds to be spent on off campus space at Spark. We support this legislation 100% in its current form and are eagerly awaiting its passage.

Thank you for your consideration,
Brian

J. Brian Pignanelli

Leeds School of Business | CU Boulder

MBA Candidate 2014

LEA Managing Director

Colorado Architect

mobile [415.350.9951](tel:415.350.9951)

www.linkedin.com/in/pignanelli

Appendix B: Letter of Support

Dear CU Legislative Council:

My name is Will Zimmerman and I am Co-President of Start up CU. Start up CU is one of the largest start up clubs on campus and encourages students to follow their entrepreneurial passion to foster innovation within the university. The club currently has over 300 members and serves all the different schools that make up the university. Start up Cu has traditionally rented out spaces where available across campus. Unfortunately there are several problems with this approach. The spaces are often not conducive to the unique nature of our meetings and we often have to move around due to the availability of space which is challenging for our members.

Ideally we would like to rent a space at the new Spark Co-working space on the hill. There are a variety of reasons this makes sense for our organization. The proximity to students, campus and the start up community on Pearl Street is very good. Additionally, the space would allow us to meet consistently in one place in an entrepreneurial environment. Our members would be able to network with members of the co-working space possibly sparking innovation. We believe that meeting in Spark and engaging with its community would allow us to take our club to the next level and maximize our impact on the university and community.

We strongly support a CUSG allowance for distributing and using funds for an off campus space at Spark Boulder. Due to current regulation we cannot use CUSG or SOFO money for Spark. However, this really limits our organization at the expense of the university and its students. We hope that you will strongly consider passing legislation to allow our club to continue to increase its impact on the University of Colorado.

Sincerely,
William Zimmerman

Appendix C: Letter of Support



Co-Op Office Space: A Door to the Future

Dear CU Legislative Council,
My name is Katie Hermosillo and I serve as the Chapter President of CU DECA. We are an organization that operates within the University of Colorado at Boulder. CU DECA is a business club designed to help bridge the gap between high school and college and from college to career. Our chapter is part of the international Collegiate DECA organization.

“With over a 60 year history, DECA has impacted the lives of more than ten million students, educators, school administrators and business professionals since it was founded in 1946. Their strong connection with our organization has resonated into a brand that people identify as a remarkable experience in the preparation of emerging leaders and entrepreneurs.

DECA’s programs and activities have constantly evolved as we use the latest technology and apply cutting edge educational research. Our core focus has remained consistent and is captured in our mission.”

CU DECA adheres to legacy and mission of Collegiate DECA while fostering unique values of our own. We strive to create an environment where we can cultivate new ideas that will lead us into the future of business.

We believe by working in the co-op space of Spark we can achieve our mission and regenerate the entrepreneurship realm of DECA, specifically within the University of

Colorado at Boulder. The considerations that were made to utilize Spark for a co-op space include proximity to campus and the utilities that Spark provided. Spark cultivates student entrepreneurship, collaboration, and mentoring. We believe that this type of environment complements CU DECA's needs and would help us reach more students on CU's campus.

We have been informed by SOFO that we are not allowed to use CUSG funds for off campus space which leaves us in a difficult situation since our club receives funding through CUSG and its respective entities. CU DECA would prosper if an allowance would be made to permit funds to be spent on off campus co-op space such as Spark. CU DECA supports this legislation and fervently awaits its passage.

Thank you for your consideration,

Katie Hermosillo

*B.S. Business Marketing, 2016
Leeds School of Business | CU Boulder
CU DECA
Chapter President*

Appendix D: Letter of Support

CU Legislative Council

My name is Matt MacFarlane and I'm the Founder and President of the Music Industry Club. We recently launched last fall and are dedicated to providing students with an array of knowledge in the business side of music. Through our events we aim to provide insight into various careers and motivate our members who would like to work in the industry. Although we have booked rooms on campus to hold events (and will continue to), we feel it would be very beneficial for the club to have a permanent space at Spark Boulder. The atmosphere and facilities at Spark align with the entrepreneurial spirit of the industry and would be helpful for us to meet our objectives. This would be a perfect place for our leaders to meet with each other as well as potential speakers and sponsors, which are abundant due to Boulder's active music scene. Also, the business services, legal advice, and mentorship can help us remain on track to grow into a great campus-wide club.

Late last semester we drafted a corporate proposal to receive funding for a variety of club activities, one of them being a space at Spark. I presented to alumni at Lionsgate Entertainment as well as The Recording Academy (The Grammys), but unfortunately we didn't receive funding. The Music Industry Club would continue to advance given funds from the university for this off-campus space. We are in full support of this proposal and are very hopeful that it passes.

We appreciate your consideration

Matt MacFarlane
Finance, Entrepreneurship, TAM
Leeds School of Business
CU Boulder
[303-476-8632](tel:303-476-8632)