

International Week sold for a bargain

■ **ASUO:** The International Student Association settled for just over half of its original request

By Ashley Bach
Student Activities Reporter

The International Student Association's (ISA) International Week, which concludes this weekend after a series of activities, almost came to a conclusion before it even started.

Appearing before the ASUO Senate on March 6, the ISA requested an additional \$4,000 from their original 1995-96 budget for expenses for the cultural week and its culminating event, International Night.

The Senate, however, granted the ISA, the umbrella organization for several cultural groups on campus, \$975 — a sharp decrease from the original request.

ISA members left the meeting disgruntled, saying the Senate treated them unfairly and did not

entirely understand their point of view.

After two smaller groups under their budget overdrew, the ISA said they had to cover the mistakes, leaving a deficit in funds for the cultural week.

The Senate stood by its decision, saying the group was given a budget and it should adhere by it. They said the mistakes by the smaller groups was the ISA's ultimate responsibility, and it wasn't the Senate's job to cover for a group's financial mismanagement.

The decision was then vetoed by the ASUO Executive. It had been determined the votes weren't tabulated correctly.

Therefore, in a meeting on March 13, the Senate granted the ISA \$1,233 after the group was allowed to present a new request of \$2,437, using fresh materials and more concrete numbers.

With the new amount, the ISA has been able to do all it had planned this week — with the help of some additional fund-

raising revenue.

"We've been able to get in touch with some additional sponsors," said Public Relations Director Lisa Khan. "We've formed a really good base that's covering us."

While both the Senate and ISA had different views of what money was needed and warranted for International Week, both groups seem happy that the process is over.

After questioning many senators' attitudes and flexibility, the ISA is just glad they had another opportunity to present their request more clearly.

"We [are] happy that the numbers were clear to them and they were able to make a good decision," Khan said.

The Senate, while still questioning the ISA's right to some of the money, is glad an answer could be found from the many differing ideas.

"What was granted was fiscally the best solution," Senator Susan Anderson said.

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