Fundraising for Student Organizations

CENTER FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT
The state of Missouri indicates that “A person engages in gambling when he/she pays to play a game of chance or places a wager on a future contingent event not under his control or influence with the understanding that he will receive something of value if he/she wins the game or a certain outcome occurs.”

http://sub.truman.edu/Documents/ILLEGAL%20GAMBLING%20IN%20MISSOURI.pdf
The 3 Prong Test

Gambling

Prize
Anything of value given to participants.

Chance
Something beyond the participants control determines the outcome.

Consideration
A requirement that participants must expend money or significant effort to participate.
University’s Definition of Gambling:

Student Conduct Code

Section 8.050.19: Gambling is prohibited at activities or events arranged or sponsored by the University, on University premises, or sponsored by a student organization(s), regardless of location.

http://conduct.truman.edu/conduct_code.asp
19.1: It is prohibited to play or sponsor an unlawful game of chance for money or for anything of value (a) on University premises or (b) at a University or student organization sponsored activity or event.

19.2: It is prohibited to sell, barter, or dispose of a ticket, order, or any interest in a scheme of chance by whatever name (a) on University premises or (b) at a University or student organization sponsored activity or event.

19.3: Wager on a University team or organization in a competition, with or without an intent to have a direct influence on the outcome of the competition (a) on University premises or (b) at a University or student organization sponsored activity or event.

http://conduct.truman.edu/conduct_code.asp
So what does it mean?

- Drawings vs. Raffles
- Bingo with Limitations
- Be cautious of entry fees (TRIVIA CASE STUDY WHY ITS GOOD OR BAD)
- No mandatory donations
Raffles

- The Attorney General’s Office states that “A raffle is a game in which a participant buys a ticket for a chance at a prize, with the winner determined by a random drawing to take place at a location and date printed on the ticket.”
- Missouri does not allow any organization to organize or participate in raffles unless they are recognized under federal law as a non-profit charitable or religious organization.
  - While Missouri law does allow for raffles under certain circumstances, here at the University the standard differs. Raffles are not allowed to be held under any circumstances.
Drawings

- Drawings are allowed on campus
- No Purchase Necessary
- Equal chance at winning for all participants
Bingo Fundraiser

- In the State of Missouri you may operate a game of bingo where you charge money to play AND give away a prize IF you have a bingo license from the State.
  - An organization can hold a bingo event without a license if it is free to play for the participants.
  - If the organization does not have a bingo license, no money can change hands.
Getting a Bingo License

- You may apply for a bingo license if you are a non-profit organization (such as charitable, religious, service, or veterans groups) that has maintained at least 20 members for the last five years prior to applying for the bingo license. Additionally, the bingo game must be run by volunteers who have been members of the organization for at least two years. Other considerations may apply.
Fundraising for Philanthropies

- Still be cautious about how these events are executed
- Common event ideas
- Speak with CSI staff for more information
Despite these rules, there are ways to fundraise on campus.

- Trivia
- Sales
- Drawings
- Card Tournament
Things to Remember

- These rules do not only apply to events on Truman’s campus. They apply to any student organization, even if the event is held off campus.

- Certain types of organizations may hold raffles and bingo events if they receive licensing from the federal or state government, respectively. Current documentation is required to verify status. Furthermore, a designation from the University as a religious organization does not fulfill the requirement. The religious or non-profit designation is governmental.

- An organization can not require payment to participate, and give a prize. One of the two is acceptable, but not both.
Need more Info?

- Missouri Policy: [http://sub.truman.edu/Documents/ILLEGAL%20GAMBLING%20IN%20MISSOURI.pdf](http://sub.truman.edu/Documents/ILLEGAL%20GAMBLING%20IN%20MISSOURI.pdf)
- Student Conduct Code: [http://conduct.truman.edu/conduct_code.asp](http://conduct.truman.edu/conduct_code.asp)
- Missouri Attorney General’s Office: [http://ago.mo.gov/publications/gambling.htm](http://ago.mo.gov/publications/gambling.htm)
- Or come by the CSI office in SUB 2000 if you have questions.