



“USSA WWU 2015 Board of Directors Meeting”

Proposed Motions: Approve a NTE limit of \$725 from the Operational Budget [FFXENH] to pay for expenses to cover 5 meals for about 30 people for the United States Student Association Board of Directors Meeting to be held May 28th-31st.

Sponsor: *ASVP for Governmental Affairs, Sarah Kohout*

Persons of Contact: *USSA Pacific Northwest Regional Chair, Mayra Guizar*

Date: May 13th, 2015

Background & Context

[The United States Student Association \(USSA\)](#), the country’s oldest, largest, and most inclusive national student-led organization, develops current and future leaders and amplifies the student voice at the local, state, and national levels by mobilizing grassroots power to win concrete victories on student issues. This year is Western’s first year as direct campus member of the USSA following the Washington Student Association’s vote to leave the organization for fiscal reasons. Membership is paid per academic year, and as our first year, we are currently paying at a discounted price of \$0.40 per FTE from the Legislative Action Fund. As many of you all know, the LACF is going through it’s first year of restructure and will need a few years for stability.

As direct members, here are the benefits as listed on their website and in the contract with WWU:

Benefits of Direct Member Campuses include:

- Regular campus visits from USSA national staff and officers
- Trainings and advisement on campus-wide campaigns
- Discounted registration fees for USSA conventions
- Voting rights at annual conventions that enable students from your campus to run for national office, vote in national elections, propose national campaigns/resolutions, and vote on national campaigns/resolutions
- Direct contact with your national staff and officers in DC who track decisions being made at the federal level and provide ways for you as students to affect those decisions
- 1 discounted [GROW Training](#) a year

As a USSA Board member, it is my responsibility to help execute campaigns on a national level, assist with the planning of both USSA Congress and Legcon, be present for biweekly conference calls, and also bimonthly Board meetings.

Summary of Proposal

At the USSA 2015 Board Retreat held in September, all USSA Board Members spent about week in DC to plan and organize campaigns for the rest of the school year, prep for conferences, set goals for ourselves as a collective and individuals, and set the dates and locations for the rest of the Board meetings for the year.

Through funding meals for the 30 students who will be on campus from across the country, it will overall enhance the operations of the Associated students since the knowledge we will be gaining through this Board of Director’s meeting will further enhance the relationship WWU has with the USSA, and as stated before, this is the first year that we are direct

campus members. The Board meeting locations were put up for bid and voted on by the Board of Directors. Here are the past 2014-15 USSA Board Meeting Locations:

- November 21-23, 2014- New Jersey
 - Rowan University
- January 30- February 1, 2014- Arizona
 - Arizona Student Association/Arizona State University
- May 28-31, 2014- Washington
 - Western Washington University

Part of being a host, is making sure that we can house and feed the Board members who will be coming to the meeting. We are only responsible for providing 5 meals: 3 breakfasts and 2 lunches, so we will need support from the WWU Associated Students. Because the LACF isn't very stable, it will be easier to rely on a funding source that would be able to handle the cost of providing 5 meals for about 30 people.

Fiscally

Breakfast Friday, Saturday, Sunday: NTE \$300

- Coffee from Black Drop
- Fruit
- Bagels
- Juice
 - Will be purchasing from WinCo/Costco

Subway catered lunch for Friday: NTE \$200

- 1 order feeds 5-9 people, $\$38 \times 4 = 152$
 - Includes buffer for tax
- 3 bags of Chips (cheaper to buy from WinCo/Costco instead of catering's $\$1.10/\text{small bag}$)
 - $\sim 2.99 \times 3 = 8.97$

Burrito King catered lunch for Saturday: NTE \$225

- $\$5 \text{ burritos} \times 35 = 175$
- Juice

Rationale

The benefits of contributing funds for the USSA Board meeting to be possible is the fact that we will be building a stronger relationship with an organization that represents students on a national level. Students are always welcome to USSA Board meetings to participate, and really see behind how decisions are made for this student run, student led organization. Also, through funding this from the operational enhancement budget which is currently at \$7,493, it'll give the LACF (which isn't as stable) the opportunity to have a little more wiggle room for representation on the local, state, and federal level.