



“Student Enhancement Fund”

Proposed Motion: *To create a two-year grant program for conference funding*

Sponsor: *AS President, Belina Seare*

Persons of Contact: *AS President, Belina Seare*

Guest Speaker: *(none)*

Date: Friday, May 27th, 2016

Attached Document

Background & Context

Every quarter since members of this board have begun their terms, we have seen an incredible amount of students engaging with the Associated Students by receiving funding for conferences. The commitment on the part of the AS has been steady with each funding request and we have been committed to fully funding almost all of the proposals that have come in. However, there has been a considerable amount of challenges presented in the ambiguity of how to process these requests. The opportunity to support students gaining experience beyond the classroom is important to the AS but it still remains that there is no clear understanding of how to move forward in supporting this aspect of student enhancement without facing the same challenges.

Summary of Proposal

Proposed motion: Approval of \$70,000 grant over two years, \$35,000 per year out FXXRES with assessment by the end of the second year

- The fund will be a grant of \$35,000 per year coming out of discretionary reserves which would amount to a total of \$70,000 over two years. The purpose of having the grant as a two-year program is to give the board of 2016-2017 an opportunity to review the grant and to work out any of the challenges or opportunities for improvement after the first year. The 2017-2018 Board of Directors should assess the fund with the decision to either renew, operationalize or discontinue. These assessments will be facilitated by the Student Enhancement Fund Facilitator.

Proposed motion: To fund a two-year grant not to exceed 19 hours (hourly)

- This fund will also have a position to support the work of the Student Enhancement Fund. This position would be responsible for working with the Finance office, the AS Business Office, the committee, and students who are hoping to get funding and have the ability to prepare each meeting and provide guidance throughout the year. The salary is NTE \$6,200 (\$9.47 @ 19 hours a week for Fall, Winter, Spring) with an additional 20 hours in the summer.

Fiscal Impacts

Student Enhancement Fund Facilitator Salary:

Fall (12 weeks) + Winter (11 weeks) + Spring (10) = 33 weeks in the regular academic year

Hourly Wage + \$9.47 an hour, NTE 19 hours a week = NTE \$179.93 per week

Final Salary: 33 (weeks) x \$179.93 per week = 5,937.69 + (20 summer hours x \$9.47 = \$189.4)

Final Salary = NTE \$6,200 (rounded up from \$6,127.09)

Rationale

The fund will be created as a grant and will be used with a deep understanding to respect the manner in which it was collected, which is through the student dollars which have accumulated in discretionary reserves for many years. There are several opportunities for students to receive partial, and occasionally full, funding for conferences if they are seeking funding as an AS club, for an ESC club, through the Personnel Development fund, as an Environmental organization and more. However, it can be extremely difficult for students who aren't necessarily directly affiliated with the AS or another organization. The hope is that creating a fund that will support student's development professionally and personally while also increasing students access to engage with the Associated Students in the future. Students who receive this funding will be supported to pursue unique opportunities that will enhance their professional and personal development in a way that contribute to the betterment of our campus-community.