



AS Student Enhancement Fund Committee

Thursday, May 25th, 2017

9:00am

YU460

Members: *Present:* Tiffany Ng (Student Enhancement Fund Facilitator, Chair); Marya Rybalka (AS Business Director, Vice Chair); Grace Heller (student-at-large); Julia Phillips (student-at-large); Daniel Gallegos (AS Club Representative); Emma Caro (ESC Clubs Representative).

Absent:

Advisor: Raquel Wilson (Finance Manager)

Secretary: Chrissa Browder-Long (Board Assistant for Internal Committees)

Guests:

Motions:

SEF-17-S-9 Approval of Beckie Hill for \$221.12. *Passed.*

SEF-17-S-10 Approval of the minutes from April 20th, May 4th, May 11th and May 18th.
Passed.

Tiffany Ng called the meeting to order at 9:02pm.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION SEF-17-S-10 By Ng

To approve the minutes from April 20th, May 4th, May 11th and May 18th.

Second: Heller Vote: 6-0-0 Action: Passed

II. DISCUSSION ITEM

A. Beckie Hill's Application

Tiffany Ng stated that this is the last student evaluation. After the Committee Breakfast, there will be about \$4,000 remaining in the fund. Even if SEF fully approves Beckie Hill's application, there will be some money left over, which would roll over to next year. Ng stated that Hill is applying for reimbursement for an academic conference she attended. Hill went to the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Conference in Tacoma. She went to the conference to network with researchers and attend panels. Emma Caro stated that she felt that the fund was to help student develop professionally and personally, who do not have the finances to do it themselves. Caro stated that since Hill already attended the conference and was able to pay for herself that SEF should not grant her the funding especially since the conference was in state. Ng explained that since she was super busy, Ng had mixed up Hill's event and thought it was in July but it was actually in May. Since Ng mixed up the applications, that is why Ng allowed the application to come to SEF Committee. Ng stated that Hill is requesting about \$500. Ng stated that in Hill's application, she does not discuss how it would help her professionally but the networking could help Hill get connections and reaffirm what she has learned in her master's program. Ng explained that the conference was for two days. Hill requested hotel funding for two nights. The cost for gas from Bothell to Tacoma (53 miles) costs \$19.12 roundtrip. The conference is at a hotel, so the rooms are at a discounted rate, which comes to \$354 for two nights with a cushion of \$50. The registration for the conference is \$179. Two dinners at the Bellingham rate totals \$46. Marya Rybalka

asked if the conference includes food because the registration for the conference seems expensive. The attendees of the conference get breakfast and lunch so that could be why the registration is so high. Rybalka stated that since this has already taken place, Hill should only be approved for how much they spent on dinner. Raquel Wilson stated that in this case, they could be approved for an amount as long as it is not more than the Bellingham rate of \$23 per day. Daniel Gallegos stated that he feels fine with approving the full amount for gas. Rybalka stated that she understands that it is convenient to stay where the conference is located but Hill could have looked for another cheaper lodging option. Gallegos suggested removing the cushion from the lodging expenses. Grace Heller suggested giving \$200 to cover gas and registration. Rybalka stated that even if this had come before the event took place, she would have felt uncomfortable paying \$152 per night for a hotel. If the per diem were added for one dinner, the total grant would be for \$221.12. Going through the rubric, Ng stated that the applicant is an individual representing WWU at the event. In regards to academic/educational impact, Ng strongly agrees that it would impact Hill academically because the conference is directly related to her master's program. There is overall agreement that there is academic/educational impact or value from the conference. There is overall neutral to disagreement that attending the conference would have a positive change to student communities. There is overall disagreement that attending the conference would have a visible impact to Western. Rybalka asked if it could have an impact to the master's community. Rybalka stated that usually in master's programs, there is a group and Hill could bring the information from the conference to other master's students at Western. In regards to personal and professional development, Ng agrees for both personal and professional development. There is overall strong agreement for both personal and professional development. Ng stated that Hill passed the rubric requirements.

*MOTION SEF-17-S-9 By Ng
To approve Beckie Hill for \$221.12.*

Second: Gallegos Vote: 6-0-0 Action: Passed

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

IV. ACTION ITEMS

V. ADJOURN

Ng adjourned the meeting at 9:38pm.