

# "Proposal to fund the travel expenses for the Vice President for Student Life to attend the Regional NASPA conference"

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Enhancement Fund (fxxenh) for the 2017-2018 academic year to pay for the airfare to send the VP for Student Life to the 2017 Regional NASPA Conference, in addition to an allocated fund of \$1,000 from reserves for airfare, per diem and transportation fees for the AS VP for Diversity to attend the 2017 Regional NASPA Conference

**Sponsor:** Annie Gordon, AS VP for Student Life

Persons of Contact: Annie Gordon, Erick Yanzon

**Date:** 10/10/17

**Attached Document** 

Attached is the NASPA Western Regional Conference Website:

https://www.naspa.ors/events/17WRC

NASPA Main Website: <a href="https://www.naspa.or5/">https://www.naspa.or5/</a> Sample Flight Prices

https://www.expedia.com/Flishts-Search/ñight-

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Specifically, sample flight prices from Vancouver to Honolulu round trip

https://www.expedia.com/FlÍ5hts-Search?ūight-

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Bolt Bus from Bellingham to Vancouver

https://www.boltbus.com/

#### **Background & Context**

NASPA (National Association of Student Personnel Administrators) is a national organization that works to teach, engage and advance student affairs administrators in higher education across the United States. NASPA has 2,100 institutions holding membership, Western Washington University being one of them. Western Washington University's newly hired Vice President for

Enrollment and Student Services, Melynda Huskey, wishes to engage the university in the resources that NASPA offers. Part of this plan includes sending the Vice President for Student Life to the Regional NASPA conference each year. Huskey's office will be providing the room, board, and registration fees, leaving only the cost of travel to be covered by the VP for Student Life. After discussion with the board, the VP for Student Life wishes to also bring a second board member, the VP for Divesity.

## **Summary of Proposal**

Gordon proposes that the Associated Students Board of Directors approves to use from the Operation and Enhancement Lund (fxxenh) and from reserves to allow this position and the VP for Diversity to attend this conference. This will be a good test to help decide if funding the attendance of this conference should be operationalized in the future.

### **Fiscal Impacts**

As previously stated this would be a two year cost. Because this is a regional conference it should be noted that the travel expense will vary year to year depending on location (ie. Seattle, Washington in comparison to Honolulu, Hawaii). In a long term sense this position hopes to operationalize this fund. As discussed by the board, there are many benefits of sending two board members. This would add the cost of per diem (\$255.00) plus additional airfare (\$500.00) plus additional transportation.

## If financial impacts occur:

What do you need to happen?

□ Board's approval to spend \$500.00 from the operating and enhancement fund (ficxenh), and to spend \$1,000.00 from reserves and no other steps needed.

#### **Alternative Solutions**

Due to the high value of interfacing personally and intimately this position believes that physically attending the conference is the best option to truly maximize the benefits. Those benefits include the vast amount of workshops and trainings attended that this position will be able to bring back to Western Washington University in hopes of bettering the University and the Student Services offered. Last year was a very high impact year for many student affairs areas on campus, and with that this year is a critical one to maximize relationship building and community strengthening within the Western community.

#### Rationale

This position believes that there is a lot to be gained from attending this conference and believes that these positions should have the opportunity to continue to develop critical ideas about how to best serve students.