



AS Student Enhancement Fund Committee

Friday, November 17th, 2017

10:00am

VU462B

Members: *Present:* Daniel Gallegos (Student Enhancement Fund Facilitator); Grace Heller (Student at-large); Chris Sowers (AS Club Business Director).
Absent: Jose Rios-Sanchez (AS Business Director); (ESC Representative); (AS Club Representative); Julia Phillips (Student at-large).

Advisor: Raquel Wilson (Finance Manager)

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

Guests:

Motions:

SEF-17-F-7 Approval of \$250 to Erin Taylor and Fauren Beane. *Passed.*

SEF-17-F-8 Denial of Daisuke Matsuura's SEF request. *Passed.*

SEF-17-F-9 Approval of \$450 in reimbursement for Jo Ann Årinder. *Passed.*

Daniel Gallegos called the meeting to order at 10:08pm.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

II. DISCUSSION ITEM

A. Society for Neuroscience Applications

Daniel Gallegos stated that all the applications today are asking for refunding because they have already gone to the event. Gallegos stated that Erin Taylor and Lauren Beane presented their research at the Society for Neuroscience conference. Typically, this conference is for post graduates so it was a great that they got to attend as undergraduates. They were not invited to the event but Grace Heller thought it was good that they took the initiative. Gallegos stated that they were at the conference from November 10 to November 13. Gallegos stated that the justifications were straightforward; they were presenting their research, networking and increasing their desirability in terms of applying to graduate schools. Gallegos stated that Taylor spent \$667.13 total and she did not request any per diem. Beane spent \$652.

Gallegos stated that the two had different registration costs, so it must have been because one was already a member of the Society for Neuroscience, so their registration was cheaper. Gallegos stated both applicants are individual applicants and are representing Western at the conference. In terms of academic/educational value, all strongly agree. For positive change, there is overall agreement. For visible impact, Gallegos strongly agreed because it is unusual for undergraduates to attend the event. There is overall agreement in terms of visible impact. For personal development, there is overall agreement. For professional development, there is overall agreement. Gallegos stated that the consensus is that they can approve these two applicants. Gallegos stated that a range between \$200 and \$400 would be justified here. Heller stated that she would be more comfortable with \$200 to \$300. Chris Sowers agreed with that range. Heller added that she thought the two applicants should receive the same amount of funding

especially because they are asking for similar amounts. Gallegos stated that funding their lodging and registration would be around \$260 and would be a good amount in this case. Heller stated that she would be fine with \$260 and not specify that it be only for lodging and registration. Sowers stated that \$250 would be a nice even number to grant. Gallegos stated that the \$250 would fund all of lodging and most of registration. Everyone agreed that \$250 for both is a good value.

MOTIONSEF-17-F-7By Heller

To approve \$250for Erin Taylor and Lauren Beane.

Second: Gallegos Vote: 3-0-0 Action: Passed

B. Daisuke Matsuura's Application

Gallegos stated that Daisuke Matsuura is attending the Boston Career Forum. Gallegos explained that the Boston Career Forum is a professional development workshop for Japanese-English bilingual speakers. Matsuura left on November 14, which explains why his lodging is so expensive (\$1,017). The first 3 days were not part of the forum so Gallegos does not think they should fully fund the lodging because it was not used for the career forum. He is asking for a total of \$1,780. Heller stated that if this event was just a job fair, she does not think they should fund it. Gallegos stated that Matsuura said that attending the forum would be mostly for personal development. Gallegos stated that Matsuura did not specify what kind of jobs he was looking for but the event is the largest forum for Japanese-English speakers and that it is an event where people can actually be interviewed and get jobs. Gallegos stated that Matsuura is interested in Business Management. Heller wondered if Matsuura was trying to get a job at an American company or a Japanese company. Gallegos stated that he was interesting in getting a job at a Japanese company unless an American company has a Japanese emphasis. Sowers wondered why he would have to go all the way to Boston for networking with these companies. Sowers added that Western has some strong academic ties with Japan. Heller stated that through the application, it does not seem that it relates to Western or other people. Sowers added that since Matsuura is looking for a Japanese company, Sowers does not see it being very applicable to other Western students and it is very expensive. Gallegos stated that he agrees with Heller and Sower's opinions. Gallegos noted that Western has business career fairs available to all students that are free. Going through the rubric, Gallegos stated that the applicant is an individual and barely qualifies that he would represent Western at the event. Heller stated that Matsuura is unintentionally representing Western at the event. In terms of academic/educational value, there is overall disagreement because Matsuura is solely going to the event looking for a job. For positive change to student communities, there is overall neutral to disagreement. Heller stated that she is neutral because there is a possibility that he could bring the information back to other students. For visible impact to Western, there is overall disagreement. For personal development, there is overall agreement. For professional development, there is overall agreement. Sowers stated that he is neutral for professional development because when going into a career fair looking for a job, you should already be prepared; it is not a good time to develop professionally. Gallegos stated that Matsuura barely passed the requirements to receive funding with agreement only in regards to personal development. Gallegos wondered if anyone wanted to provide any funding to Matsuura. Sowers stated that he would not feel comfortable funding the full amount in any of the categories besides the bus fee. Heller stated that they have only funding up to \$400 so far and all the other applicants had stronger applications than Matsuura. Sowers stated that in essence, this individual is looking for a job and it seems like they want the SEF

to pay for that. Sowers thought that if there is only personal development, he is not comfortable funding them. Sowers stated that if this were something very applicable to the student body, he would be more comfortable. Heller stated that she does not want to get into the habit of funding something like this. Gallegos stated that it seems that they want to deny funding.

MOTION SEF-17-F-8 By Gallegos

To deny Daisuke Matsuura's SEFrequest.

Second: Heller Vote: 3-0-0 Action: Passed

C. Jo Ann Årinder's Application

Gallegos stated that Jo Ann Årinder attended her event without SEF funding because SEF committee was not set up yet. Årinder is hoping to get a reimbursement but she did not take out any loans to attend the event. Gallegos stated that Årinder expressed that it would be financially straining but going to the event would be worth it. In her justification, Årinder stated that attending the CATESOL conference would be very beneficial in her education of TESOL (her graduate program). In addition, it would help her organize the WRRCEA conference, which is taking place at Western this year. Heller noted that Årinder presented at the conference. Gallegos stated that the Western graduate school granted a Ross Travel Grant to Årinder and funded her \$200.40 but she is still requesting \$880.11 and is requesting per diem. Sowers stated that he really supports TESOL coming from a language department. Heller stated that it is impressive that she is helping organize a conference. Going through the rubric, Gallegos stated that the applicant is an individual applicant and represented Western at the event. For academic/educational impact, there is overall agreement. For positive change to student communities, there is overall agreement. For visible impact, there is overall agreement. For personal development, there is overall agreement. For professional development, there is overall agreement. Gallegos stated that it seems like Arinder's application has strong favor for funding from the committee. Heller stated that she thinks this is the best application they have seen so far. Gallegos agreed because most do not have a set plan on how they are bringing the information back to Western. Gallegos stated that he would feel comfortable funding \$400-\$600. Heller stated she thought \$450 would be a reasonable value considering that this application was better than all the ones they have seen thus far. Sowers would be comfortable between \$400 and \$500. Everyone agreed that \$450 would be a good and reasonable value to grant Årinder.

MOTION SEF-17-F-9 By Gallegos

To approve \$450 in reimbursement for Jo Ann Årinder.

Second: Heller Vote: 3-0-0 Action: Passed

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

IV. ACTION ITEMS

V. ADJOURN

Gallegos adjourned the meeting at 10:45pm.