

Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Fall 2016

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IRA Funds Request for Mathematics Undergraduate Senior Seminar

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Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Summary

Project Sponsor	Selenne Banuelos
Activity Title	Mathematics Undergraduate Senior Seminar
Activity/Event Date	Mondays, 4:30-5:20pm, during Math 499 (unless there is a change in course schedule) for both the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters.
Date Funding Needed By	August 2016
Previously Funded?	Yes
Semester/Year	Fall 2014, Spring 2015, AY 15-16
Proposal #	180, 691, 719
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity?	Yes
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity	IRAReportSpring2015.pdf
Additional Report #1	—
Additional Report #2	—
Additional Report #3	—
Additional Proposers	Dr. Ivona Grzegorzczak
Academic Program(s) / Center Name(s)	Mathematics Program
Estimated total Course Fee revenue	1,000
Amount Requested from IRA	6,000
Estimated Number of Students Participating	600, counting repeated participation; average attendance ranges 20-30 with highs near 100
Conditions and Considerations	Artist/Performer/Speaker Fees & Honoraria, IT Requirements, Space/Facilities Services Requirements
Brief Activity Description	"Mathematics Undergraduate Senior Seminar" consists of weekly series of invited lectures on contemporary mathematics and applications of mathematics to other areas of study and life. Presenters include CI students and faculty as well as a large number of invited speakers per year. We invite speakers who have chosen mathematics as an educational discipline and have made practical use of that education. Speakers have shared their work with mathematics education, mathematics research, and interdisciplinary applications of mathematics. In past semesters, presentation topics have included topics as diverse as the Higgs Boson at CERN, a discussion of the origins and significance of projective geometry and great exercises to do in middle school math classes, Dean Gary Sayed from CSUDH spoke to our students about Pathways to Careers in the Medical and Health Professions etc. Seminars are publicized and open to the entire campus and to the local community. Typically between 20 and 30 students participate in each seminar (with highs near 100), which translates to roughly 300 students each semester; faculty and community participants typically attend as well. We request funds to be able to cover costs (lodging, travel, etc.) and pay honoraria to our invited speakers during the 2016-2017 Academic Year.
Learning Outcomes and Relation to IRA to Course Offerings	Students enrolled in MATH 499 are the primary beneficiaries of these funds, as they alone are required to attend the weekly seminars. However, all CI students are invited to attend. Students with an interest in mathematics and in the applications of mathematics to other fields (e.g. to other sciences, including social sciences) attend as interest dictates. Many instructors provide extra credit for students that attend. In addition, students in MATH 492, MATH 497, UNIV 498, and LS 492 attend and even give presentations at some seminars. In particular, we use the seminar for capstone presentations, which typically occur in the last 1 to 3 weeks of the semester.
Description of Assessment Process	The Mathematics Undergraduate Senior seminar uses attendance at seminars and student evaluations for Math 499, Math 492, Math 497, and UNIV 498 to determine whether the program has attained its educational goals. We also use the feedback obtained from distinguished presenters to assess whether we have been good hosts.
Activity Budget	iraregularbudget_MathSeminar_AY1617.xlsx
CIA Budget	—
CIA Proposal	—
Course Syllabus	—
CIA Certification	—
Other Sources of Funding	Each semester some CI faculty donate their time and effort by giving a seminar presentation (However, it is neither possible nor desirable for only CI faculty to present at the Mathematics Seminar.) CI faculty also conduct the behind-the-scenes work of making the arrangements necessary to provide for a positive experience for our distinguished visitors. CI faculty often buy speakers' dinners out of their own pockets. Students also volunteer to provide refreshments. Other institutions and associations (e.g. UCSB, CLU, the Southern California-Nevada Section of the Mathematical Association of America) engage in cost-sharing (particularly travel costs) when we share speakers who make one trip to Southern California to speak at multiple events.
Target	Students registered in Math 499 are required to attend. We advertise the talks throughout campus to all CI students and staff, however our target

Audience/Student Marketing	audience is students with an interest in mathematics and in the applications of mathematics to other fields. We have organized the seminar so that the students registered in Math 499 are entrusted with the responsibilities of hosting a speaker. The students are organized into eight groups, each with its own responsibilities. For example: Contact & Confirm Team, Thank You Letter Team, Set up Team, Parking Permit Team, and Advertisement Team. The advertisement group is in charge of making flyers, posting them in the math department, library, student union, etc., sending an email out to everyone in the computer science, mathematics and applied physics programs, and sending a flyer to David Daniels to be posted in the IRA Facebook page. The management group and I make sure this job is done days before the talk. We also make flyers to advertise to other campuses when appropriate. For example, during the Transfer Summit in late February 2015, flyers were handed out to neighboring city colleges so that students, who were considering transfer to CI, could learn about the "Si Se Puede" event we organized in April 2015.
Bring Benefit to Campus	—
Sustainability	Many times, in teaching the more traditional mathematics courses, we as instructors find it difficult to set time in our teaching for the applications of the particular course while still covering all the core material that students need moving forward. I feel that this is where some students lose interest in mathematics – they need to see the application, the connection to the real world. The Mathematics Undergraduate Senior Seminar offers that. Students are able to see what people are doing with mathematics, as researchers, instructors, or professionals in industry. Our goal is for students to become interested in research so that they may attempt it themselves. Moreover, the seminar is an excellent example of a CI course that embodies the Integrative Studies Pillar.
Program Chair/Director	geoffrey.buhl
Dean	karen.carey
Acknowledgement	I acknowledge that I have reviewed and accepted the Conditions and Considerations herein. Please check off boxes as appropriate.

Program Chair/Director Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	Geoffrey Buhl
Date/Time	2/29/2016 1:36:53 PM
Validation	myCI-signin-TW-0276
Comments	I strongly recommend fully funding this proposal. The Mathematics seminar is a key component of our departmental culture of inquiry. It is the primary mechanism by which students experience the variety of opportunities that a mathematics degree affords them.

Dean Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	Karen Carey
Date/Time	2/29/2016 1:39:31 PM
Validation	myCI-signin-ND-2185
Comments	—

IRA Committee Decision

Decision	—
Comments	—

Current Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Assigned To
IRA Committee Decision	2/29/2016 1:39:31 PM	David Daniels

Completed Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Time Completed	Completed By
Review from karen.carey, Dean	2/29/2016 1:36:53 PM	2/29/2016 1:39:31 PM	Karen Carey
Review from geoffrey.buhl, Program Chair/Director	2/29/2016 1:19:26 PM	2/29/2016 1:36:53 PM	Geoffrey Buhl
Fill out Request	2/29/2016 1:07:24 PM	2/29/2016 1:19:26 PM	Sellenne Banuelos

Actions

- [IRA Committee Decision](#)
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