Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Spring 2017

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IRA Funds Request for Field Trip to Cal Tech Seminar Series

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Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Summary

Project Sponsor	Brian Thoms
Activity Title	Field Trip to Cal Tech Seminar Series
Activity/Event Date	04/21/2017
Date Funding Needed By	02/21/2017
Previously Funded?	No
Semester/Year	—
Proposal #	—
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity?	—
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity	—
Additional Report #1	—
Additional Report #2	—
Additional Report #3	—
Additional Proposers	—
Academic Program(s) / Center Name(s)	Computer Science
Estimated total Course Fee revenue	n/a
Amount Requested from IRA	2500
Estimated Number of Students Participating	20
Conditions and Considerations	Field Trip
Brief Activity Description	It is easy to forget, or possibly difficult to fathom, that every search query we perform on Google is equivalent to turning on a 60W light bulb for 17 seconds. Therefore the future of how data is stored and accessed is important for us all. Thus, this field-trip will help shine the spotlight on cloud data (i.e. Google, Facebook, Dropbox, etc) and the impact it has on our existing resources. With support from IRA funding, I would like to take a group of CI students to attend Dr. Adam Wierman's presentation, "How Clean is the Cloud." The field trip will provide students the opportunity to tour the Cal Tech campus, which consists of unique academic buildings and high-tech labs, as well as attend Dr. Wierman's presentation, which is a part of the Earnest C. Watson Lecture Series. Earnest C. Watson lectures feature speakers from Caltech and JPL, speaking on their cutting-edge research and are open to the public. In his talk, Dr. Wierman will describe ongoing research at Caltech aimed at building sustainable computing infrastructure, where data centers are powered by renewable energy and even serve as virtual energy-storage facilities for more broadly integrating renewable energy into the electrical grid. Dr. Wierman is a Professor in the Department of Computing and Mathematical Sciences at the California Institute of Technology.
Learning Outcomes and Relation to IRA to Course Offerings	This activity is directly related to numerous CI initiatives surrounding the promotion of green technologies and renewable energy in addition to being related to CI courses in computer science, including two cross-listed courses: 1. COMP / COMM / SOC 342 Internet-based Social Networks 2. COMP / IT 429 – Computer Networks 3. COMP 447 - Societal Issues in Computing Show Details for Open Courses Only Regarding specific courses, I hope to invite students from COMP / COMM / SOC 342 to attend this event and reflect, using Twitter and blogging, on the impact of social media data storage within cloud platforms. I am also hopeful that students in COMP / IT 429, a course I don't currently teach, will be able to bring back to their class a wealth of insightful information.
Description of Assessment Process	Students participating in this event will be required to submit a personal reflection on the current trends and future of cloud computing, as discussed during the seminar. Students will submit this reflection for grading using the course blogging tool and will integrate concepts discussed in COMP 342. Additionally, all students in COMP 342, regardless of their participation in the field trip, will have the opportunity to provide feedback to their classmates across these reflections.
Activity Budget	IRABudgetFormCalTechTrip.xlsx
CIA Budget	—
CIA Proposal	—
Course Syllabus	—
CIA Certification	—

Other Sources of Funding	Currently, there are no other sources of funding.
Target Audience/Student Marketing	The current intended audience will be students taking COMP 342, which is cross-listed with communication and sociology. Additionally, I hope to open this trip up to all computer science students, specifically those students taking COMP / IT 429. As the content manager for the Computer Science Dept. website, I will market the field trip on our homepage. I will also work with instructors for COMP / IT 429 as well as advertise the trip in my courses as well.
Bring Benefit to Campus	As the content manager for the Computer Science Dept. website, and as I have done for previous trips, I will provide an update on our department homepage, which will provide an in-depth review of the trip and the benefits it provided CI students. Our department website is a dynamic space with a running history of field trips and projects for CI and the public to view.
Sustainability	The purpose of this field trip is to attend a lecture on the sustainability of cloud infrastructures, therefore I guess you can consider this a meta-sustainability field trip. I also hope to purchase used textbooks on sustainability, which will provide students with a good resource on sustainability across numerous projects, not just information technology.
Program Chair/Director	michael.soltys
Dean	james.meriwether
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	Michael Soltys
Date/Time	9/30/2016 8:53:38 AM
Validation	myCI-signin-6K-7147
Comments	—

Dean Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	James Meriwether
Date/Time	9/30/2016 9:44:19 AM
Validation	myCI-signin-0S-7257
Comments	—

IRA Committee Decision

Decision	—
Comments	—

Current Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Assigned To
IRA Committee Decision	9/30/2016 9:44:19 AM	David Daniels

Completed Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Time Completed	Completed By
Review from james.meriwether, Dean	9/30/2016 8:53:38 AM	9/30/2016 9:44:19 AM	James Meriwether
Review from michael.soltys, Program Chair/Director	9/29/2016 9:18:45 PM	9/30/2016 8:53:38 AM	Michael Soltys
Fill out Request	9/29/2016 11:18:41 AM	9/29/2016 9:18:45 PM	Brian Thoms

Actions

- IRA Committee Decision
- View IRA Funds Request