

IRA Committee Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2015; 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
Bell Tower West Conference Room 1188

Members Present: Simone Aloisio, Paul Murphy, James Forrester, Dan Wakelee, Sara Sanders, Kristina Cervi, Vanessa Mendoza, Michael Ullerick

Staff Present: David Daniels

Meeting called to order at 8:05am

Approval of Agenda

K. Cervi moved to approve agenda, J. Forrester seconds; agenda is approved.

Approval of Minutes of March 3rd and February 24th, 2015

Motion by J. Forrester, second by K. Cervi, who noted spelling error on 3/3/15 version, which D. Daniels will correct before posting to website; 3/3/15 and 2/24/15 meeting minutes are approved.

Public Forum

D. Daniels recalled info sent via email about the two additional applications received (#725 & #726) and the later AVP approval for #727;

S. Sanders relayed information received from sponsor of 675 (Prof. Kee-Rose), who is making committee aware of a change in locale for her trip, resulting in less IRA funds needed (approx. \$2,000);

D. Wakelee informed committee that he will also lower his IRA amount requested, by approximately \$5,000, due to not needing to pay a separate fee for an onsite educational program.

Old Business:

Island Fox Emergency Funding Request

S. Sanders recalled the committee approval of this emergency funds request, will draft a letter to proposal sponsor with notes / recommendations on how to avoid similar situations in the future.

CERN Proposal

S. Aloisio asked what the requested amount is – answer \$6,000; S. Aloisio suggested that we address just the airfare, being that is the most urgent need; P. Murphy recalled that they said they had reservations for rooms, does this mean they are paid for? D. Wakelee noted that they have \$4,000 in lottery funds; P. Murphy asked if \$6,000 is in addition to the \$4K, answer Yes;

K. Cervi asked D. Daniels if with the additional applications we are over budget by \$10,000 – answer yes, if we fund all proposals for Fall-15;

P. Murphy discussed with S. Aloisio if we only awarded airfare last time for CERN;

D. Daniels was asked if CERN submitted a post-activity report – answer, none that could be recalled, checked files and website and did not locate one;

D. Wakelee suggested that if it is the committee's decision to fund this, it could be under the condition that we receive such a report;

V. Mendoza asked if CERN would need to have answer before the rest of proposals – answered Yes by S. Sanders;

K. Cervi suggested that we could recommend they receive \$3,000, reflective of current airfare rates, in order to cover airfare; K. Cervi moved to recommend \$3,000, second by S. Aloisio; D. Wakelee asked committee to clarify if within motion we are asking for a post-activity report; committee agreed with this, voted all in favor of granting \$3,000.

New Business:

Categorization of Spring 2015 Proposals

Committee agreed to categorize Sustainability at CI and Campus Reading Celebration into Category-III; K. Cervi, S. Aloisio and P. Murphy discussed the merits of starting with potential Category III's first, then moving to Cat-II and Cat-I.

Review of Category III Proposals

Committee members will review all applications ahead of next meeting, potentially using the time over spring break.

Letter from Sponsor of UNIV 392 Trip to China

Referencing letter from Prof. Corbett, S. Aloisio recalled speaking with this student, but leaning towards not funding for a second trip; applauds that at least this student is asking and not attempting to sneak onto the trip; K. Cervi torn, letter was very supportive, and if Ms. Ly is really going to bring a lot to the trip, that could be a compelling argument in favor;

S. Sanders would like to ask Prof. Corbett if he has the extra seat on the trip for her; J. Forrester clarified that her seat would meet the target number of 15 students;

P. Murphy asked S. Aloisio what his impression of her was, said was excellent and highly motivated, showed photo / presentation book that she made on her own;

V. Mendoza asked if there's a system to know which students have attended UNIV 392 previously – answer by D. Wakelee that yes, there is a query for this;

J. Forrester leaning toward saying no due to precedent of not allowing multiple trips, regardless of positive contributions; S. Aloisio clarified that we wouldn't keep her from attending trip, but that we would be voting on not contributing IRA funds for her attendance;

S. Aloisio moves to not approve this, second by K. Cervi, who also suggested that if not funded then the committee send her a letter 1) noting Ms. Ly's academic achievements, 2) personalize our decision, and 3) highlighting our policy of only allowing one UNIV 392 trip;

Committee voted 5-2 in favor of denying IRA funding for Ms. Ly's attendance.

Other Business

D. Wakelee: in the coming years there will be increasing pressure to move away from this type of funding; feedback received from Cabinet generally says that this benefits a small percentage of campus;

P. Murphy commented that we should be aware of some requests for funding going through as approved that may be in conflict with other denial decisions;

K. Cervi requested that we set up spreadsheet as a shared Google document – S.

Sanders agreed and will be setting this format up, along with category markers for all applications.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42am