Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Fall 2017

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IRA Funds Request for ACMIntercollegiate Programming Contest

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Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Summary

Project Sponsor	Brian Thoms
Activity Title	ACMIntercollegiate Programming Contest
Activity/Event Date	11/11/2017
Date Funding Needed By	09/15/2017
Previously Funded?	Yes
Semester/Year	Fall/2016
Proposal #	806
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity?	Yes
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity	irareportform806.docx
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	4150
Estimated Number of Students Participating	15
Conditions and Considerations	Field Trip
Brief Activity Description	ICPC is categorized as a multi-tier, team-based, programming competition and involves a global network of universities hosting regional competitions that advance teams to the ACM-ICPC World Finals. Since it began in 1970, the contest has grown to include tens of thousands of students and faculty in computing disciplines from over 2,000 universities from over 91 countries. The contest fosters creativity, teamwork, and innovation in building software programs, and challenges students' ability to perform within a competitive environment.

The competition involves teams of three students, sharing one computer and trying to solve 10 highly challenging programming problems within a five hour time-window. Many teams practice well in advance of the competition, honing up on mathematical algorithms and practicing software programming techniques. These activities not only strengthen their programming skills but also enhance project-based skills such as teamwork and collaboration.

Each year, CI competes in the Southern California Regional, which takes place at Riverside Community College. AT RCC, students compete against peers from local institutions including, but not limited to UCLA, UCSD, UCSB, USC, Cal Tech, Harvey Mudd and CSULB. In 2016, CI students bested their 2015 performance and each participating team managed to solve at least one challenging computer programming problem with one team finishing in the top 15. A new school record!

CI students (and faculty) look forward to this event every year and strive to continue a tradition of strong performances. |
| Learning Outcomes and Relation to IRA to Course Offerings | Computer programming is a fundamental skill that is taught in numerous Computer Science and Information Technology courses. At the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC), students are able to showcase their skills learned in the classroom, in a challenging real-world, competitive setting. As such, the following courses are aligned with this activity:

COMP105 Introduction to Computer Science and Programming,
COMP150 Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming,
COMP151 Algorithms and Data Structures,
COMP232 Programming Languages,
COMP350 Software Engineering,
COMP351 Distributed Computing,
COMP450 Advanced Object-Oriented Programming.

Additionally, software engineering is becoming increasingly collaborative and participation in the ICPC allows groups of students to work in teams of three to try and solve six highly challenging programming problems within a five hour time-window. Many teams practice well in advance of the competition, honing up on mathematical algorithms and practicing software programming techniques. These activities not only strengthen their programming skills but also enhance project-based skills such as teamwork and collaboration. Lastly, in the weeks leading up to the competition, teams practice and prepare with the support of their contest coach, Dr. Thoms, and co-coach Nick Stern, who will hold contest study sessions and distribute practice problem sets and educational material. |
| Description of Assessment Process | While the final placement of our teams at the competition is not a good metric for measuring the success of the activity, CI should be proud of their achievements in past events and use these results as a baseline for future accomplishments.

In the 2016 contest, each participating team managed to solve at least one challenging computer programming problem, which is a result CI can be proud of. Additionally, student feedback will play an important role in helping to identify various successes and failures of the activity. |
Activity Budget	travelbudget030316.xlsx
CIA Budget	—
CIA Proposal	—
Course Syllabus	—
CIA Certification	—
Other Sources of Funding	Currently, we are in the process of starting a Competitive Programming Club with the hopes that this activity will be sustained by club funds.

However, until then, IRA funds are the only mechanism to successfully transport students to and from the competition site in Riverside, CA and should IRA funding not be available, CI's participation in this event will be in jeopardy. |
| Target Audience/Student Marketing | The intended audience will be students majoring or minoring in computer science and information technology, but the event is open to all students with an aptitude for computer programming. In the past, the event has been marketed by Computer Science Faculty, the Computer Science Club, the Women in Computing Club and the Computer Science Listserv. |

Bring Benefit to Campus	The results of the competition are well publicized by student clubs and faculty.
	Additionally, ACM provides results online: http://www.socalcontest.org/current/index.shtml.
	Finally, each year, I send out an email update and include a blog post on the department's website. Last year's results can be found here: http://compsci.csuci.edu//about/news-and-events/acm-programming-results2016.
Sustainability	Carpooling students to the event is important. Additionally, educational materials purchased are made available to future event participants.
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	3/3/2017 8:57:49 AM
Validation	myCI-signin-XY-3796
Comments	CS team's, under the leadership of Brian Thoms, have had success each year they participated, and they do better each year they participate. I recommend this proposal VERY strongly.

Dean Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	James Meriwether
Date/Time	3/6/2017 9:35:20 PM
Validation	myCI-signin-MK-9158
Comments	As with other proposals, it's unclear to me that buying CI clothing fits in the IRA guidelines. If it does, it certainly does not seem a funding priority.

IRA Committee Decision

Decision	—
Comments	—

Current Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Assigned To
IRA Committee Decision	3/6/2017 9:35:20 PM	David Daniels

Completed Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Time Completed	Completed By
Review from james.meriwether, Dean	3/3/2017 8:57:49 AM	3/6/2017 9:35:20 PM	James Meriwether
Review from michael.soltys, Program Chair/Director	3/3/2017 8:49:44 AM	3/3/2017 8:57:49 AM	Michael Soltys
Fill out Request	3/3/2017 8:23:52 AM	3/3/2017 8:49:44 AM	Brian Thoms

Actions

- IRA Committee Decision
- View IRA Funds Request