

Executive Report

From the Office of the Vice President of Internal Affairs, Jordan Hughes

Date: February 13, 2016

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

1. Monthly travel grant deadlines on the first!
2. Decisions for 2/17 deadlines distributed this month

Action Items for Assembly Members

1. Please continue to spread the word that the travel grant deadline change from the 7th to the **FIRST!** This is for Individual and Group Travel.

Accomplishments since previous meeting

1. We awarded Internship, Interview, Jumpstart and Athletics Grants (our 2/17 deadlines).
2. Pauline and I met with Safali Evans (EOSS) about concerns regarding Athletics Research Grant. Concerns centered on lack of support from undergraduate leadership, EOSS leadership, and Athletics. Our feedback will be reflected in the new parameters of the program next year. There will likely be a designated USG Exec Member assigned to managing the grant's promotion to undergrads.
3. Decisions were distributed for the travel/research grant programs as follows:

Athletics Research Grant Data:

- Awarded all 13 applicants (13/13)
- We will have leftover funds (only awarding about \$30K of \$50K) so we will be funneling the funds into a Fall 2016 Athletics Research Grant Program

Jumpstart Data

- Awarded **25/50** applicants
- Really good scores this semester! Wish we had more funding to award here :/

Interview Travel Grant Data

- 35 applicants but only 18 were eligible
- Awarded **7/18** that were eligible
- Lots of people did not follow rules (put their names in their CV-> disqualification)

Internship Travel Grant Data

- Only awarded 1 applicant* 😞
- There is consensus among the IA committee to make recommendations to change the parameters of this program next year (see below for more details)
- The remaining funds will be put towards higher-demand programs (individual and group travel)

*all other applicants applied for internships that did not fall in the parameters (e.g. weren't required or were in the summer, etc.)

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Individual Travel Grant Data

- 158 applicants; 137 eligible
- **85** awarded
- Largest month EVER 😊

Group Travel Grant Data

- 10 groups; 9 eligible
- **6 groups** awarded partial funds
- Very limited budget here this year

*SECRET WORD FOR PRIZE: BEYONCE!

Planned accomplishments by next meeting

1. Continued progress on transition documents for incoming VP IA
2. Recommendations on IA Programs in the future
3. Spreadsheet reconciliation for all travel and research grant programs

Committee Report (3/3/16 Meeting)

Accomplishments since previous meeting

Our third committee meeting of the semester was on Thursday, 3/3/16, 6-7:30 PM in the Tempe GSC. Below are the items we discussed.

1. Discussed proposed modifications to IA programs, mainly concerns about Internship, Athletics, and Interview. Suggestions were to have interview run in the summer; to have internship be eligible for out-of-state travel and non-required internships as well; and for Athletics to be more open in terms of research discipline, as well as more support from EOSS, Athletics and USG.
2. Discussed concerns about low funds for group travel, as we've used almost all of it. Group travel is VERY unpredictable to forecast. Decision was that Internship and Interview leftover funds (approximately \$20K) will be used for the group travel program pending demand. Note that although we look at travel grants as line items, it is actually all one big travel budget so the funds are actually fluid within travel.
3. Discussed proposed ideas to review group and individual travel together in 2016-2017. Pros: everyone is held to the same scoring standard; easier for budget. Cons: Should groups be held to a higher standard? Is it "easier" for them to get funding since one person is applying for a large amount of \$ on behalf of others who may not be putting in the application work?
4. Team will be compiling a list of recommendations for next year's team

Planned accomplishments by next meeting

1. Continued progress on document that outlines proposed changes to Travel and Research Grant Programs for 2016-2017