

Example 1: PDG Application, Spring 2014

Art Student

Proposal

The Society for Photographic Education (SPE) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering photographic education. The organization has been around for more than 50 years and continues to be the largest and most influential photographic group in the world of fine art academia. The annual conference is a culmination of lectures, demos, panels and exhibitions that educate and provide career opportunities to students. UNM's graduate program in photography is the top ranked public graduate program in the nation. It is imperative that we continue to represent such a highly ranked program at the largest national conference dedicated to what we do best; educate and inspire through the photographic lens.

I am a first-year graduate student in Art (Photography) working towards my MFA. I am an ideal candidate to represent UNM at the SPE national conference this year. I was the only graduate student from UNM to attend the regional conference this past October. Now I am asking for your help to make it to the national conference in Baltimore, Maryland this March. I have many goals for attending the conference; including attending lectures, seminars, exhibitions, participating in a portfolio review, networking, meeting with professors, meeting with the director of Anderson Ranch and interviewing for an assistantship with Maine Media Workshops. In the following sections I will outline these important academic contributions in more detail.

I will attend lectures from Joan Fontcuberta, Ana Samoylova, Rebecca Hackemann and John Garrison to name a few. These are important artists and educators whose work is influential to the technical and conceptual areas that I work with. For example, John Garrison explores the conditions of truth in the visual world and Rebecca Hackemann will discuss alternative photographic applications like 3-D photography that fade in and out in the art world and are often deemed as gimmicks. As an artist who deals with truthful subjects with alternative, potentially "gimmicky" technical applications such as Lenticular (3D) prints, attending these lectures are crucial. I do not have peers who are working within similar realms so these discussions will give me insight into the current contemporary dialog happening within these topics that I will not find elsewhere.

I will attend seminars that cover the most important aspects of my field. I am a visual artist in an ever-changing technical field. I have the responsibility to educate myself as the technology evolves and to maintain awareness of overarching fields like video and web media. I will attend three seminars; Command-P, Digital Color Management and Teaching Video Production in a Still Photo Program. While I learned photography in the darkroom, the students I teach at UNM are learning entirely with digital mediums. These seminars will help me teach undergraduate students at UNM with a higher proficiency and so my attendance benefits myself and our academic community at large.

Another critical component of attending the conference is portfolio reviews. On Friday I will have three 20-minute reviews with professionals in the fine art community. I will meet with curators and working artists and gain feedback to push my work forward. Sharing my work with such important figures is one of the greatest learning and networking opportunities at SPE. I will also meet with the director of Anderson Ranch to discuss a scholarship to their program. During

the conference, I will network with professionals and expand my career opportunities. Once such opportunity will be interviewing with the Maine Media Workshop's director for their summer studio assistantship.

As I have outlined, the SPE conference will benefit myself and my community in many ways. By attending lectures and panels, I will walk away with a different perspective and continued understanding of contemporary dialogues in photography. By attending the seminars for educators, I will learn from others what approaches are successful in the classroom and I can integrate that into my own classroom at UNM. By participating in the portfolio review I will gain fresh feedback on my work. Interviews that I have scheduled during the conference also offer direct career opportunities by gaining a scholarship and summer internship. I will bring back to my community and UNM, this newly gained knowledge to reflect on our growth as we navigate new territories in the photographic arts.

Budget

Budget Item	Description	Amount	Funded by PDG	Other Sources of Funding	Other Sources
Delta Airlines Flight	Flight from ABQ to Baltimore. Cheapest flight on Skyscanner.com	\$173	\$173	None but has been requested.	\$0
Southwest Airlines Flight	Flight from Baltimore to ABQ. Cheapest flight on skyscanner.com	\$200	\$200	None but has been requested.	\$0
Lodging at Holiday Inn	Cheapest hotel a few blocks away from the conference (which is held at hilton) Total cost is \$688.40 and I am splitting the cost with another student	\$344	\$127	Splitting Hotel cost with another student. Requesting CFA departmental funding for remainder of amount, otherwise out of pocket expense.	\$217
Conference Ticket	member Student Rate	\$145	\$0	Requesting departmental funding, otherwise out of pocket expense.	\$145
Meals Per Diem, Wed. evening- Sun. evening	http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/100120 http://ua.unm.edu/travel/meal-per-diem.html	\$284	\$0	Requesting departmental funding, otherwise out of pocket expense.	\$284
Shuttle to/from Baltimore airport.	supershuttle.com	\$34	\$0	Requesting departmental funding, otherwise out of pocket expense.	\$34
Baggage fees	Transport of portfolio	\$25	\$0	"	\$25

Further Budget Explanation

In November, 2013 I applied for a \$500 grant to the SPE National branch for a Travel Grant to attend the conference. This is a very competitive grant with few spots and I was not accepted. I also applied for a \$500 Imaging Awards grant but there is only one available grant for the country and I was not accepted.

Example 2: Successful PDG Application, Spring 2014

Anthropology Student

Proposal

Activity details:

I am a third year PhD student in the Anthropology department. I'm preparing to defend my dissertation proposal this summer and am seeking to expand my committee to include collaborators from outside UNM. The reason I want to do this is twofold; first, I want to employ data analysis techniques in my dissertation which my committee at UNM do not specialize in, and second, I am hoping to increase the interdisciplinary appeal of my research by collaborating with researchers who specialize in other fields. A perfect opportunity to make connections with potential collaborators will be the Human Biology Council's annual meeting this April in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Specifically I am making arrangements to meet with Dr. Eموke J.E. Szathmary of the University of Manitoba. In addition to Dr. Szathmary, there will be other researchers from across the disciplines of anthropology, biology, life sciences, medical sciences, statistics, and mathematics present at this conference. I hope to forge lasting professional connections that will serve me immediately as I complete my dissertation at UNM, and in the future as I apply for postdoctoral positions. Below I will outline why this conference is so well suited for my professional development.

Academic and Professional Interests:

I study how the evolutionary histories of groups of humans have created global disparities in disease (here "groups" refers to ancestral lineages: i.e. individuals with Asian ancestry constitute a biological group for the purpose of this study. Groups are not to be confused with races). Much research has been done to discern environmental, social, cultural, and economic differences between groups of humans that lead to varying susceptibility to disease. However, what is not known is whether or not there are genetic differences between groups that could result in different susceptibility or causes of complex diseases such as diabetes and heart disease. For example, it is well known in the medical community that individuals from Pacific Island nations have higher incidence rates of Diabetes compared to individuals with ancestry from Europe. Knowing whether or not this prevalence difference is due to genes or environment (here "environment" refers to diet, physical activity, climate, social practices, etc.) will help clinicians develop more personalized medicine. I use computer modeling techniques to determine where we could expect to see specific disease variants. The findings of my theoretical research are then useful to medical biologists who would do more targeted, lab-based research about specific diseases. And, in turn, their research is directly used by medical doctors working one-on-one with patients.

How does this conference fit into my academic field at large?

This conference is the most prestigious conference for researchers studying human biology to come together and workshop new data analysis techniques, present novel research, and form working collaborations between institutions.

Benefits to my professional development:

Specifically, this conference will allow me to network with Dr. Szathmary of the University of Manitoba as well as other scientists studying in related fields to my own research. I will be attending this conference with three specific goals.

- 1.) To secure an outside committee member for my dissertation.
- 2.) To discuss incorporating bayesian statistics in my dissertation (bayesian statistics is a mathematical analysis that would allow me to explain trends in genetic data that are difficult to identify otherwise. However, my advisors to not specialize in this technique, so it would be useful to discuss this with specialists at this meeting).
- 3.) To attend lectures being given by some of the leading human biologists with the hopes of expanding not only my general knowledge of these subjects, but to identify unique ways of approaching research problems in this community. This will be a great learning opportunity for me as I approach the final stage of my dissertation.

Benefits to the academic community:

Interdisciplinary and inter-institutional collaboration is, in my opinion, the future of the scientific community. I firmly believe that forming research bonds between my research group at UNM and other institutions across the country will increase productivity and help to advance the field as a whole. I am very committed to an open source mentality in the sciences that permits cross communication for the better good of the field as a whole.

Budget

Budget Item	Description	Amount	Funded by PDG	Other Sources of Funding	Other Sources
Per Diem	Per diem is listed as \$140 for the max price on aoprals.state.gov website for foreign per diem rates. I predict that I can eat for much cheaper. I am only asking for \$30 per diem.	\$120	\$0	Anthropology Department Travel Grant	\$120
Hotel	The conference hotel (Marriott) is \$100 per night. I have found a roommate from a different university to split the cost. I am asking for \$50 per night for the total of 4 nights I will be staying at this conference. That is \$200 total for lodging.	\$200	\$0	RPT grant through OGS	\$200
Flights	\$496 on US Airways according to sky scanner website is the cheapest option.	\$563	\$500	RPT grant through OGS	\$63

Example 3: PDG Application, Spring 2014

Languages, Literacy and Sociocultural Studies Student

Proposal

I am applying for the GPSA Professional Development travel grant for Spring Term 2014. I am a first year M.A. candidate in good standing in the department of Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies (LLSS), with an emphasis in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL). I am in the early stages of developing my reference list, academic perspectives, and an outline for my master's thesis, which will look at the intersection of language learning, identity, and culture, and how this impacts pedagogical practices for ESL instructors.

In order to develop my thoughts and understand identity more deeply, I attended the International Association of World Englishes conference in Tempe, AZ from November 16-18, 2013. This year's title was "World Englishes in a Multilingual World." Each year, this conference pulls together linguists, educators, researchers, and other language professionals from across the globe to critically examine English varieties, language policies and power structures within multilingual communities, teaching methods, language standards and assessment methods, as well as identity and the role language plays as we understand our sense of self. There were multiple opportunities for me to engage in the current discourse of the above topics, and the material presented at this conference was directly related to both my thesis topic and my professional development interests. Upon graduating, I will teach English in a foreign context, where English is used in different varieties, and it is pertinent for me to be aware of the embedded political, social, and cultural issues where English is used. The content of this conference has helped me understand a variety of perspectives on teaching and using English in multicultural contexts, ultimately helping me in my own pedagogical practices.

Identity is a complex and dynamic characteristic that includes understanding one's relationship to the world and how one anticipates future possibilities. In a language classroom, identity is a crucial element in the learning process because it is directly related to self-expression, and can help or hinder language development, depending on the construct of that identity and how it is reflected back to the classroom and cultural power structures. Understanding the role English varieties play as a global language requires deeply understanding the nuances of language use, language learning, the role of culture, the role of power and language policy development, and the interconnectedness of all these areas. This conference gave me both broad and narrow introductions to these connections, and has helped me hone my own thinking as I develop the specifics of my thesis topic.

Additionally, as a first-time attendee at a professional conference, I gained practical knowledge of preparing for and participating in a conference, observing best practices in presenting professional work so that I can do this in the near future. At the conference, I was introduced to many well-known scholars in my field. Furthermore, I was introduced to many book and article titles and their authors, and have been selected by TESOL International, a highly respected journal within the field in English instruction, to write a book review, a book that I learned about, purchased, and read as a direct result of attending this conference. My book review will be published in April 2014.

At the international conference, I was afforded the opportunity to meet key players in the field of sociolinguistics and TESOL, helping me network with the scholars, teachers, and graduate

students that make up this field, including professionals from UNM. These scholars were committed to helping me network and my professional contacts grew exponentially from attending this conference. My introduction to these professionals also benefits UNM as I was able to discuss the multidisciplinary nature of our LLSS program, its strengths in bilingual education, and the specifics of the M.A. TESOL track, proudly representing UNM as a viable place to study and attend conferences in the future. In addition, upon returning to UNM, I and the attendees of this conference coordinated a brown bag lunch to share the knowledge gained at this event, benefitting the overall learning community at UNM, and striving to make UNM a desirable place to study.

A GPSA Professional Development travel grant would help recover the expenses I accrued while exploring my M.A. thesis topic mentioned above.

Budget

Budget Item	Description	Amount	Funded by PDG	Other Sources of Funding	Other Sources
Food	Various restaurants	\$97.23	\$97.23	S-CAP (fall funds not available); LLSS (no funding available); OGS travel grant (application denied); PDG (fall application denied); Requested funds from conference organizers (none were available)	\$0
Lodging	Days Inn ASU, Tempe, AZ	\$191.94	\$191.94	S-CAP (fall funds not available); LLSS (no funding available); OGS travel grant (application denied); PDG (fall application denied); Requested funds from conference organizers (none were available)	\$0
Gas	Various gas stations	\$76.85	\$76.85	S-CAP (fall funds not available); LLSS (no funding available); OGS travel grant (application denied); PDG (fall application denied); Requested funds from conference organizers (none were available)	\$0
Conference Fee	International Association of World Englishes/ASU, Tempe, AZ	\$90	\$90	S-CAP (fall funds not available); LLSS (no funding available); OGS travel grant (application denied); PDG (fall application denied); Requested funds from conference organizers (none were available)	\$0

Further Budget Explanation

Prior to leaving Albuquerque, I bought groceries in order to save money and use this food for my lunches throughout the trip and time spent in Tempe. With only one exception (when I was invited out for lunch with a professor and presenter at the conference, and used this as a networking opportunity), I used all these groceries, plus the free continental breakfast provided at the hotel, to supplement my food costs and save money. Furthermore, I did not attend the \$50 banquet that was part of the conference as it seemed like a frivolous expense.

Based on my calculations at the time for flights from Albuquerque to Phoenix, adding in the costs of a rental car and/or shuttle service, it was far more economical to use my own vehicle to get myself to Tempe, AZ. Based on flight expenses alone, I was able to save a minimum of \$123 simply by using my own car (the cheapest flight I could find at that time was \$179 round trip from Priceline; two other sites, Southwest and Expedia, offered flights for over \$200). Furthermore, I carpooled with a UNM colleague to Tempe who contributed to the gas costs, so I was able to cut my gas costs in half. The above number represents only my portion of the gas costs.

The least expensive budget motel that I could find at the time that was not booked for the dates listed was Days Inn ASU Tempe, at \$63.98 per night, which was substantially cheaper than the conference endorsed hotel that was 1 block from the campus. I was able to walk to the ASU campus, saving money on public transportation or personal parking fees.

Due to my membership in the International Association of World Englishes that I pay each year, I was able to get the reduced cost of the conference (normally \$120), saving \$30 on my entry fee. For an international annual conference this is a great value. The average price for annual international conferences in the field of TESOL is \$250 (cost figured by researching the five most commonly attended conferences in the field of TESOL and averaging the early-bird registration fee for organization members).