



Idaho State
University

STUDENT TRAVEL 2023

DEAN'S EXCELLENCE FUND

Prepared by Elisabeth Curtis
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Introduction

This report outlines the Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by the College of Arts and Letters (CAL), inviting full-time undergraduate students with CAL majors to apply for travel funds. The purpose of this initiative was to facilitate student presentations across disciplines by providing financial support for their travel expenses. The funding allocated for this program had to be utilized by May 6, 2023 with all necessary paperwork completed by June 2, 2023.

The primary goal of providing funds to students was to support those who wished to present their research or creative activity at conferences, exhibits, recitals, or other relevant events. The competitive funding available through this program was expected to provide up to \$500 per student for travel-related expenses. Priority was given to presentations of original student work at such venues.

Each student's proposal for travel had to be endorsed by a faculty sponsor. Proposals were reviewed by the college leadership in accordance with the eligibility and purpose criteria mentioned above.

We hope to be able to continue this type of student support. By supporting student presentations and enabling travel for research and creative activities, we aim to enhance the educational and professional development of our undergraduate students.

Jessa Briggs, History and English

I had such a wonderful time at this conference - it was a great way to experience a history conference in a lower-risk environment (as it was a conference where only students were presenting). It also allowed me to develop deeper bonds with two of my history classmates and two of my history professors, all of whom are so supportive and amazing and have helped me grow exponentially as a historian.



Summary

CAL sent out a call for proposals through their media channels, including email, social media, their monthly newsletters, and their website as well as print media distributed around campus.



**Idaho State
University**

College of
Arts and Letters

Request for Proposals – Undergraduate Student

The College of Arts and Letters seeks proposals for travel funds from full-time undergraduate students in the college. Proposals will be accepted until funds are expended. **Funds for travel MUST be expended by May 6, 2023 and all paperwork completed by June 2, 2023.**

Purpose

Our goal is to facilitate student presentations across disciplines of the college by helping to support student travel expenses. Competitive funding is expected to be available for up to \$500 per student for research or creative activity presentations at conferences, exhibits, or recitals (or similar dissemination of research or creative activity). Priority will be given to presentations of original student work at such venues.

Eligibility

Full-time undergraduate majors in the College of Arts and Letters are eligible to apply. Travel must occur during the period of time that the student is enrolled as an undergraduate student. The proposal for student travel must be endorsed by a faculty sponsor.

What to submit

Proposals are limited to two pages, single-spaced, and must include the following:

- Identification – Please provide your name, Bengal ID, degree program (BA, BS, etc.) and major, expected date of graduation, and name of faculty sponsor.
- Destination – Provide your destination and expected travel dates.
- Purpose – What is the specific purpose of the proposed travel? Have you submitted a proposal for a conference presentation? If not, when do you expect to submit a conference proposal? When do you expect notification of acceptance for the conference presentation?
- Rationale – What is the justification for the proposed travel? How will it enhance your educational training and professional record?
- Budget – Provide an estimate of expected travel costs. Indicate what other sources of funding you have applied for (i.e., from ASISU) and amount received.

Proposals must be in Word or PDF formats and submitted as email attachments. Send proposals to Carrie Page (carriepage@isu.edu). Separately, a faculty sponsor will need to verify that they have reviewed and approved the proposal (no more than a brief paragraph is needed). Faculty sponsor approval may be sent to Carrie Page by email.

Review process

Proposals will be reviewed by the college leadership. Proposals will be evaluated according to the eligibility and purpose stated above.

Restrictions

Travel awards will be granted for the specific travel indicated in the proposal. Awards are not transferable to a different destination or different travel dates. All ISU travel guidelines must be followed. No blanket proposals are allowed. Proposals that do not include a specific destination and travel dates will be rejected.



**Idaho State
University**

College of
Arts and Letters

Summary

30 individual students were funded for a total of \$13,908. Below is list of some of the conferences attended.

30 students
funded

\$13,908
awarded

- World Social Science Association in Tempe, AZ
- Western Psychological Association in Riverside, CA
- Midwest Political Science Association Spring Convention in Chicago, IL
- Pacific University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference in Forest Grove, OR
- American Historical Association in Philadelphia, PA
- 2023 National Undergraduate Literature Conference in Ogden, UT
- Phi Alpha Theta Northwest Regional Conference in Ellensburg, WA
- 2023 National Student Advertising Competition in Spokane, WA
- Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Spokane, WA



Student Experience

Students shared the impact the experience had on them. Here are their thoughts in their own words.



Bayden Sayer, Philosophy

With the help of ISU's English and Philosophy department, I was able to present my work at one of the largest undergraduate philosophy conferences in the nation. It was the most rewarding experience that I have had in my college career and I love that I am able to have these opportunities to help me in my education.



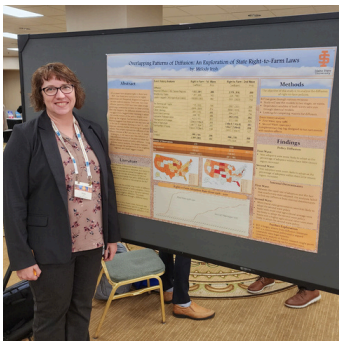
Exko Ramey, History

Traveling to and presenting at the Northwest Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference was a great experience. Thanks to Dr. Datta, Dr. Robey, Dr. MacDonald, and the College of Arts and Letters, I could present my original research and interact with so many intelligent individuals. I am so grateful for the experiences I had in Ellensburg!



Gabriel Hapke, Psychology

The conference was a very memorable experience. I am grateful to have met many wonderful people and learned a lot from people I'd typically never be fortunate to meet. Thank you again for funding my trip! Here's a picture I got with Phillip Zimbardo!



Melody Irish, History

The Fall/2022 semester project for State Politics was a diffusion study. Dr. Stoutenborough recommended that I submit my research to MPSA as part of the undergraduate poster session at their annual conference in April 2023. Going to the MPSA conference was definitely an opportunity I didn't see coming but I'm so glad that I went. It was a great learning experience for me, and it gave me the chance to really see all the different models of research that are being used and how topics can be applied to answer questions and problem solve. Receiving the CAL travel scholarship played a big part in helping me fund the trip and making it possible for me to attend. I'm very grateful for the support that I've received from my professors throughout the process and for the university for offering students a way to afford the opportunities available to them.



Student Experience

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Here are their thoughts in their own words.*



Shayla Manwill, History

Having the opportunity to go to Philadelphia and present at my work at the American Historical Association was incredible. It reaffirmed that this was the path I wanted to take in my life and is something I will never forget.



Sarah Senner, Theatre

I went to Spokane Washington for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. At this festival my knowledge of theatre was expanded immensely as I attended various workshops, observed competitions, and watched productions from various colleges. But, most importantly traveling to this festival brought me closer to my fellow theatre students at Idaho State.



Skye Fitzgerald, Theatre

KCACTF is always such a wonderful experience, and this year was especially so! Getting to go in person before I graduated without having to worry about funds allowed me to focus more on the events and my education at the conference.



Sarah DAnnella, Theatre

KCACTF was an opportunity like none other. I could have never pictured myself going to a festival like this and winning an award. This is all thanks to my professors, peers, and the college of arts and letters for believing in me.



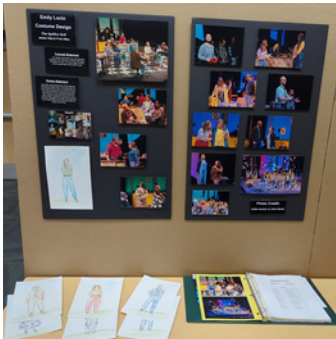
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Aurora Perley, CMP/Graphic

It's hard to put the whole experience into words. It's really intense...You're going nearly non-stop for 3 days after doing 4 months of hard work and everyone is so tired but still pushing through together. Then there's that moment after the presentations are over and you're finally done that you can really say "we did it!" That's what makes it all worth it in the end...and getting first place didn't hurt either.



Emily Lucio, Theatre

I really needed to see what's past Pocatello Idaho to know how I can grow in my craft. The trip to Spokane was exciting and through the ups and downs, it was an amazing opportunity and I can't wait to keep sharing my art with friends and other students.



Tanner Pratt, English

Representing ISU at the National Undergraduate Literature Conference was a stellar experience! Besides presenting my paper on Julian of Norwich, meeting Louise Glück was undoubtedly the highlight of the trip.



Michelle Ludlow, Theatre

I really enjoyed my time at KCACTF. This picture is from the awards ceremony with my wonderful friends. It was amazing winning an award for my drafting for my lighting design work. I learned a lot from the workshops that were offered. I'm very grateful that I took the opportunity to go.



Student Experience

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Emma Watts, Political Science

I was able to attend the World Social Science Association Conference in Tempe, AZ (April 13-15th) with my friend Natalie and Dr. Iris Buder. Here, we presented research on the impact of COVID-19 on unpaid labor and other time use activities. All attendees were so eager to help us augment our project with a new technique or perspective. I am extremely grateful for being provided with funding and having the opportunity to present research as an undergraduate student.



Elaine Bell, Theatre

Because of the travel funding, I was able to go to an amazing festival which aided in me learning so much! I work for the festival so I was able to connect with so many amazing artists and see the brilliant work that my colleagues and other schools have done!



Jackie Nguyen, Theatre

Spokane was a delightful opportunity for connections, connections, connections. Through this trip I had the opportunity to strengthen my confidants within the ISU Theatre Department, but also got to collaborate and make friends alongside professionals as well as talents from the other schools. The workshops were overall fruitful, and I arrived back in Pocatello feeling even more motivated from watching so many different people give it their all during the whole conference. I just can't wait to see where we all go from here.



Shayla Rowe, CMP Vis

As far as my experience, it has been one of the most fulfilling and empowering experiences I have ever had the chance to be a part of. At the risk of sounding cheesy, I would even say my time with NSAC has been life changing. My work with this team has been the most valuable time in my college education, and the things we have accomplished have prepared me to move into the professional world with confidence. I will forever be grateful that our advisor (Amanda Bennett) convinced me to join our team, and that our donors made it possible.



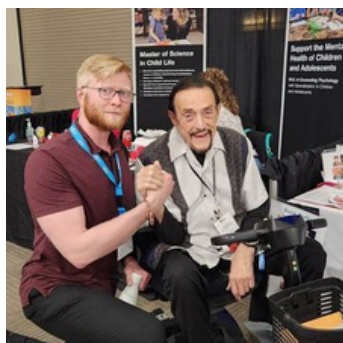
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Savannah Wootan, CMP

Going to Spokane for NSAC was one of the best opportunities I've had in college. I made friends with students from other universities, connections with industry professionals, and learned to push myself. I had the opportunity to present our team's campaign to a panel of judges. Although it was difficult and stressful, it was an incredibly rewarding experience. Not only did we place first in the competition, we also won three Ad Star awards! I learned and grew so much from this experience and I am extremely grateful that I was able to attend the competition this year!



Jacob Tudor, Psychology & Pre-Med

The WPA conference at Riverside, CA was beautiful! I felt so thankful for the opportunity to visit and present my lab's data in such a historic and diverse community. The Undergrad Travel Funds made this trip a no-brainer. Thank you so much for your support! FYI, the older gentlemen in the photo with me, that is Phil Zimbardo from the famous Stanford prison experiment. I didn't think to mention him until later, but it was very cool to meet the legend himself.



Nathan Templeton, Theatre

Spokane was a delightful opportunity for connections, connections, connections. Through this trip I had the opportunity to strengthen my confidants within the ISU Theatre Department, but also got to collaborate and make friends alongside professionals as well as talents from the other schools. The workshops were overall fruitful, and I arrived back in Pocatello feeling even more motivated from watching so many different people give it their all during the whole conference. I just can't wait to see where we all go from here.



Madysen Stewart, Theatre

Region 7's KCACTF has truly been an eye-opener. I cannot thank ISU enough for supporting myself and other colleagues financially for this wonderful trip! I hope to attend KCACTF the next two years of college before I graduate!



From the Faculty

Dear College of Arts and Letters,

Hello, I'm the faculty advisor for the Phi Alpha Theta History Club, and I am writing to thank the College of Arts and Letters for the undergraduate student travel funding that it provided last month for Jessa Briggs and Exko Ramey to attend this year's Phi Alpha Theta conference!

With that funding assistance, Jessa and Exko were able to travel to the Phi Alpha Theta 2023 Northwest Regional Conference on April 21 and 22 in Ellensburg, WA, and present their original historical research to an audience of university professors and students. Conference participants traveled from universities across Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington to present their original work, so it was a truly broad regional audience!

As one of the faculty advisors who (along with Dr. Sarah Robey) accompanied the ISU delegation to the conference, it was clear to me that Jessa and Exko benefited enormously from being able to experience an academic conference for the first time. Both Jessa and Exko are graduating from ISU in 2023, and the ability to present their original research to a wide regional audience as a final capstone to their time as ISU undergraduates was clearly very meaningful to both of them.

The fact that Jessa and Exko were able to present at the Phi Alpha Theta conference was largely due to the support of CAL's undergraduate student travel funding. Thank you again for your support for undergraduate research this semester! I attach the conference program and some photos of Jessa and Exko from the conference, and I hope you'll take the same pleasure that I do in their accomplishments!

Sincerely,
Lauren MacDonald

