



Budget Request Form FY2011

Department should complete one form for each individual request

Department: Graduate Student Council

Program, Service, or Operation Requested

\$5,000 increase for Student Research Week Operations

SSFAB Use Only	
YES	NO

General Description:

Student Research Week (SRW) is a premiere event hosted by the Graduate Student Council and entirely student-run. It will occur March 22-26, 2010 allowing over 400 student participants to present their current research topics promoting collaboration and interaction between disciplines as well as between graduate and undergraduate students. Each participant, both poster and oral presentations, receive feedback from peers and faculty both in-field and out of field (layman judges) to assist in preparing students for future research presentations.

SRW receives most of its funding from various college donations annually thereby causing uncertainty in the final budget until the event occurs. Each year, the raised monies is allocated towards awards for students winning in the various competitions (graduate student oral presentation, undergraduate student poster presentation, etc). This request is for permanent funding of the one-time allocation received last fiscal year for SRW operating expenses.

Request Type: Full Increase One-Time Partial/Matching

General Questions:

How does this increase impact students, and what motivated this request (needs, strategic planning, etc.)?

This increase, allocated to this year's SRW, will alleviate funding in the Graduate Student Council's (GSC) budget designated for SRW expenses. The money will be used towards obtaining the necessary materials to successfully organize and run the large conference.

SRW is one of the largest university-wide student-led research week programs in the nation, and with the constant growth of the event each year, extra funding is needed to adequately support the participating students throughout the week.

How do other sources of funding (fundraising, sponsorship, membership dues, etc.) been considered? Please explain.

The Graduate Student Council primarily funds the general expenses of SRW with awards monies supplied by university colleges, Vice President of Research (VPR), and Office of Graduate Studies (OGS) donations. The increase in participation, however, strains the GSC allocated budget for SRW potentially encroaching on other money set aside for graduate student programs.

Generally, what assessment tools will you use to evaluate this program/service?

Each year, an SRW report is finalized by the student director indicating the participation by students designated by college and department. Surveys and assessments are sent out to those participating in the event immediately following its conclusion for assessment and feedback regarding the program's functionality. This data is available upon request from the SRW director.

Each presenter receives immediate feedback regarding their performance and areas of improvement. The awards established to reward those students with exceptional presentations reinforces their performance further enhancing Texas A&M's research when these students present at other conferences.

Funding Description:

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Dollar Amount	
Total Estimated Cost	
SRW Operating Expenses	\$5,000

SSFAB Comments/Notes:

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