

Westmont College Student Association

Funding Proposal Form

Group Name: *Multi-Ethnic Student Association*

Proposal Date: *10/12/19*

Contact Person: *Brendan Fong*

Contact Email: *bfong@westmont.edu*

Project Name: *MESA trip to Mixed@Berkeley Fall Conference*

Project Date: *10/18/19 – 10/20/19*

Department Affiliation: *ICP*

Event open to the entire student body?
No, it is open to students who apply to the conference on their website.

Has your group submitted a proposal in the past? *No*

Describe the nature of your project (Target population, number of students involved, length of project, etc).

We are taking three to four members of the Multi-Ethnic Student Association up to UC Berkeley for the Mixed@Berkeley fall conference put on by the Mixed@Berkeley Recruitment and Retention Center and the Multicultural Community Center. We will be leaving by car on Friday the 18th and returning Sunday the 20th. The conference is Saturday the 19th from 10am to 3:30pm. After the conference we are planning to meet with a mixed Westmont Alumni (Sara Gowing) who is in her Master's Program at SF State to see what critical mixed race studies looks like after undergrad. Sunday, before we return to Westmont we will worship with Redeemer Community Church in San Francisco a multi-ethnic church community who is living out "multi-dimensional love as a reconciled community living out the way of the cross" in San Francisco (Church Website).

What do you hope to achieve with this project?

We hope to connect our Mixed students with other mixed students from around California. I know that mixed student unions from UC Berkeley, UC Merced, UCLA, and many other Colleges from around California will be in attendance. This is a rare opportunity for fellowship with other young people who experience the reality of living in-between racial categories and cultures.

Multiraciality was not a category on the Census until 2000, and although the number multiracial identified persons is growing exponentially, there are still very few resources looking specifically at mixed identity, be it books or conferences or museums or academic literature. This conference is a rare opportunity to be immersed in scholarship and fellowship around mixed identity. We hope to further the intellectual, emotional and identity development of the four students who are able to make it to the conference.

We also hope to take the resources and experiences gained at the conference and share them with the rest of the Multi-Ethnic Student association, the mixed student body at Westmont (around 200 students) and the college in general.

How much money are you requesting from WCSA? (Please provide an itemized budget)

Item Amount

Gas (2 fill ups of a 2006 Toyota Sienna Van to get to Berkeley and back, 55\$ each) \$110

Breakfast Food (Bagels, Cream Cheese and Fruit) \$10

Lunch Food (Sandwich Stuff) \$10

Dinner Food (to eat out twice with 4 people) \$80

TOTAL \$210

Westmont College Mission Statement

Westmont College is an undergraduate, residential, Christian, liberal arts community serving God’s kingdom by cultivating thoughtful scholars, grateful servants and faithful leaders for global engagement with the academy, church and world.

WCSA Mission Statement:

WCSA is the voice that represents the diverse views, beliefs, needs, and desires of our student body. We seek to unify faculty, staff, administration, and students by promoting communication and initiating change at Westmont College.

How does your project relate to the mission of the college and WCSA?

As embodied human beings created by God, we live and bear witness in a fallen world. As Christians expecting to be servants and leaders in the world, we are seeking to be aware of the realities of race as it shapes the context for Christian life and ministry.

Mixed students on Westmont’s campus often experience a marginalization in their families and academic contexts. As students of color, we are not wholly accepted or comfortable in the white majority culture, but also experience the phenomenon of ‘not being enough’ in spaces designed for students of color. This conference is a unique opportunity to dialogue with and find comfort in other mixed students from all around California.

The opportunity for mixed Westmont students to be immersed in the small, but growing field of mixed studies at the conference and the SF state ethnic studies department is an incredible opportunity to cultivate thoughtful scholarship for global and domestic engagement in the midst of a fallen world. The majority of students coming are not sociology or ethnic studies majors further encouraging cross discipline liberal arts thought. In this way, the MESA trip to the Mixed @ Berkeley conference serves the mission of WCSA and the College.

Payment Logistics:

Pay to: Multi-Ethnic Student Association Account #: 18-51502-58520

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General Council Comments:

Action Taken: Pass / Fail

Contact Person Notified? _____

Amount Granted: \$ _____