Applicant Contact Information

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Otronicon: Bringing Research to Life

Submitted March 3, 2015 at 11:28 am

Application

Application Type: Travel
Funded: No
Presenter?: No
Review Criteria: Standard
Prior ACITC Funding?: No

Description

Otronicon: Bringing Research to Life by Dr. Natalie Dorfeld (ndorfeld@fit.edu)

Goals / Objectives

I am an Assistant Professor of English at the Florida Institute of Technology. In my COM 1101 class, approximately three-four longer research essays are assigned. In order to make our time more advantageous, I would like to include a technology-related assignment next semester.

The objective of this project is to get my students really fired up about their majors. I want to them to start thinking about long term career goals, including their research projects at FIT and where they see themselves in five-ten years.

If chosen, I would take a dozen students to Otronicon, which is Orlando’s biggest interactive technology expo.

Professional Development

Upon returning from the expo, which lasts four days every January in Orlando, each student would be required to compose / research a technology component...
of the conference and relate it to his/her professional goals.

To my own self, I utilize multiple channels (YouTube, documentaries, and 3D photos) in my classroom every day, and I would jump at the opportunity to publish more about the implementation of electronic mediums in the classroom.

Relation

This travel grant related to education/instructional technology for two reasons. 1. FIT is an engineering school, so our students must be on the cutting edge after graduation, especially with regards to networking in global workforce. 2. According the expo’s website, “The event aims to spark interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers through the appeal of video games, interactive technology and virtual reality. Otronicon promotes the concept of ‘made in Orlando, played in Orlando’ with many chances to interact with the creative professionals that make the games you enjoy and discover the growing career opportunities in your own backyard. Orlando is one of the largest digital media and simulation clusters in the country, which includes more than 1,200 companies, 30,000 creative specialists and estimated annual revenue of $9 billion” (“Origin”).

Enhance

I plan to put to use what I have learned at this expo in the classroom, specifically by utilizing teaching pedagogies that stimulate the left and right brain simultaneously. Studies have shown time and time again that students of this generation need visual and oratory stimulation to bolster their memorization skills.

Travel

I am hoping this grant will secure slot for a handful of students, at least a dozen, to attend the expo with myself and a peer in January of 2016.

Sources

Please see the following web site for more information: http://otronicon.org/

With permission, I will secure transportation via my department with the 14 passenger van. This will cut back on traveling costs. So, the only fees will be admission and food.

Thank you for your consideration.

Works Cited


Itemized Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Detailed Description Of Expense</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Event Fees</td>
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<td>12 students @ $50.00 entry 2 professors @ $50.00 entry</td>
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<td>Travel Expenses</td>
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<td>12 students @ $25.00 for food</td>
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<td>Lodging Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Budget Justification