

SAF Proposals for 2009-2010 Fiscal Year

Proposal 11 of 18

Program Title:

Newsroom (Newspaper)

Department:

Independant

Contact Person:

Alex Useman

Email:

hie158@hotmail.com

Phone Number:

4254229354

Executive Summary of Your Proposal, please provide a concise overview of the program, activity, or service for which you seek funding.

We are looking for funding to hire a core team of writers and editors to produce a campus newspaper. We are planning to have 3 publications per quarter, excluding summer, with reports from student and faculty writers on topics such as sports, community issues, ASUWB updates, arts and music, and opinions. We aim to keep the focus local, in order to give a voice to the UWB community and to foster discussion.

In 150 words or less, please describe the need for this program or service. Please include any data that might support your proposal (e.g., the number of students who have participated in your service or program in the past). If your program is currently funded by SAF, please indicate how you have used the money to help your organization meet its goals.

The UWB community needs a newspaper. Without a public forum where its members can get news about events and share ideas, stories, and opinions, we remain isolated from each other. An online newspaper can help commuter students feel more connected with the rest of the population by helping them interact where they otherwise cannot because of job or family obligations. A simple posting forum or blog arena will not do because we need professionally written and revised stories in order to keep reader interest high. We have gathered more than 35 names of students who want to participate in the production of the newspaper, and attendance for our meetings is growing rapidly. Interest in a school newspaper is strong, but we need a moderate level of compensation for the staff in order to ensure high quality journalism.

How do you plan to assess the program or service?

We plan to assess the health of the newspaper by logging the number of web hits per day, getting feedback via email and online polls from readers, and by the total number of staff per quarter. We are hoping to start publication this spring to help raise awareness about the newspaper and generate interest in working for the newspaper. We will be looking for increased participation each quarter.

In 150 words or less, estimate how many currently enrolled students will likely benefit from your proposed service or program. Please estimate the number of other individuals (and indicate their affiliation) that might benefit from this service or program. Finally, please indicate other sources of financial support.

Initially, we hope that the number of currently enrolled students that will likely benefit will be close to 20 and expand from there. We look to include all of the events around campus, to bring them to light, despite their turnout, and report on them; allowing the paper to include numerous club members for an article or a report on an event. We hope to get most, if not all, the campus involved to give it a voice and make it more community based; we hope to include local businesses from the community as well. The options to include individuals and groups are seemingly unlimited.

In 150 words or less, please describe the benefits that participants are likely to gain by attending or participating in this program or service.

The UWB community needs a newspaper. Without a public forum where its members can get news about events and share ideas, stories, and opinions, we remain isolated from each other. An online newspaper can help commuter students feel more connected with the rest of the population by helping them interact where they otherwise cannot because of job or family obligations. A simple posting forum or blog arena will not do because we need professionally written and revised stories in order to keep reader interest high. We have gathered more than 35 names of students who want to participate in the production of the newspaper, and attendance for our meetings is growing rapidly. Interest in a school newspaper is strong, but we need a moderate level of compensation for the staff in order to ensure high quality journalism.

Salary/Wages

Total cost: \$6750

Editor: \$1000 per quarter x 3 = \$3000

Assistant editor: \$500 per quarter x 3 = \$1500

3 staff writers: \$250 per quarter per person x 3 = \$2250

Benefits

*Benefits paid to regular employees working at least .50 FTE should be calculated at 32% of earnings. Benefits paid to hourly employees should be calculated at 11% of earnings.

Honoraria

Facilities Rentals/Set-Ups

Telecommunications

*Telephone equipment should be estimated at \$35 per handset, per month (this includes only one extension)

Security

Printing and Photocopying

Transportation

Meals and Lodging for Travel

Office Supplies

Food/Refreshments

Equipment Rental/Purchase

Other

Total Amount Requested

\$6750