

June 29, 2023

To: Board of Directors

From: Dara Shifrer, Portland State University, Department of Sociology, 2023 Chair of Lee Student Support Fund

Re: 2023 Committee Report for Lee Student Support Travel Funds

Pursuant to your request, this memo serves as the Annual Report for the 2023 Lee Student Support Travel Fund Committee, which included Dara Shifrer, Eugena Kwon, and Rose Brewer.

In 2023, the Lee Student Support Travel Fund had a total budget of \$15,000. We received 88 applications requesting travel assistance from students, 5 of whom were not eligible for funding because they were not a current member of SSSP and/or were not scheduled to present their work at the 2023 meeting.

The committee communicated about potential funding allocations between September and November 2022. Collectively, to construct the 2023 point system, we edited the 2022 point system in the following ways:

- a. The location point system reflects distance from the location of the 2023 meeting (Philadelphia, PA) [3 for Pacific, 2 for Mountain, 1 for Central, 0 for Eastern, 4 for International (Canada is International)]
- b. Added a point system for academic career stage [4 if on the job market, 3 if PhD candidate (i.e., has completed all coursework and qualifying exams), 2 if PhD student, 1 if Master's student, 0 if undergraduate]
- c. Added a point system for amount of financial support receiving from university or advisor [3 if \$0, 2 if \$1-500, 1 if \$501-1000, 0 if more than \$1000]
- d. Added a point system for whether the student belongs to a marginalized social group (e.g., in terms of race/ethnicity, disability, gender/sexuality): 0 if no, 2 if yes
- e. To address the Board's charge to grant "fewer and more substantial awards in order to make a real difference in offsetting the high costs for students attending the annual meeting," we decided to fund 30 awards of \$500 each for the students with the most points for a total of \$15,000.

On April 26, 2023, I as the committee chair, notified Michele Koontz of the committee's funding determinations. As a part of this notification, I shared a spreadsheet detailing each applicant's contact information. On April 28, 2023, Kelsey Whitaker began contacting all applicants to inform them of their award and requested a response via email to confirm their SSSP attendance by May 4, 2023. Throughout the month of May, Kelsey added a few new students to the awardee list as students previously awarded communicated that they would not be able to attend SSSP after all.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on this committee. If you need additional information from me, please do not hesitate to contact me at dshifrer@pdx.edu.

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