TRAVEL FUNDING PROGRAM SPECIFICALLY FOR ESPP SPECIALIZATION STUDENTS

Traditionally, ESPP offers travel support, through quarterly competitions, to MSU graduate students attending interdisciplinary conferences, and the competition is open to all students on campus.

ESPP is continuing these open competitions. Information about them is available here:

In addition, ESPP is inaugurating new travel funding for students in the ESPP specialization.

Through this program, each ESPP specialization student can receive up to $1000 travel support, if s/he shows normal progress in the specialization (e.g., after successfully finishing two of the four requirements). These applications will be screened and evaluated, but essentially will be in a different pool from those submitted by other students. When ESPP specialization students are not eligible for this support (i.e., before they complete two ESPP courses, and after using up the $1000), they can still compete for general travel funds.

The $1000 is NOT automatic: students will have to satisfy the requirements of the general fund competition. Specifically, the meeting must be interdisciplinary and students must either display posters or present their work orally.

The funds are intended to provide partial support for attendance at multiple conferences. Up to $500 for domestic travel and up to $750 for international travel is available per request. (Other sources within the university should provide complementary funding.)

As with submissions in the general competition, applications for funding should not exceed two pages and should be sent electronically to espp@msu.edu. Applications must include:

1. A description of the conference/meeting you wish to attend that makes a clear and compelling case for how it is interdisciplinary.
2. An explanation of how your attendance at the conference/meeting will help you to further your academic and scholarly goals.
3. Confirmation that your presentation and/or poster has been accepted by the conference organizers.
4. An estimated budget.
5. Please also send us your C.V.

Submissions may be made at any time; they need not meet the quarterly deadlines of the general competition.

Students who receive funding will be expected to write about their experience for the ESPP blog, Greenboard. Contact Karessa Weir (weirkare@msu.edu) for details.