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**Title of Presentation:** “Continuing the Conversation: Empowering Students through Self-Reflective Multimodal Assignments”

**Conference:** WIDE-EMU 15

**Dates:** 10/9 – 10/12

**Location:** East Lansing, MI

**Travel Proposal.**

This proposal seeks travel funding to East Lansing, Michigan to attend and present at WIDE-EMU 2015 Conference. The title of the presentation is “Continuing the Conversation: Empowering Students through Self-Reflective Multimodal Assignments.”

This presentation is a part of a larger panel presentation, which includes colleague and PhD student Jasmine Villa. Together we will be part of a panel that will discuss the benefits of multimodal compositions in the writing classroom. This panel will address the issue of whether or not multimodal making is writing, and when viewed as writing how specific assignments that we teach can help students develop multimodal literacies and enhance study skills. Our presentation will focus on the practice of students using the social media blog website Tumblr to compose memes, and gifs that provides students agency to apply rhetorical choices to express their thought process. This metacognitive use of Tumblr allows instructors to venture into digital multimodal composition.

**Benefits: Professional and Educational**

The Michigan State University Center for Research on Writing in a Digital Environment and the Eastern Michigan University Written Communication program explores how writing is defined. In addition to expanding the definition of writing, the framing question for the conference (“Is \_\_\_\_\_ writing?”) also seeks to address the implications of how writing classrooms are situated. WIDE-EMU conference provides a space for Jasmine and I to showcase the significance of digital composition and production in relation to how students develop multimodal literacies. As undergraduate writing instructors, it is invaluable for us to have these discussions in order to pursue different pedagogical practices to apply in our classrooms. This opportunity will allow for Jasmine and I to present our work, explore important concepts related to RWS, and to learn from other emerging and prominent scholars in the field.

**Estimated Budget for Travel Costs**

Funding from the Baker-Hernandez grant is mainly sought to cover the flight to East Lansing, MI, and the hotel. To save on costs Jasmine and I will share a hotel room.

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| **Item** | **Cost** | **Notes** | **Total Requested** |
| Flight | $566.10  per person  (Total: $1132.20) | * Depart October 9th: El Paso to Chicago; Chicago to Lansing * Return October 11th: Lansing to Chicago; Chicago to El Paso * Quoted by Anthony Travel  (see attachment) | $1132.20 |
| Hotel | $95/night including tax for 2 nights ($190.00 total) | * Candlewood Suites Hotel ad the Henry Center of MSU * Jasmine and I will share a room and split the cost of the hotel room | $190.00 |
| Conference Registration | $0.00 |  | $0.00 |
| Total |  |  | $1322.20 |