

C. Student Travel Grants

In recent years the MSA has allocated a pool of funding to help fund expenses of student members who present papers at National Conferences. Finances permitting, the intention is for this practice to continue.

Well in advance of each National Conference National Executive will determine an amount to be allocated (from National funds) for student travel scholarships. The availability of these funds, and invitation for students to apply for them, should be communicated via the E-News Bulletin. The announcement should include application requirements (eg, name, paper title, registration for the conference) and deadline for funding application.

Current practice is for National Executive to both determine the basis upon which to allocate travel funds (currently a simple division of the total pool of funds by the number of qualifying applicants) and to administer the process of receiving applications and communicating with applicants. If desired, the formula for distributing funds could be altered, and host chapters may elect to administer the applications themselves. Considerations should be given to quality of proposal, issues such as distance to be travelled, regional students' travel costs, any institutional support they may secure.

In 2005 the Executive sought to establish a working party to oversee the administration of Student bursaries and prizes, including a bursary for Indigenous presenters at National Conference. For detail see Minutes of 2005 Annual General Meeting.

D. Indigenous Scholarships

i) Travel Grants: These operate the same way as the student travel grants and have similar parameters. That is, these are open only to MSA indigenous members (current or intentional); the applicants are to send applications to National Executive with a copy of the anticipated expenses for traveling. Selection may be competitive depending upon the number and quality of applications. The applicant's paper and/or presentation must have been accepted by the conference committee. The number of grants will be at the discretion of the National Executive and will vary from year to year. Indigenous presenters can apply for both indigenous and non-indigenous grants. Applicants don't have to be students.

The funding administration of both the student and the indigenous travel grants operates according to need. A total of \$3000-4,000pa total for student grants was floated as a feasible amount given the limited MSA resources. The exact amount to be used is to be decided according

to strength and number of applications each year. The floating value was discussed in the National Executive phone conference 19th January 2006.

E. Funding for Indigenous Presenters

The 2006 National Executive wholly support the motion put to the 2005 Annual General Meeting to offer assistance to future conference committees, to enable Indigenous presenters to attend MSA conferences wherever possible, based on funding capabilities. This invitation from the MSA President is to be extended to each conference committee during the conference preparations, reminding the committees of the motion passed at the 2005 AGM. Each committee will need to respond to the offer with an outlined budget requirement so that negotiations can be made between the National Executive and the relevant conference committee, depending on available funds.

F. Discretionary Funding

In consultation with National Committee, National Executive may elect to distribute additional available funds for projects initiated by the National Body or the Society's State/Regional Chapters.

The organisers of National Conferences and approved Study Weekends (or similar events) may expect seed funding of \$500 (repayable to the National Body pending a profit from the event). Additional seed funding or outright grants are regarded as discretionary funding and should be approved by National Executive and National Committee.