Base Funding- Professional Development- Full-Time Staff Conference Attendance and Student Staff IT Certification

DSA IT SERVICES

FY 25-26

FY 26 – Base Funding Request $19,292.00

Professional Development- Full-Time Staff Conference Attendance and Student Staff IT Certification

Program: $18,200.00 + $1092 (6% Admin Charge) = $19,292.00

In an era of rapidly evolving technology, particularly within higher education, we remain dedicated to expanding our vision of creating an efficient, proactive information technology environment that delivers seamless support and offers top-tier customer service. Our goal is to enhance staff productivity and elevate the quality of service provided across the Division of Student Affairs.

DSA IT Services has nine full-time team members and four dedicated student staff. A significant portion of our budget supports essential functions such as computer support, equipment replacement, and compensation for our hardworking staff, including student employees. However, the return of 5% of the DSA IT base budget has left limited resources for ongoing training and professional development—both of which are critical for staying engaged with the constant changes in technology and IT support.

Following recommendations from an External Review, we were tasked with expanding opportunities for our staff to enhance their professional development opportunities. This funding request will enable our team to engage in crucial opportunities, such as attending conferences and pursuing specialized technology training relevant to higher education systems. Additionally, it will continue to support the certification program for our student staff, ensuring they are well-equipped to handle modern IT challenges.

Outlined below is a list of opportunities for professional growth and certifications that we aim to achieve with this funding:

- **SXSW Creatives Conference**: A leading event for the creative and technology industries, SXSW offers many learning and networking opportunities. Participating in this conference will expose our team to the latest trends and innovations in technology.

- **NASPA Conference**: As a premier conference for Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, NASPA allows our team to explore the intersection of technology and student affairs, providing valuable insights into leveraging IT to enhance student services.

- **Educause Institute Management Program**: This program equips our team with advanced leadership and management skills tailored to the needs of higher education IT, empowering us to drive transformative change in our institution.

- **NERCOMP Annual Conference**: The NERCOMP Conference offers opportunities for collaboration with regional experts in higher education IT, fostering knowledge exchange and best practices that can benefit our institution.

In addition, we are committed to ensuring that both our student employees and full-time staff have access to relevant IT certifications. This certification program will equip them with the skills and credentials to excel in their roles, stay ahead of technological advancements, and contribute meaningfully to our institution's IT infrastructure.

To bring these initiatives to life, we request $1400.00 to fund staff certifications and professional development opportunities. This investment will bolster our team's expertise and ensure we continue

delivering excellent service while staying current with the latest advancements in higher education technology.

As technology continues to shape the future of higher education, your support in this initiative is essential. Together, we can strengthen our institution's IT capabilities, enhance professional development for our staff, and ensure we provide the best possible support to the university community.

Educause Management Institute, NASPA, SXSW, and NERCOMP Annual Conference: $16,800.00

- Registration - $5,000.00
- Travel/ Hotel - $10,500.00
- Meals - $1,300.00

Certifications: Registration: $1,400.00

- Comp TIA A+ Technician - $700.00
- Network +- $700.00

Grand Total: $18,200.00 + $1092 (6% Admin Charge) = $19,292.00