

Blame it on NiRiomand

More **AIB** Travel for the UH-V **Economist-Dean**

Former CoB associate dean (1998-2007) Farhang [Niroomand](#), now the business dean at the University of Houston – Victoria, [continues to consume](#) travel budgets [to attend the annual meetings](#) of the Academy of International Business (AIB). Check out the June-2010 UH-V travel voucher below.

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REVISED DATES*
7/1/10

University of Houston Victoria T 100178

Travel Request

Business Unit: 60765 Date MM/DD/YY: 04/16/10

Name of Traveler: Farhang Niroomand Title: Dean, School of Business Administration

Department: School of Business Administration Traveler's Phone #: 361-570-4248

Department Contact: Mary Field Dept Contact Phone #: 361-570-4248

Classification of Traveler (check one)

Faculty Staff Prospective Employee Student

Other Passengers (list name(s))

Designated Headquarters: UHV 3007 N. San Wilson Victoria, TX

Departure City/State/Country: Victoria, TX USA Destination City/State/Country: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Departure Date MM/DD/YY: 05/24/10 - * Return Date MM/DD/YY: 06/30/10

6/23/10

Purpose/Benefit of Travel	Purpose
To Attend:	To attend the Academy of International Business 2010 Annual Meeting being held at the Windsor Barra Hotel & Congressos in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
(Location)	City: <u>Rio de Janeiro</u> State/Country: <u>Brazil</u>
Benefit to University	To stay current in the area of international Business in order to keep The School of Business Administration current in the area of international business.

Estimated Travel Expenditures	Local Funds	State Funds	Total Funds
Travel Expenses direct billed to UHV		+	= 0.00
Hotel expenses direct-billed to UHV		+	= 0.00
Travel expenses to be reimbursed by UHV	3,000.00	+	= 3,000.00
Total expenditures to be paid or reimbursed by UHV	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	+	= <u>\$3,000.00</u>

Type of Expenses:						Estimated cost of travel below:					
Fund	2054	DeptID	V0019	Prog	AG304	Proj	NA	Speed Type	10551	Amount	\$5,000.00
Fund		DeptID		Prog		Proj		Speed Type		Amount	
Fund		DeptID		Prog		Proj		Speed Type		Amount	
Fund		DeptID		Prog		Proj		Speed Type		Amount	
Fund		DeptID		Prog		Proj		Speed Type		Amount	
Fund		DeptID		Prog		Proj		Speed Type		Amount	

Signatures	Date MM/DD/YY
Supervisor (Required) = <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>4/24/10</u>
Certifying Signatory for the Cost Center (Required) = <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>4/21/10</u>
Contract/Grant Approval (if applicable) = <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>4/22/10</u>
President, Provost, or VP For Admin & Finance (if required) = <u>same as above</u>	
Chancellor or designee (if required) =	
Finance Travel Analyst (if Applicable) = <u>[Signature]</u>	<u>4/29/10</u>

Rev. 8/09 http://www.uhv.edu/Finance/Travel.asp

As the voucher above (#100178) points out, [Niroomand](#) travelled to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 23-June-2010 in order to “attend the Academy of International Business 2010 Annual Meeting being held at the Windsor Barra Hotel & Congressos . . .” The stated purpose (by [Niroomand](#)) of this particular trip was to “stay current in the area of International Business in order to keep the School of Business Administration current in the area of international business.” After a week of *keeping the UH-V b-school current in IB*, Niroomand returned to the United States on 30-June-2010. How does attending the annual AIB meeting keep one “current” in the international business discipline? Better yet, how does one faculty’s attendance at the annual AIB meeting keep an entire business college “current” in the international business discipline? Sources tell USMNEWS.net that these are very good questions, because none of Niroomand’s explanations in the travel voucher above makes any sense.

Long-time readers of USMNEWS.net are aware that [Niroomand](#) is an **economist**, *not an international business faculty*. He began attending the annual AIB meetings when he was associate dean of USM’s CoB. As the voucher above indicates, AIB meeting attendance is expensive. It is so expensive, in fact, that sources tell USMNEWS.net that none of the CoB’s actual international business faculty was allowed funding to the AIB meetings because [Niroomand's](#) attendance was so costly for the CoB. If attending one of these meetings keeps one, and one’s college, current in IB, wouldn’t that really only apply to active researchers/teachers in the discipline, and not *economist-administrators*? Again, a good question, at least according to sources.

Lastly, the cost of Niroomand’s junket to Rio came to at least \$3,000. How many individual faculty travel budgets in the b-school at UH-V were consumed by [Niroomand's](#) largesse in this case? If applied to USM’s CoB, a few faculty might not be able to travel because [Niroomand](#) went to Rio. One would have to think that *even more* UH-V b-schoolers would be [inconvenienced](#) as a result of Niroomand’s jaunt to Rio, given the different levels of the two institutions involved. Still, sources tell USMNEWS.net that before UH-V b-school faculty “Blame it on Rio,” they should rejoice that [Niroomand's](#) visit to Brazil has kept them all “current” in international business.