

Special Report

Niroomand's "Academic Visits" to Purdue and LSU

An Investigative Series on CoB Faculty Travel

This Special Report uncovers two more "Academic Visits" made by CoB Associate Dean Farhang Niroomand. These visits occurred in August of 2004, with the first being to LSU in Baton Rouge.



EMPLOYEE TRAVEL VOUCHER

IMPORTANT-SEE INSTRUCTION ON BACK

Employee <u>Farhang Niroomand</u>
The travel reimbursement check will be mailed to the paycheck, or advice (check stub) is mailed.
Department Name <u>EFIB</u>
Others On Trip

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Purpose and Place of Visit <u>Academic visit to LSU, Baton Rouge LA</u>

This first trip was a 3-day stay "with friends" in Baton Rouge that still managed to cost USM more than \$100 in meals.

MEALS AND LODGING									Total
Date	8/12/04	8/13/04	8/14/04						
Departure Time	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	
Arrival Time	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	
Breakfast		6 50	—						6 50
Lunch	12	11 50	9 —						32 50
Dinner	23	17	45 70 26.00						88 90 66.0
Lodging		<u>Stayed with friends</u>							
Total Meals and Lodging									<u>127 90</u>
									105.00

TRAVEL BY PERSONAL VEHICLE (Did you use a University vehicle? Yes No)

The rest of the trip consisted of about \$140 in travel expenses, and \$16 in phone calls, as the screen below indicates. This trip cost USM about \$260 total, and, of course, Mark Klinedinst (then Chair/Professor of Economics) was happy to oblige (see below):

a travel advance.

If the department limits the total expenditure, enter the amount on the "Maximum Reimbursement Allowed" block.

Total Expenses	<u>232 65</u>
MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT ALLOWED →	<u>259 75</u>
	<u>232 65</u>

Employee Signature <u>F. Niroomand</u>	Date <u>8/24/04</u>
Approved By <u>Mark Klinedinst</u>	Date <u>8/30/04</u>

This trip required the use of three of Niroomand's pots of money.

The second "Academic Visit" detailed here is Niroomand's journey (by car) to Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.



EMPLOYEE TRAVEL VOUCHER

IMPORTANT-SEE INSTRUCTION ON BACK

Employee *Farhang Niroomand*

The travel reimbursement check will be mailed to the paycheck, or advice (check stub) is mailed.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Purpose and Place of Visit <i>Visit to Purdue University West Lafayette IN</i>	Department Name <i>EFIB</i>
	Others On Trip

This one was a four day affair, wherein Niroomand again "stayed with friends." He still managed to rack up \$131.50 in meal expenses.

MEALS AND LODGING								Total
Date	8/19/04	8/20/04	8/21/04	8/22/04				
Departure Time	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	
Arrival Time	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	AM-PM	
Breakfast	—	9	11	7:50				27 50
Lunch	12	10	6	6				34 —
Dinner	21	19	13	17				70 —
Lodging		<i>Stayed with friends</i>						—
Total Meals and Lodging								131 50

As mentioned above, Niroomand made the 1,600 mile journey by car, which is reminiscent of Klinedinst's 2,400 mile marathon by car to New York City in the late 1990s (see usmpride.com). "Mike @ Pro Travel" appears to have inserted himself into this 2004 trip by Niroomand. Someone cut Niroomand's travel expense almost in half.

TRAVEL BY PERSONAL VEHICLE (Did you use a University vehicle? Yes No)

Date	From	To	Miles
8/19/04	Hattiesburg MS	West Lafayette IN	800
8/22/04	West Lafayette IN	Hattiesburg MS	800
			320 00
<i>Mike @ Pro Travel \$1258.00</i>			1600 x .375 = 600 —
TRAVEL BY PUBLIC CARRIER			

This trip came to a total of \$458, and again Klinedinst picked up the tab. This trip also used three of Niroomand's pots of money.

Report all expenditures, including expenses paid for with a travel advance.	Total Other Expenses	607	626	2658
	Total Expenses			758
	MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT ALLOWED →			458
If the department limits the total expenditure, enter the amount on the "Maximum Reimbursement Allowed" block.				
Employee Signature	<i>Z. Niroomand</i>		Date	<i>8/30/04</i>
Approved By	<i>Mah Khabab</i>		Date	<i>8/30/04</i>

These two "academic visits" consumed about \$720 in USM funds, roughly equivalent to one CoB professor's annual travel allowance. In Niroomand's case, \$720 hardly scratches the surface.