


Special Report

Nissan Back to San Fran in Summer of '05

An Investigative Series on CoB Faculty Travel

This Special Report looks at a trip to San Francisco made by economics professor Edward Nissan at the beginning of the 2005-2006 budget year. In early July of 2005, Nissan traveled to San Francisco to attend the Western Economic Association meeting, as the screen below shows:



**THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
EMPLOYEE TRAVEL VOUCHER**

Phone #	Jun-56	Dep
E-Mail	Nissan@cba.usm.edu	
Dept Name	Eco., Fin., & IB	
CHECK ONE	Faculty/Staff	Stu
Western Economic Association, SF, CA July 5-11, 2005		Accompanied By:

The dates of the meeting were July 5-11, 2005 – approximately one week in San Francisco. The table below shows Nissan's meals/lodging expenses for the meeting:

MEALS AND LODGING									
Departure Time	6:25pm		Return Time		AM-PM				
Date	7/5/05	7/6/05	7/7/05	7/8/05	7/9/05	7/10/05	7/11/05		
Breakfast	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21.72	\$ 4.00	\$ -	\$ 11.17	\$ 3.00	\$ -	\$ 39.89
Lunch	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dinner	\$ 16.49	\$ 3.14	\$ 5.34	\$ 7.78	\$ 5.92	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38.67
Lodging	\$ 169.96	\$ 169.96	\$ 169.96	\$ 129.96	\$ 129.96	\$ 129.96	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 899.76
TOTAL MEALS AND LODGING									\$ 978.32

These (meals/lodging) total almost \$1,000, as shown in the screen above. Total expenses on this journey rise well above \$1,000 when airfare is added, as indicated below:

TRAVEL BY PUBLIC CARRIER				
<i>(Mode = Airfare, Rental Car, Bus, Train, etc)</i>				
Date	From	To	Mode	Ticket Amt
7/5/2005	Hattiesburg, MS	San Francisco, CA	Air	\$ -
			Air	\$ 370.40
TOTAL TRAVEL BY PUBLIC CARRIER				\$ 370.40

Parking/tolls for this trip came to \$34.00, as the exhibit below points out:

OTHER EXPENSES			
Item	Date	Place Where Expenses Were Incurred	Amount
Registration Fees			\$ -
Banquet Fee			\$ -
Tips (baggage handling)			\$ -
Taxi/Shuttle/Limousine		San Francisco, CA	\$ 34.00
Parking/Tolls			\$ -
Car Rental Gas			\$ -
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES			\$ 34.00

The total tab for this trip was \$1,382.72, although the **Employee Travel Voucher** indicates that Carter funded only \$600.00 of the bill. This funding level appears to have been an agreement between Nissan and former EFIB Chair Mark Klinedinst, given the information below, which was taken from a **Permission to Travel** form filed by Nissan before the trip:

Purpose of convention, association, or meeting
(If an advance is needed, but cost of trip will be reimbursed by an outside organization, please explain.)

Estimated Expenses: 600.00 allowed

Meals	300
Hotel Lodging	850
Mileage	-
Airfare	375
Registration	200
Other Expenses	50
Total Expenses	1775

I acknowledge that I have read and that I understand the summary of travel policies on the back of this form.

Edward Nissan

Domestic Travel

- Chair or Next Higher Expenditure Authority: *Mark Klinedinst*
- Office of Contracts & Grants Accounting (If restricted funds are expended): *Raymond Elias 5/17*
- University Travel Coordinator: *Raymond Elias*

Foreign, Hawaii, Canada, and Mexico Travel

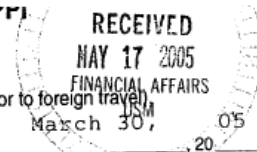
- Vice President

The permission form was filed by Nissan in March of 2005, as shown below, and it was received by Financial Affairs in May of 2005.



THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
<http://www.usm.edu/procurement/travel.html>
PERMISSION TO TRAVEL

Submit all copies at least two weeks prior to date of proposed trip (90 days prior to foreign travel)



These dates suggest that the funds may have carried over from the 2004-2005 EFIB (or CoB) budget.

Investigators at usmpride.com are not sure whether the funds in question were carried over from 2004-05 or were new funds to the 2005-06 budget. Either way, the funding for this trip alone exhausts most of what CoB faculty are reportedly allowed for travel in an entire year. However, as we have seen via reports at usmpride.com, Nissan's yearly travel exceeds \$5,000 (or more) in some cases.