

Special Report

Edward Nissan's 2004 "Fall Break" in San Francisco
An Investigative Series on Travel by CoB Faculty

This Special Report provides details of an October of 2004 trip to the University of California at Berkeley made by economics professor Edward Nissan. This trip was preceded by the **Permission to Travel** document copied below:



THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

<http://www-dept.usm.edu/~faffairs/>

PERMISSION TO TRAVEL

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

Edward Nissan

Professor of Economics

Sept. 30, 2004, 20

The form is dated September 30, 2004, and was signed by the Chair of Nissan's department, Mark Klinedinst. The **Permission** form states that Nissan intended to travel to the University of California at Berkeley (see below):

Name Edward Nissan Title PROFESSOR

In compliance with Section 25-3-45 Mississippi Code 1972, request is made for authorization to attend the following convention, association, or meeting:
University of California (Berkeley) San Francisco, CA

In fact, the all of the information on his destination is presented below:

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University of California (Berkeley) San Francisco, CA

Nissan listed October 13-20, 2004, as the dates he intended for the trip:

Complete Name of Convention, Association, or Meeting (Do not abbreviate) ct. 13-20, 2004 Place of Eco., Fin., & Intern. Bus

What was the purpose of the trip? Nissan planned to visit the Department of Economics at UC – Berkeley "for ongoing research."

To visit Department of Economics for ongoing Research

According to the 2004-2005 UG Bulletin, USM's Fall Break (2004) included Monday and Tuesday, October 18-19. Thus, Nissan's trip to San Francisco took advantage of that opportunity, though it is still possible that class meetings were missed. This trip also set the stage for Nissan's 2005 Spring Break trip back to San Francisco, which was reported in an earlier installment of this series. The 2005 Spring Break trip was reimbursed at a rate of \$0.41/\$1.00 (approx.).

What did this first visit to San Fran in the 2004-2005 academic year cost USM's College of Business?

Purpose of convention, association, or meeting		
(If an advance is needed, but cost of trip will be reimbursed by a		
Estimated Expenses:		\$300 from
Meals	175	
Hotel Lodging	<u>700</u>	\$1,100 from
Mileage	<u>425</u>	
Airfare	<u>100</u>	
Registration	<u>100</u>	
Other Expenses	<u>100</u>	
Total Expenses	<u>1,400</u>	

As the insert above points out, Nissan estimated his expenditures at \$1,400, and the department chair indicated (at right) that all \$1,400 would be available from two separate pots of money (account numbers redacted). Thus, this (first) visit to San Francisco during the 2004-2005 academic year consumed \$1,400 of taxpayer funds. The two trips combined – the one described here and the Spring 2005 trip described earlier at usmpride.com – consumed \$1,900 of the CoB's budget. That's the travel allowance of 2-3 CoB faculty.