


University of Houston – Vampire

Once a NASBITER, Always a NASBITER

Former CoB associate dean (1998-2007), and current business school dean at the University of Houston – Victoria (2008-present), Farhang Niroomand, once took “[a NASBITE out of the \[USM\] budget.](#)” That turn of phrase refers to the old USMNEWS.net report about Niroomand’s April-2002 trip to San Francisco, to attend a [NASBITE International](#) conference (see insert below). NASBITE is an acronym for North American Small Business International Trade Educators.



EMPLOYEE TRAVEL VOUCHER

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

IMPORTANT—SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON

Employee	Farhang Niroomand
Address To Which	Box 5021
Check Should Be Sent	Hattiesburg, MS
Dept.	College of Business Adm.
Others	
On Trip	

Purpose and Place of Visit
To attend the NASBITE meeting in San Francisco, CA

Niroomand’s trip back in 2002 came to \$877.40 in *meals and lodging costs alone*. The personal vehicle use and public carrier (airfare) costs consumed an additional \$530 (see inserts below).

MEALS AND LODGING												
Date	4/10/02		4/11/02		4/12/02		4/13/02		4/14/02		Total	
Departure Time	6:00AM- RE		AM-PM		AM-PM		AM-PM		AM-PM			
Arrival Time	AM-PM		AM-PM		AM-PM		AM-PM		AM-PM			
Breakfast	6	50	7	00	20	7	00	7	00	7	00	34 50
Lunch	13	00	13	00	13	00	13	00	16	00		68 00
Dinner	20	50	200*	00	25	00	20	00	17	00		282 50
Lodging	124	35	124	35	124	35	124	35				497 40
* Group dinner, see receipt.												
Total Meals and Lodging											882 40	

TRAVEL BY PERSONAL VEHICLE (Did you use University vehicle? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No)				Total Miles		X Rate =		Total Meals and Lodging
Date	From	To	Miles					
4/10/02	Hattiesburg, MS	New Orleans, LA airport	130	120			877.40	
4/14/02	New Orleans, LA Airport	Hattiesburg, MS	130	12				
				260	240		8260	
TRAVEL BY PUBLIC CARRIER				Total Miles	Mode	Ticket Amount		
4/10/02	New Orleans, LA	San Francisco, CA		Air				
4/14/02	San Francisco, CA	New Orleans, LA						
Total Travel By Public Carrier							448 50	


The “other expenses” associated with this trip ran USM another \$637.50, bringing the total cost of Niroomand’s April-2002 NASBITE experience to about \$2,000. To cover this cost, Niroomand dipped into *five different pots of money* (see inserts below).

OTHER EXPENSES				448	50
Item	Date	Place Where Expense Incurred	Amount		
Registration Fees	4/10-14/02	San Francisco	400 00		
Tips (baggage handling)	4/10-14/02	San Francisco	11 00		
Taxi/Limousine	4/10-14/02	San Francisco	96 50		
Parking/Tolls	4/10-14/02	New Orleans, LA Airport	60 00		
Car Rental					
Telephone Card			10 00		
Check Category of Travel (3 through 5 require Permission To Travel Form)			Report all expenditures including those expenses paid for with a travel advance.	Total Other Expenses	637 50

Total Other Expenses	637 50
Total Expenses	2,063 30
MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT ALLOWED	2,000 00
	< 1,600.00 >

Expense	
826 40	46
87 60	
448 50	
460 00	
177 50	

One year later, in April-2003, Niroomand once again hit the NASBITE circuit, this time traveling from USM to San Antonio (see insert below).



EMPLOYEE TRAVEL VOUCHER

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Purpose and Place of Visit: Attend the annual meeting of NASBITE
San Antonio, TX

IMPORTANT-SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK

Employee: **Farhang Niroomand**

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

Department Name: **CBA**

Others On Trip:

This time, the lodging and meal costs came to \$802.44, while the personal vehicle costs and airfare totaled about \$250 (see inserts below).

MEALS AND LODGING								Total
Date	4/12/03	4/13/03	4/14/03	4/15/03	4/16/03			
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		6 00	6 00	6 00	10 50			28 50
Lunch	27 81	66 15	15 71	16 25	24 79			150 62
Dinner	16 50	33 61	39 16	56 85	-			146 12
Lodging	150 61	150 61	150 61	150 61				602 44
Total Meals and Lodging								802 44

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

Date	From	To	Miles
			802.44

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

Date	From	To	Miles
4/12/03	Hattiesburg, MS	New Orleans Airport	130 20
4/16/03	New Orleans Airport	Hattiesburg, MS	130 20
			260 40

TRAVEL BY PUBLIC CARRIER

Date	From	To	Mode	Ticket Amount
4/12/03	New Orleans, LA	San Antonio, TX	AIR	
4/16/03	San Antonio, TX	New Orleans, LA	AIR	
Total Travel By Public Carrier				250 00

Once again, Niroomand incurred a number of “other expenses,” this time totaling \$529.70. The 2003 NASBITE junket consumed a total of about \$1,600, requiring the use of *no fewer than six pots of money* at USM (see inserts below).

OTHER EXPENSES			
Item	Date	Place Where Expenses Were Incurred	Amount
Registration Fees	4/12-16/03	San Antonio	395 00 ✓
Tips (baggage handling)	4/12-16/03	San Antonio	11 00 ✓
Taxi/Limousine	4/12-16/03	San Antonio	47 90 ✓
Parking/Tolls	4/12-16/03	New Orleans Airport	60 00 ✓
Car Rental			15 80 -
Telephone	4/12-16/03	San Antonio	
Report all expenditures, including expenses paid for with			Total Other Expenses 529 70

Total Other Expenses	529 70	Expense	
Total Expenses	1,710 90	6 00 00	
MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT ALLOWED →	1,600 00	86 40	
Date	4/21/03	160 00	
Date	4/21/03	395 00	
		118 90	
		202 44	

The USMNEWS.net report linked above indicates that Niroomand was reimbursed almost \$3,600 for these two NASBITE trips – an amazing sum, at least according to sources. In “Niroomand terms,” however, these trips represent just a drop in the bucket. Another [report here at USMNEWS.net indicates](#) that the former CoB associate dean spent more than \$75,000 in travel over the 59 months from Aug-2001 through June-2006. The trips involved on this run covered just under 150,000 miles, meaning that Niroomand made about six trips around the world, or he traveled more than halfway from the earth to the moon.

Examination of recent travel vouchers from Niroomand’s current institutional home, UH-V, shows that the current b-school dean continues to journey to-and-from NASBITE meetings. For example, in April-2010 Niroomand made the trip to Austin, TX, for a NASBITE meeting. Fortunately for UH-V, Niroomand’s “bite” was more like a nibble than a full-fledged feast. As the insert below shows, Niroomand’s recent NASBITE junket (two days) cost UH-V only \$400. Though not inconsequential, this “bite” is nothing like the \$1,500 to \$2,000 NASBITE hits that USM suffered under Niroomand’s associate-reign of the CoB. Lastly, it seems fitting to close this installment in the series with a letter from a USMNEWS.net reader, who comments on the [first installment](#):

Dear USM News,

I note the lack of itemized expenses [on the UH-V travel voucher]. [Farhang] Niroomand must be in his version of heaven.

[name withheld]

Clearly, the USMNEWS.net reader is referencing the bare-bones nature of the travel voucher that is currently being used at the University of Houston – Victoria. By not requiring detailed travel data, the form actually provides Niroomand with the sort of spending cover that sources say he desires.

University of Houston Victoria

TSBUWIRD040910

Travel Request

Business Unit: 00765 Date MM/DD/YY: 04/06/10

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

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. Ben Wilson Victoria, TX

Departure City/State/Country Victoria, TX USA Destination City/State/Country Austin, TX USA

Departure Date MM/DD/YY: 04/08/10 Return Date MM/DD/YY: 04/09/10

Purpose/Benefit of Travel	<p>Purpose</p> <p>To Attend: <u>To attend the 23rd Annual NASBITE (actual name) International Conference being held at the Sheraton Austin.</u></p> <p>(Location) City: <u>Austin</u> State/Country: <u>Texas</u></p>
	<p>Benefit to University</p> <p style="text-align: center;">promote an exchange of information and resources among global business education and assistance professionals</p>

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	400.00	+	_____	=	400.00
Total expenditures to be paid or reimbursed by UHV	<u>400.00</u>	+	<u>\$0.00</u>	=	<u>\$400.00</u>

Type of Expenses:						Estimated cost of travel below:					
_____ Fund	<u>2064</u>	DeptID	<u>V0019</u>	Prog	<u>A0304</u>	Proj	<u>NA</u>	Speed Type	<u>10551</u>	Amount	<u>\$400.00</u>
_____ 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><i>[Signature]</i></u>	<u>4/13/10</u>
Certifying Signatory for the Cost Center (Required)	= <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>	<u>4/12/10</u>
Contract/Grant Approval (If applicable)	= <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>	<u>4/13/10</u>
President, Provost, or VP For Admin & Finance (If required)	= _____	_____
Chancellor or designee (if required)	= _____	_____
Finance Travel Analyst (If Applicable)	= _____	_____