# 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

## Summary ($10,500 available per Region)

### Region I – 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
<th>Branch Project Funded:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/10/16</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>Connecticut Valley</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>• Connecticut Valley Branch 2016 Spring Meeting expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/5/16</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>Eastern New York</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
<td>• Eastern New York Branch Fall Meeting and Seminar</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Travel awards for students and postdocs to attend the National ASM meeting</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Awards for the two best student posters related to the field of microbiology in the Greater Capital Region Science and Engineering Fair and Science Congress held at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>• The New York City Branch did not request funds for 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/5/16</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>• Subsidizing student registration for Northeast Branch activities, such as symposia, workshops and evening lectures; the Branch plans to hold a minimum of three programs in 2016, with an estimated average of 15 students attending each program</td>
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<td>• Two annual half-day meetings of the New England Microbiology Laboratory Directors Group which is attended by predominantly doctoral level microbiologists from the Northeast Branch region and Connecticut, but attracts microbiologists at all levels from clinical, public health, and industrial settings; meetings include platform presentations and informal discussions on topics posted in advance by attendees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Disbursed in Region I: $5,900**
## 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

### Summary ($10,500 available per Region)

#### Region II – 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
<th>Branch Project Funded:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2/15/16| II     | Eastern Pennsylvania    | $2,100       | • The 25th Annual Philadelphia Infection and Immunity Forum, sponsored by the Eastern Pennsylvania Branch and organized primarily by the Eastern Pennsylvania Student Chapter, geared towards scientists from the tri-state area (Delaware, New Jersey, & Pennsylvania) who are interested in host-pathogen interactions; the meeting will feature  
  o Three plenary speakers  
  o Five shorter talks from selected graduate students and postdoctoral fellows from the local universities  
  o Poster session in conjunction with a social hour to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the meeting  
  o Awards for student speaker and poster presentations |
| 2/10/16| II     | Maryland                | $2,100       | • Four Maryland Branch dinner meetings to be held throughout the year at various locations on various topics  
  • Branch website maintenance  
  • Development and support of a new Student Chapter serving ten regional colleges and universities (Johns Hopkins University, The University of Maryland Baltimore, Morgan State University, Towson University, Coppin State University, Loyola University Maryland, Goucher College, Stevenson University, University of Baltimore and Notre Dame University Maryland) as well as community colleges in the area  
  • Subsidizing student attendance at Branch dinner meetings and the annual undergraduate and graduate student poster presentation and oral presentation meeting, co-sponsored with the University of Maryland  
  • Annual awards:  
    o Richard S. Schwalbe Award for outstanding bench clinical microbiologist  
    o Barnett L. Cohen Award for outstanding achievement as a professional microbiologist  
    o J. Howard Brown awards for outstanding graduate and undergraduate student presentations  
  • Student memberships to National ASM and/or travel grants for students to attend the ASM MICROBE Meeting |
### 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Projects and Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/19/16</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>Theobald Smith Society, New Jersey</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Theobald Smith Society New Jersey Branch “Meeting in Miniature,” with invited lecturer and undergraduate and graduate student oral and poster presentations  
- Awards for best presentations  
- Three-speaker Branch Meeting, with invited speakers on diverse topics  
- Awards for students for exceptional projects in microbiology at local science fairs  
- Branch Web Page support and domain name fee |
| 2/5/16  | II     | Virginia                      | $2,100 |  
- Student travel grants for the 2016 Virginia Branch meeting, available on a first-come, first-served basis for any undergraduate or graduate student who presents a talk or poster, to encourage participation by students, including those at smaller institutions that may not receive substantial research grant funds  
- Two special meeting sessions that will enable students to interact with microbiologists working in clinical microbiology and in government agencies, two groups often under-represented at the Branch meetings; the sessions will expand on a career panel format to feature presentations from invited speakers as well as students |
| 2/8/16  | II     | Washington DC                 | $2,100 |  
- Washington DC Branch 2016 meeting, to be held jointly with a local Student Chapter (such as George Mason University) in the Spring; meeting will feature  
  - Student presentations (oral/poster)  
  - Invited talk(s)  
  - Refreshments  
  - Awards for outstanding student presentations  
  - Awards and judging support for local high school science fairs  
  - Fall Branch meeting with invited speaker, refreshments, and Branch membership drive  
  - Joint meeting with other ASM Branches or scientific societies (tentative; exploration of possible partners underway; projected date would be Fall 2016); with a possible venue of ASM HQ |

**Total Disbursed in Region II: $10,500**
## 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards
### Summary ($10,500 available per Region)

#### Region III – 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
<th>Branch Project Funded:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2/6/16 | III    | Allegheny | $2,575       | • Allegheny Branch (ABASM) 2016 Meeting, to be held in partnership with the Tom Ridge Environmental Center located at the entrance to Presque Isle State Park; special features of the meeting will be presentations by representatives of the Departments of Environmental Protection and Conservation and Natural Resources, tours of Presque Isle to learn about research (mostly environmental) taking place there, and a panel discussion on funding and internship opportunities and grant writing  
• Travel grants for student and postdoc presenters  
• National ASM memberships for all student presenters  
• Promotional efforts (mailing save-the-date cards, meeting brochures, etc.) to attract attendees from nearby colleges, universities, and agencies, particularly institutions that have not participated in Branch meetings in the past few years  
• Regional and National ASM membership drive to be held at the Branch meeting and to include provision of an ABASM T-shirt for those joining the Branch and an ABASM coffee tumbler for those joining National  
• Mentor training workshop for graduate and post-doctoral fellows, modeled after mentoring workshops held at the 2014 and 2015 ASM General Meetings; among the expenses will be provision of “Entering Mentoring” book for all participants  
• Microbiology career roundtable event for undergraduate students, featuring panelists from a variety of microbiology careers including an environmental health and safety officer, medical technician, AP biology high school teacher, representative from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, biotech salesperson, and pathologist |
| 2/5/16 | III    | Indiana | $900         | • Indiana Branch 2016 Meeting  
• Student awards  
• Travel grants for students in need of support to attend the Branch meeting  
• Career panel focusing on careers in industry or other non-academic jobs |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 3/14/16 | III     | Kentucky-Tennessee | $2,500 | • Kentucky-Tennessee Branch 2016 Meeting, including poster session and oral presentations  
• Awards for student oral and poster presentations  
• Travel award for a student to attend the ASM General Meeting (ASM Microbe 2016) to present research  
• Support for Western Kentucky University Student Chapter activities including field trips and printing of club t-shirts which serve to advertise the Chapter and the Branch  
• Provision of a clinical component in the Fall Branch meeting including availability of P.A.C.E. credits for attendees  
• Spring “CE Saturday” meeting to focus on clinical continuing education needs and to provide opportunities for professional/student interaction  
• Travel support for nationally-recognized clinical speakers for both the Fall Branch meeting clinical component and for the Spring CE Saturday meeting |
| n/a   | III     | Michigan    | n/a    | • The Michigan Branch did not request funds for 2016                                                                                                                                                    |
| 2/5/16 | III     | Ohio        | $2,000 | • Ohio Branch ASM 2016 Meeting which will take place at the Procter & Gamble Mason Business Center in Mason, OH  
• Travel support for undergraduate and graduate student attendance at the annual Ohio Branch meeting, covering lodging costs for up to 60 students (15 hotel rooms, four students per room)  
• Registration and dues for up to 15 first-time professional (non-student/postdoctoral) microbiologists in academia, industry and/or government, with the goal of increasing Branch and National membership and participation |
### Total Disbursed in Region III: $10,075

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2/10/16    | III    | Western New York  | $2,100   | • Meeting expenses for the 2016 Western New York Branch Fall and Spring meetings, i.e., dinner meetings that focus on issues of importance to clinical microbiologists and students of clinical microbiology, and include topics of current interest, such as emerging infectious diseases, new technologies and antibiotic resistance, with speakers in clinical microbiology, public health, academia and/or industry  
• Sponsorship of student awards at a local Microbial Pathogenesis meeting, with provision for top student to give a presentation at a Western New York Branch meeting  
• No-fee dinners with membership for students attending Branch meeting  
• Provision of a venue for human resource departments from various institutions (hospitals, industry, academics) to provide information about employment opportunities, including potential careers outside the realm of clinical microbiology  
• Provision of a table for display of ASM membership and program materials |

Total Disbursed in Region III: $10,075
### Region IV – 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
<th>Branch Project Funded:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2/5/16 | IV     | Florida     | $950         | • Maintenance and further expansion and development of the Florida Branch website to include the addition of an educational resources page with professional development tools, specifically a resource page dedicated to best practices in how to teach in a distance learning environment; the issue is pertinent given the recent and rapid growth of online degree programs in the sciences, including Microbiology.  
• Panel discussion at the Branch meeting to discuss lessons learned and best practices in online teaching; invited panelists to include faculty from multiple universities with experience in online teaching and learning, as well as the University of Florida Graduate Coordinator in the Department of Microbiology and Cell Science who has recently spearheaded the development of Florida’s first online Master’s program in Microbiology.  
• Development of materials on online teaching and distance learning for the panel discussion which can then be incorporated into the Florida Branch website. |
| 2/11/16| IV     | North Carolina | $1,500       | • North Carolina Branch 2016 Meeting at first-time venue UNC-Wilmington  
• Student awards                                                                                                                                         |
| 2/5/16 | IV     | Puerto Rico  | $2,250       | • 5th Annual Puerto Rico Society of Microbiologists (Puerto Rico Branch ASM) Student Symposium, “Passing the Torch of Research and Ethics to the Next Generation,” to be hosted by the Student Chapter at Pontifical Catholic University, Ponce, PR, whose members will collaborate with the Branch in organizing the event; the one-day meeting will include  
  - Graduate student oral presentations  
  - Undergraduate and graduate poster session  
  - Awards for best oral and poster presentations  
  - Membership drive for Branch and National ASM membership  
  - Recognition of exemplary leadership  
  - Networking opportunities  
  - Panel discussion addressing ethical issues  
  - Keynote speaker from Academia or Industry  
• Sponsorship of Branch meeting attendance of non-presenting students that come from disadvantageous backgrounds (i.e., disabilities, rural, veteran, low-income) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2/10/16    | IV     | South Carolina | $1,100 | South Carolina Branch 2016 Meeting  
Efforts to incorporate participation of additional schools and universities and businesses/industries in Branch activities and meetings  
Meeting registration costs for undergraduate students  
Outreach to HBCUs (Historically-Black Colleges and Universities) in the area, including the provision of travel assistance for faculty when requested  
Awards for student oral and poster presentations  
Workshop for high school students to introduce them to the field of Microbiology and careers in Microbiology |
| 2/5/16     | IV     | South Central  | $2,100 | South Central Branch 2016 Meeting, to be held at the University of Louisiana in Monroe  
Awards for student oral presentations (PhD and MS students) and undergraduate student poster competitions  
Special meeting sessions dedicated to the application and integration of microbiology into other disciplines, such as epidemiology, with a proposed presentation on the Ebola experiences of a local scientist in Sierra Leone  
Networking session to facilitate communication between speakers, students and faculty in attendance |
| 2/10/16    | IV     | Southeastern   | $2,100 | Southeastern Branch 2016 Meeting, to be held at the University of North Alabama in Florence, as a joint meeting between the Southeastern Branch (Region IV) and the Kentucky-Tennessee Branch (Region III), with the theme, “The Hungers: If We Burn You Burn with Us,” emphasizing the importance of the microbe-host relationship; meeting will include  
- Poster sessions and oral presentations  
- Keynote lecture  
- Post-keynote mixer and Microbe Smackdown (trivia competition)  
- Graduate and career symposia, with information available from potential employers within the region  
- Awards banquet  
Awards for the best undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral oral and poster presentations  
Travel awards for all presenting students who travel over 100 miles to attend the meeting |

Total Disbursed in Region IV: $10,000
### 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

**Summary ($10,500 available per Region)**

**Region V – 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
<th>Branch Project Funded:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2/5/16 | V      | Alaska | $2,250       | • Alaska Branch 2016 Meeting, to be held at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), to include  
  o Student presentations (oral and poster)  
  o ASM Distinguished Lecturer presentation  
  o Mixers  
  o Awards presentation  
  o Special session for students and postdocs focused on career opportunities and skills  
  o Special session and mixer for visual artists and writers working with microbial themes to present their works in progress and to discuss with microbiologists in preparation for a Feb 2017 public art exhibit on the theme “Microbial Worlds” designed to foster public understanding of microbiology  
  o Session in which instructors from the statewide NIH-sponsored Biomedical Learning and Student Training (BLaST) program, geared toward increasing representation of Alaska Native and other underrepresented students in undergraduate biomedical research at colleges and universities across Alaska, will discuss their activities and plans for incorporating microbiology into training and research activities targeting the underrepresented groups  
  • Travel support for students outside of the Fairbanks area who are participating in the Branch meeting  
  • Free meeting registration and annual membership fees for students  
  • Travel support for speakers  
  • Awards for student presentations  
  • Six K-12 regional and statewide competition student awards to be awarded by Branch in the spring |
| 2/23/16| V      | Illinois| $1,000       | • Illinois Society for Microbiology (Illinois Branch ASM) Fall 2016 Meeting and Pasteur Award Presentation  
  • Travel support for speakers |
| 2/5/16 | V      | Missouri| $2,750       | • Missouri Branch 2016 Meeting, which will be a joint meeting with the Missouri Valley Branch, with a new format designed to be more convenient for attendees with the goal of attracting more participants; meeting will feature two keynote addresses, a research symposium with invited speakers, graduate and undergraduate research presentations and poster sessions, reception at a local restaurant/brewery  
  • Awards for best graduate and undergraduate presenters  
  • Travel support for speakers |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2/16/16 | V      | North Central | $2,250 | The North Central Branch 2016 Meeting to be held in Ames, Iowa; the Branch intends to reach out to the Iowa State University Student Chapter for assistance in planning and promoting the meeting; meeting will feature  
  - Invited speakers from academic, government, and industry laboratories to address human, animal, and environmental health, and to illustrate the collateral effects of antibiotic exposure on microorganisms and highlight interventions to protect health while reducing antibiotic usage, in support of the meeting theme, “One Health Approach to Antibiotics, Antimicrobial Resistance, and Alternatives to Antibiotics”  
  - Scientific sessions, with opportunity for student and postdoc presentations  
  - Keynote address by an ASM Distinguished Lecturer  
  - Oral and poster presentations by graduate and undergraduate students  
  - Microbiology career panel (including the ASM Distinguished Lecturer) for students and postdoctoral researchers  
  - Travel assistance for Student Chapters; Chapters are eligible to request $100 in travel assistance from the Branch each year, but to further encourage attendance the Branch will offer an additional $200 for any club that can send three or more student members to participate in the meeting  
  - Awards for graduate and undergraduate posters and oral presentations |
| 2/16/16 | V      | Northwest    | $2,250 | Northwest Branch 2016 Meeting, to be held at the University of Washington, and to include participation by general microbiology and clinical microbiology communities; academic participation includes not only the local university, but also local community colleges and private universities in the Puget Sound region and Oregon and Montana |

**Total Disbursed for Region V:** $10,500
### 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

**Summary ($10,500 available per Region)**

**Region VI – 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
<th>Branch Project Funded:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2/5/16 | VI     | Missouri Valley   | $2,750       | • Joint meeting of the Missouri Valley and Missouri Branches, to be hosted by the Kansas University Medical Center, a group which has not participated in the meeting in the past few years  
• Subsidizing Branch meeting registration and Branch membership fees for students  
• Awards for student presenters  
• Travel support for distinguished local speakers, allowing the Branch to offer talks in many different areas of microbiology |
| 2/19/16| VI     | Rio Grande        | $2,250       | • Rio Grande Branch 2016 Meeting, to be held at the University of New Mexico, to feature oral presentations and posters, with an emphasis on student and postdoctoral involvement  
• Free meeting registration to students and post-docs presenting at the meeting  
• Subsidized meeting registration for student attendees who are not presenting  
• Travel awards for student presenters travelling long distances to attend meeting  
• Awards for undergraduate, graduate and postdoc presentations  
• Outreach efforts to ASM but non-Branch members in the region |
| 2/19/16| VI     | Rocky Mountain    | $2,250       | • Rocky Mountain Branch 2016 Spring and Fall Meetings; the Spring meeting will be held at Metropolitan State University in Denver; the Fall meeting site is TBD  
• Travel grants (pro-rated depending on distance travelled) for students and postdocs that present posters or give oral presentations at the meetings  
• Presentation awards for undergraduate, graduate student and postdoc levels for posters and oral presentations (ALL presenters are provided with written feedback on how to improve their performances)  
• Inauguration of a Rocky Mountain Branch “National Presence” program that will help to support one or more award-winning student presenters from the Fall 2016 Branch meeting in attending the ASM Microbe General Meeting in 2017 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/14/16</td>
<td>VI</td>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>$2,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Texas Branch Spring and Fall 2016 Meetings
- Significantly-reduced registration fees and complimentary Branch membership for graduate and undergraduate students presenting their research at Branch meetings
- Discounted meeting registration and complimentary Branch membership for students not presenting research
- Awards
- Specialty meeting sessions on Microbiome, Bioinformatics, and Molecular Diagnostics/Genetic Testing

Expansion of content directed to post-doctoral fellows, specifically a career session and oral/poster sessions for post-doctoral attendees

**Total Disbursed for Region VI: $10,000**
2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards
Summary ($10,500 available per Region)

Region VII – 2016 Branch Regional Funding Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
<th>Branch Project Funded:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/2/16</td>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Arizona/Southern Nevada</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>• Arizona/Southern Nevada Branch 2016 Meeting, to be held at Arizona State University, with a focus on inter-microbial and microbial-host cell communication</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>• Discounted meeting registration for undergraduate and graduate students</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Travel support for speakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/5/16</td>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>• Hawaii Branch 2016 Meeting, to be co-hosted and co-sponsored with the University of Hawaii Center for Microbial Oceanography Research and Education (C-MORE), which operates Ocean Station ALOHA, recently-designated by ASM as a “Milestones in Microbiology” site</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Awards for best undergraduate, Master’s degree, and Ph.D. candidate oral and poster presentations</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Travel support awards for three student presenters to enable them to travel to a national meeting on the mainland to present their research</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Catering subsidies for students attending the Branch meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Details</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 2/5/16 | VII      | Intermountain | $2,000 | • Intermountain Branch 2016 Meeting, to be held at first-time venue of the University of Utah, to include  
  o Plenary session with ASM Distinguished Lecturer  
  o Two breakout sessions, each led off by a keynote faculty speaker followed by undergraduate, graduate, and postdoc talks  
  o Poster session  
  o Short talks by a microbiologist working in Industry and a microbiologist entrepreneur followed by question and answer sessions  
  o Award ceremony followed by ASM Branch business meeting  
  • Awards for posters and speaker presentations  
  • Promotional efforts to encourage participation by individuals who do not typically attend the Branch meetings, including microbiologists and trainees working in local biotech companies and diagnostic labs as well as master’s students in microbiology-associated programs at the University of Utah, local community colleges, and others within the region  
  • Training program for students for creating and delivering TED-like talks, to include provision of training materials and the assignment of faculty mentors to provide feedback and guidance for each student speaker as they prepare talks  
  • Travel subsidies to help bring in students from more distant regions in Utah and Idaho |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2/16/16  | VII    | Northern California | $2,000 | - Participatory workshop for students, “Science Storytelling: Engaging the Audience as You Advance Your Career,” to be held at the Northern California Branch Spring 2016 meeting; facilitators are experienced Toastmasters, and one is a science communication consultant; the workshop will feature:  
  o Part 1 – Improvisational exercise to warm up and get creative juices flowing, followed by instruction and examples on streamlining stories for particular audiences and in particular situations such as teaching science, networking or in job interviews  
  o Part 2 – Session, “Building a Science Story from Scratch,” where students will establish setting and characters, build in action, and deliver an outcome/conclusion  
  o Part 3 – Students will create their own story about their lives, career or research project, and then deliver it in small groups  
  o Part 4 – Student evaluation of the workshop  
- Travel support for three to five students from each college in the Branch area for attendance at the Branch meeting, covering meeting registration and shared lodging (if needed)  
- Provision of complimentary 1 year annual Branch membership for student attendees  
- Two complimentary National student memberships (recipients randomly-selected) |
| 2/23/16  | VII    | Southern California | $2,000 | - Career Forum for students attending the Southern California Branch 2016 Meeting, featuring representatives from clinical, public health, industrial, and research areas of microbiology available to discuss careers in their respective areas  
- Continuation and expansion of the Branch CUE (Conference for Undergraduate Educators) program which was successfully piloted last year (modelled after ASM National’s CUE) |

**Total Disbursed for Region VII: $10,000**