

?? how do i creative writing

<http://shass.mit.edu/inside/resources/internal/deflorenz/application>

Description

"Please give us a description of the event and any information you feel to be relevant for our funding decision. There is no length limit, but we appreciate clear and concise descriptions. Feel free to include relevant information from previous occurrences of this event (attendance numbers, budgets)."

Funding spreadsheet: >> I am currently working on this

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Atr0HZeoMbmgdDk0NTRzQkV1VHZDUGtGajlQTThCUXc>

Concisely,

- 1) I am a senior at MIT and, after being inspired by a dancing hexapod youtube video, have built three hexapods, including a rideable one that I have taken to NYC World Maker Faire and demo'd at the MIT museum as a ride for kids and adults.
- 2) There is lots of cool hexapod research going on (including in labs at MIT), but no scholarly conference held to date.
- 3) These two hexapod worlds (hobbyist and scholarly) can be merged to hilarious result.

Less concisely,

The hexapod revolution is imminent, and we must stay at the forefront of research on hexapods in the hopes that when they rise they will appreciate the fact that we have always been first in line to help them. Six-legged robots have been spotted everywhere from Boston to Austria. They've taken the dancing world by storm, where they've impersonated everything from silver turtles to Elvis Presley (have *you* seen a six-legged dancing Elvis Presley? I have). I hear there is a gigantic rideable hexapod soon to roam the streets of Boston thanks to Artisan's Asylum, a makerspace in Somerville. Currently, Human Devotees of Hexapods cluster on the internet, even as the incidence of hexapods in the world greatly increases. We must act now to show our devotion to hexapods before the upcoming revolution when hexapods shall dance on the streets dealing justice as they see fit.

Details to be determined:

Some professors, before strong allies of hexapods, such as Prof. Kim appear to have moved to silly things like robotic cheetahs (what's the point of a robotic cheetah? It certainly won't ever dance). However, we may wish to still welcome our cousin quadrupeds and octopods. Additionally, what of our flying brethren? There are some bastardly robots, such as the flying hexapod-quadcopter -- I believe these belong in the conference, as do hexrotors. But can we find it in our hearts to accept other multicopters?

Summary for Publication

Please provide a short paragraph describing the project in the third person in a way that could be used in a report about the activities of the de Florez Humor Fund. This exact text will be used, so be sure to avoid references to other parts of your application or any pronouns like "I" or "we" that could be confusing out of context.

The hexapod (six-legged robot) revolution is imminent. A group of concerned citizens are conferencing during the first week of May 2013 at MIT to discuss this. There will be scholarly papers, serious presentations, hexapod rapid fabrication, and interpretative dancing with robots. This will be the world's first hexapod conference, representing the not just cutting, but bleeding, edge of robotics research.

Please explain in one or two paragraphs how exactly this event fits the de Florez Humor Fund mission of "impressing students with the importance of humor in all aspects of life, both personal and business."

Let's face it. An MIT student's personal life is their work life. Too few are prepared to find the humor in this, or prepared to acknowledge such humor exists. This conference epitomizes silliness in research, silliness in personal projects, and silliness in how we envision the technical world around us evolving. Moreover, it highlights the importance of this silliness in a student's daily life. The concept of a hexapod, the concept of investing time and resources into something that, in the end, probably won't change the world (unless you build it several stories tall and figure out how to give it a Godzilla complex), resonates with many an MIT student. This conference is to help them both acknowledge and celebrate all of the things in their research, classes, personal lives (for those that persist in imagining they have one, in any case), and business which have not gone the direction they anticipated, or which did not provide as much of an impactful result as they were envisioning.

I would try and explain the humor of wrapping all of this up in a metaphor of hexapods and then go on to wax eloquently (or perhaps just wax) about the philosophical implications of how a project which has gone nowhere can still impart necessary skills and life lessons, but that'd be spoiling the fun of it. You should come see for yourself the wonders of dancing hexapods, the hours of toil put into this utterly silly contraption, and experience your nervous laughter as this parody evolves into genuine humor acknowledging all of the ridiculous things humans do which, somehow, make the world a better place. We're just not sure how yet.

Please explain in one paragraph how this event will bring humor to MIT students.

Have you ever seen and/or danced with a hexapod? Trust me, your life has been lacking a crucial component: hexapods. Life is always better when hexapods are involved, especially if they start taking the over the world. But, in more seriousness, admit it. You laughed while reading some of this (and if you really didn't, have you had your sense of humor checkup recently?). Just imagine the possibilities inherent in not just words about a hexapod conference, but a tangible hexapod conference on MIT's campus, where MIT students can experience dancing six-legged Elvis Presley robots first-hand.