

**From:** Sruti Suryanarayanan [ssuryana@alumni.risd.edu](mailto:ssuryana@alumni.risd.edu)  
**Subject:** Re: Sruti's purchases  
**Date:** August 8, 2019 at 8:43 AM  
**To:** Julie Woods [jwoods@risd.edu](mailto:jwoods@risd.edu)  
**Cc:** Sruti Suryanarayanan [ssuryana@risd.edu](mailto:ssuryana@risd.edu), Nicholas Lazarakis [nlazarak@risd.edu](mailto:nlazarak@risd.edu)

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Hi, yes,

A very good point Julie -- Tim had us write the following explanation for him:

We would like to purchase self-care products, such as face masks and friendship bracelet materials, to share with other wxmen during our *Slumber Party* event. These objects will be used to help us heal from a summer of labor, and help us prepare to do more work in the coming years, decades, and centuries.

This language comes from a practice of resistance dedicated to prioritizing the health of women, people of color, and QT\*folks over white men (as seen [here](#)); in that tradition, we are hosting this afternoon of rejuvenation where womxn who are expected to carry systemic burdens are instead expected (and funded!) to take care of themselves. (While simultaneously redirecting that money from the pockets of the white men that have long expected to be taken care of).

What do you all think? Is it okay to show this to Procurement/Accounting?

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On Thu, Aug 8, 2019 at 8:03 AM Julie Woods <[jwoods@risd.edu](mailto:jwoods@risd.edu)> wrote:

It occurred to me last night that RISD does not fund personal items and this is probably the issue. Sruti does not intend these as personal items but may need to pitch that to Procurement or Accounting. Sruti please think about how you would justify this expense in an email. How does it fit into the college's stated goals of care and well-being? I know that the college provides certain things to its employees for free...such as massages...as part of its recognition that they need to invest in the well-being of its employees. Maybe Niko can help us think about the department's that play a role in advancing that philosophy.

Let's try to discuss soon. Niko will be in at about 10. I should be free at about 9:30.