Western Oregon UNIVERSITY

**WOU STRATEGIC BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES**

| **I. PROPOSAL OVERVIEW** | | |
|---|---|---|
| Title Program for Undergraduate Research Program Coordinator | | |
| Department PURE | Requestor PURE Executive Committee, Chair: Ava Howard | |
| Requestor Email PURE@wou.edu | Requestor Phone 88702 | Request Date November 22, 2017 |

| **II. TIMEFRAME** | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Proposed Dates** | Start July 1, 2018 | End June 30, 2021 |

**III. PROPOSAL SUMMARY**

*Make your summary **concise** and compelling. Avoid jargon and acronyms. A limit of 100 words is recommended.*

The Program for Undergraduate Research Experiences (PURE) requests 0.5 FTE to co-fund current STEM Scholar Coordinator, Kathryn Duvall with half-time obligations to fulfilling PURE's mission. The 0.5 position would be used to support Academic Excellence Showcase, expanding PURE's initiatives in alignment with sections 1, 4 and 5 of the strategic plan "Forward Together", and (if funded) assist with contribution to an new EL Taskforce. PURE recognizes the goals of the fledgling STEM Scholars program, recently initiated with the aid of a HECC grant, as falling within the umbrella of PURE's mission and feels that a shared staff position would result in many synergistic outcomes with direct benefit to WOU students.

**IV. PROPOSAL SCOPE**

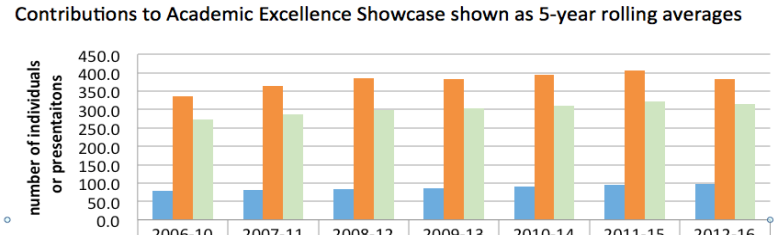
Describe the proposal and the expected outcomes if approved. Additional space available on the next page.

**Overview**: Student engagement in mentored research and creative scholarship with faculty has been shown to improve student retention and success and has been identified as a "high-impact" practice by the National Leadership Council for Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP). Western Oregon University's new strategic plan "Forward Together" recognizes the importance of supporting and enhancing undergraduate research in both the section on "Student Success" and "Academic Excellence". The Program for Undergraduate Research Experiences, established over a decade ago, serves all WOU students though two main initiatives (see sub-section below on current initiatives) and has an Executive Body with representation from all WOU colleges and both faculty, staff and administrative support. PURE is extremely well poised to expand its current initiatives with campus-wide impact and collaborate with other existing campus partners with synergistic impact. PURE Executive Committee recently completed a SWAT analysis of itself and identified "time" via the support of a dedicated staff/coordinator as the main constraint limiting our ability to maintain and expand our mission in support of the specific goals articulated in "Forward Together". A shared coordinator with a program similarly dedicated to serving students though enhancing undergraduate research, like STEM Scholars, will **maximize student impact while mainlining a lean staffing in both programs and building upon the strong foundation and direction of the PURE Executive body**.

**PURE Mission:** The mission of PURE is to promote undergraduate research -- in its broadest sense -- at Western Oregon University. PURE aims to build and sustain a culture of support for student scholarship through the

development of a campus-wide infrastructure that fosters communication, enhances dissemination of original research, and provides funding for this critical initiative. PURE also fosters opportunities for meaningful faculty-student collaboration in research, scholarship, and creative activities.

**Current Initiatives:** PURE has two primary projects: the Academic Excellence Showcase and *PURE Insights*.




| | 2006-10 | 2007-11 | 2008-12 | 2009-13 | 2010-14 | 2011-15 | 2012-16 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Faculty/Staff | 77.6 | 80.0 | 82.8 | 86.2 | 90.8 | 94.8 | 96.6 |
| Students | 336.8 | 362.8 | 384.2 | 383.2 | 394.6 | 406 | 382.8 |
| Presentations | 272.8 | 287.0 | 299.0 | 302.2 | 309.6 | 321 | 315.4 |

The annual Academic Excellence Showcase (AES) is an all-day event that allows students to present their scholarly work (e.g., posters, oral presentations, art performances) to the campus and local community. AES also includes student award presentations such as the Phi Kappa Phi First Year Writing Award and the Alfred Maurice Undergraduate Prize. Recently, students were given the opportunity to make their AES presentations electronically available through DigitalCommons@WOU. These 82 works have now been downloaded nearly 20,000 times, from individuals in 30 countries and more than 400 various organizations (e.g., Department of Veteran Affairs, North Carolina Research and Education Network, OHSU). PURE'S goal is to increase the number of students depositing their work in DigitalCommons@WOU, which will, in turn, increase the impact of WOU student research and scholarship.

First published in 2012, *PURE Insights* is a peer-reviewed journal that presents the original work of WOU undergraduates. The journal publishes a wide variety of scholarship from all academic disciplines; items include research and expository articles, technical papers, poetry, short stories, photographs, and videos. *PURE Insights* submissions have generated over 47,000 downloads worldwide, with almost half of those

## V. STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Describe the proposal's linkage to the university Strategic Plan.

PURE's dedication to supporting high-impact student learning experiences is a key theme in WOU's new strategic plan, *Forward Together*. A few of the many strategic priorities that focus on supporting and enhancing student research are:

**Student Success**

1. Cultivate academic success. 1.1 Provide a campus environment that enhances learning and the development of the whole person. 1.2 Strengthen and centralize programs and practices that support academic achievement for all students.

4. Streamline and improve university processes in support of student achievement. 4.3 Provide culturally responsive support for students from diverse communities.

**Academic Excellence**

1. Student initiatives. 1.2 Increase support for programs and activities that demonstrate and inspire academic excellence. 1.3 Provide financial support for student conference presentations and other student activities that showcase the university's educational practices and unique accomplishments

5. Identify and support activities, programs and practices that promote excellence in all academic programs.

5.1 Create opportunities for all undergraduate programs to include high-impact activities that support achievement of undergraduate learning outcomes.

5.3 Continue and enhance support for undergraduate research experience, presentation and publication opportunities.

5.4 Promote enhanced communication and collaboration between staff and faculty pertaining to student excellence.

The PURE Executive Committee, though AES and PURE Insights, has demonstrated success in development highly successful and sustainable initiatives that are aligned with the goals of *Forward Together* and have maximum student impact. Additional 0.5 support to the PURE in the form of a half-time commitment of Coordinator Kathryn Duvall will make additional success that align with the above campus priorities a reality.

**VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please include the following: implementation plan, assessment plan and the plan to sunset proposal if assessed objectives are not met in the timeframe outlined.

VI.

**Implementation:**

Pure requests 0.5 FTE for a part-time PURE staff Coordinator (continued employment of Kathryn Duvall) to help support the expanding needs of the PURE program in service to the objectives of the strategic plan *Forward Together*. The PURE program has identified the "STEM Scholar" initiative as synergistic partner program if STEM Scholar could contribute 0.5 FTE then together PURE and STEM Scholar could jointly fund a full time staff coordinator to meet the goals and administrative needed of these two undergraduate research oriented programs.

Our objectives with the aid of a new 0.5 FTE PURE Coordinator will be to:

(1) Streamline processes associated with PURE's current initiatives, and grow and support these currently successful initiatives.
(2) Develop new initiatives within the scope of PURE's mission that target sections 1, 4 and 5 of the WOU strategic plan "Forward Together"
(3) Together with the Faculty Coordinator/Director, work with the WOU Foundation to develop targeted fundraising evens that showcase WOU student success and request support for broadening successful initiatives and developing new initiatives.
(4) Expand successful models for student retention generated tested by STEM Scholars to a much wider inter-division and multi-college initiative.
(5) Provide guidance and mentorship to the fledgling STEM Scholar initiative and a means for directing and continuing the good work of this initiative should new/renewed grant funding (and current faculty PI leadership) not be received.
(6)

**Example New Initatives**: With the staff support of a coordinator like Kathryn Duvall, with a 0.5 commitment to PURE, PURE would seek to make forward progress on its many future goals which include the following:

(1) Provide students with equitable opportunity to present their work at the national and international level though competitive financial support to travel to present, and overall increase the number of places that WOU student achievement is recognized in external publications and programs. This fair system for supporting student travel to present would be similar to faculty development funds for presentation travel but for students presenting work done in collaboration with a faculty mentor.
(2) Strengthen support for students to engage in undergraduate research and academic scholarship though offering competitive financial support for materials and equipment. This fair system for supporting student research and creative scholarship would be similar to faculty development funds for "major projects" but for students engaging in undergraduate research in collaboration with a faculty mentor.
(3) Make undergraduate research opportunities equitable and eliminate potential economic bias by providing funded research internships in collaboration with, and following the successful model of, the Community Internship (CiP) program.
(4) Develop initiatives that engage first and second year students in mentored research and creative scholarship high impact practices that result in measurable increases in student retention at WOU.
(5) Provide organization and transparency by centralizing initiatives with a staffed PURE office that can administer, promote and assess student research initiatives at WOU (e.g., AES, *PURE Insights*, STEM Scholars, student travel to present awards, research internships, etc.) and collaborate with diverse academic divisions to integrate quality undergraduate research and creative scholarship high impact practices into their programs.
(6) Collaborate with existing WOU programs (e.g., Research Institute, Service Learning & Career Development, Student Enrichment Program) to support existing initiatives and develop new initiatives aligned to institutional priorities and the WOU Strategic Plan (see Strategic Plan Alignment section)

(7) Make possible PURE's engagement with a new Experiential Learning Task Force by relieving the PURE Faculty Coordinator of some of the daily management chores associated with Academic Excellence Showcase.

**Assessment**:

Success of the program will be assessed by (1) evidence of undergraduate research creative productivity (e.g., presentations, publications, grant acquisition, etc.), (2) retention of WOU student participants into their junior and senior years, (3) attitudinal pre and post surveys.

**VII. BUDGET** Select all sources that will fund this proposal and complete form A (below) for each source. (Additional copies on pages 6-8.)

| Education & General | Grant | Self-Support Academic | Self-Support Non-Academic |
|---|---|---|---|

| A. Funding Source | Education & General | | Grant | Self-Support Academic | | Self-Support Non-Academic |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **One-Time Funding** | | | **Base (3-yr Recurring) Funding** | | |
| **INFLOWS** | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 |
| **SFTE** | | | | | | |
| **Revenue** | | | | | | |
| **OUTFLOWS** | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 |
| **FTE** | | | | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| **Salaries** | | | | $20,400 | $20,400 | $20,400 |
| **Benefits** | | | | $14,484 | $14,484 | $14.484 |
| **Materials & Supplies** | | | | $5,000 | $5,000 | $5,000 |
| **Travel** | | | | | | |
| **Contracted Services** | | | | | | |
| **Capital** | | | | | | |
| **Other Operations** | | | | | | |
| **TOTAL** | | | | $39,884 | $39,884 | $39,884 |

| A. Funding Source | Education & General | | Grant | Self-Support Academic | | Self-Support Non-Academic |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **One-Time Funding** | | | **Base (3-yr Recurring) Funding** | | |
| **INFLOWS** | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 |
| **SFTE** | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenue** | | | | | | |
| **OUTFLOWS** | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 |
| **FTE** | | | | | | |
| **Salaries** | | | | | | |
| **Benefits** | | | | | | |
| **Materials & Supplies** | | | | | | |
| **Travel** | | | | | | |
| **Contracted Services** | | | | | | |
| **Capital** | | | | | | |
| **Other Operations** | | | | | | |
| **TOTAL** | | | | | | |

| **A. Funding Source** | Education & General | | Grant | Self-Support Academic | | Self-Support Non-Academic |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **One-Time Funding** | | | **Base (3-yr Recurring) Funding** | | |
| **INFLOWS** | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 |
| **SFTE** | | | | | | |
| **Revenue** | | | | | | |
| **OUTFLOWS** | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 |
| **FTE** | | | | | | |
| **Salaries** | | | | | | |
| **Benefits** | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Materials & Supplies** | | | | | | |
| **Travel** | | | | | | |
| **Contracted Services** | | | | | | |
| **Capital** | | | | | | |
| **Other Operations** | | | | | | |
| **TOTAL** | | | | | | |

| **A. Funding Source** | Education & General | | Grant | Self-Support Academic | | Self-Support Non-Academic |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **One-Time Funding** | | | **Base (3-yr Recurring) Funding** | | |
| **INFLOWS** | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 |
| **SFTE** | | | | | | |
| **Revenue** | | | | | | |
| **OUTFLOWS** | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 | FY17 | FY18 | FY19 |
| **FTE** | | | | | | |
| **Salaries** | | | | | | |
| **Benefits** | | | | | | |
| **Materials & Supplies** | | | | | | |
| **Travel** | | | | | | |
| **Contracted Services** | | | | | | |
| **Capital** | | | | | | |
| **Other Operations** | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **TOTAL** | | | | | | |

| **VIII. PROPOSAL SIGNATURES** | | |
|---|---|---|
| Department Head | Name | Signature |
| Division Head | Name | Signature |
| Vice President | Name Stephen Scheck | Signature |

| **IX. ACTION** | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Recommended by UBC** | Yes No | Date |
| Comments: | | |
| **Recommended by President** | Yes No | Date |
| Comments: | | |
| **Final Approval** | Yes No | Date |

| Comments: |
| --- |
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