

# Strategic Plan – Initiative Work Plan FY2014

Initiative Name CSRC Goal 2 1.B Date 25 May 2013

Goal # 2 Goal Chair(s) VP Nancy Rogers

Initiative # 1.B Initiative Chair(s) Prof. Tom Steiger

Thesis Statement \_\_\_\_\_

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## 1. Introduction/Background – What?

Research and creativity are widely recognized as a key component of experiential learning. The mission of Indiana State University's Center for Student Research and Creativity is to institutionalize student research and creativity, focusing primarily on the undergraduate experience. The Center will serve as a clearinghouse for information, support, coordination, and communication for all student research and creative activities.

*ISU's incubator for student research and creativity*

## 2. Proposal/Purpose/Justification – Why?

The purpose is to enhance experiential learning of ISU students (Goal 2). There are also impacts to increasing enrollment and student success (Goal 1); enhancing community engagement (Goal 3); and strengthening and leveraging programs of distinction (through research and creativity).

## 3. Discussion of Past Years Results – Benchmark Successes?

(This section needs to be as long as is necessary to assess whether funding should be continued.)

FY2013 represents the first full year of CSRC operation. During the regular fall and spring semesters, the CSRC funded 51 requests for support involving 70 students (these numbers do not include students funded for Summer 2012 nor do they include students funded for activities during Summer 2013).

Summer 2012 activities included SARIOT (a summer REU like experience for art students). Sycamore Artists Residing In Our Town ISARIOT) involved 10 student artists receiving a \$3000 stipend to do art with the theme of "Our Town" aligning with the College of Arts and Sciences Themed Semester of the same name. SARIOT culminated in a show at the Halcyon Gallery in September with an auction of 11 pieces of art for local charities.

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In addition, the CSRC partially supported 37 students participating in SURE, 13 McNair Students, and 16 other students conducting summer research. A total of 76 students were supported during Summer 2012.

The following is a list of new CSRC initiatives for 2013: Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF); Sycamores at NCUR2013; ReCOH (Research Experience in Community Health); SASER (Sycamore Artists Summer Experience in Residence); Creative Writing Workshop; Scientia fabricator conjunctum; and SUPUR (Summer Unbounded Possibilities Undergraduate Research). These initiatives are a strategy to create more opportunities for students to participate in undergraduate research and creative work and performance. These initiatives also create specific programs that donors might want to contribute.

Sycamores at NCUR2013 was a partnership between the CSRC and the College Deans. The CSRC offered to pay the expenses for any students who had a project accepted at NCUR if the Deans would reward the project's faculty sponsor with \$250 in faculty development monies. The goal for this program as stated in last year's work plan was four projects. The initiative was a success. In 2012, one project was accepted (two students) for presentation at NCUR. In 2013, six projects were accepted and nine students participated (including one faculty sponsor who travelled and presented a paper). Projects from three colleges were accepted.

Sycamores at NCUR2014 aims to have at least one project from each college and at least 8 projects accepted.

ReCOH (Research Experience in Community Health) involves funding a required summer research experience for students in ISU's Rural Health BA/MD program. These students, for the last five summers, have applied to the SURE program for this experience. However, that is not necessarily a good fit. The Rural Health students are interested more in research directly related to health issues. SURE does not guarantee that focus. Hence, a special one-time opportunity related to an expired Lilly Grant for community engagement with an unspent line item of \$60,000 for "undergraduate research," funded two new initiatives. VP Nancy Rogers asked the CSRC to find avenues to expend these funds during FY2013. ReCOH is one of two summer 2013 projects utilizing those monies. Working with the IU Medical Center located at ISU, nine students will work on community health projects this summer and receive a \$3000 stipend for 10 weeks while conducting research under the supervision of IU Medical Center faculty. The CSRC is working with Dean John Murray to find sources of ongoing funding for ReCOH because a summer research experience is a curricular requirement for the Rural Health students. Funding for ReCOH and SASER will be part of the CSRC's budget request for FY2014.

SASER (Sycamore Artists Summer Experience in Residence) involves funding students in music, art, and theatre for summer creative experiences. Initially funded with the left over Lilly monies, there are sub initiatives with each area. 16 students will be involved in the Music Departments' summer program, 7 students in the Art Department's Program, and 13 students in the Theatre Department's program, for a total of 36 students supported in SASER 2013.

SUPUR (Sycamore Unbounded Possibilities Undergraduate Research) is an initiative to leverage the research activities of Unbounded Possibilities for undergraduate research opportunities and in turn to support those activities with undergraduate researchers. A related initiative is SUPUR ISUCCEED with the African American Cultural Center. A total of 14 students will be paid a \$3000 stipend for 10 week summer research experiences.

Scientia fabricator conjunctum (scientists designers together) paired 6 undergraduate graphic design students with 6 undergraduate scientist who participated in SURE2012. The original posters from the SURE symposium were improved and then the posters were judged with the winning poster team receiving \$250. The posters were displayed during Exposium 2013.

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Exposium, formerly Symposium, debuted in April 2013. Exposium is a week long (4 days in 2013) celebration of student research and creativity. Located in the CML's public events area, Exposium moved to the Landini Center to better accommodate the performing arts. 102 posters were on display in the library, six posters on the Performing Arts day (the scientia fabricator conjunctum posters) and 64 performers. A total of 379 people attended Exposium in CML and 105 attended Performing Arts day in the Landini Center for a total attendance of 484.

Not all CSRC initiatives "worked." SURF (Sycamore Undergraduate Research Fellowships) an initiative to add undergraduate research monies to the scholarship packages of new students, was launched too late to attract any students. Nevertheless, Admissions plans to try again for the incoming class of Fall 2014.

The creative writing workshop, which offered a different format for summer research/creative experience, a credit bearing experience wherein the CSRC provided tuition grants of \$900 for each student and in term, the faculty sponsor would get paid for teaching a class, initially received interest from 15 students but ultimately only 3 signed up for it and thus cancelled. The CSRC will take over the advertising and recruitment phase and try again for Summer 2014.

CSRC is funding 17 students for summer 2013 outside of the above initiatives.

Total students supported by CSRC for FY2013 is 155. The goal for 2013 was 156 (had the creative writing workshop launched, the number of students supported would have been 170). Also the McNair Program lost funding and those dozen students are no longer part of the undergraduate research infrastructure.

Benchmark goal for 2013 for students participating in professional presentations, including Exposium, was 179, the actual number was 134, (34 outside Exposium). (Note: I am aware of more students who have presented at conferences but did not apply to CSRC for support, so the actual number of students making professional presentations of their research or performances is higher than this, the CSRC just did not support them because they did not apply for support.)

Benchmark goal for 2013 for overall attendance at Exposium was 313, actual attendance was 484.

### **4. Work Plan, Next Fiscal Year – Action Steps – Process – How?**

- Monetary support for undergraduate research experience (student wage dollars, materials support, and travel support)
- Celebration of student research and creativity (Exposium, first full week of April)
- Faculty support (travel, development, one-time investment monies to create opportunities for undergraduates)
- Summer Research/Creative experiences (\$3500 summer stipends for research/creative experience ex: SURE, SUPUR, ISUCCESS, SASER, ReCOH)
- Student support for travel to professional meetings to present their work (NCUR2013, etc)
- Various initiatives to create opportunities for student research and creativity (scientia fabricator conjunctum, support for Allusions, a literary journal published by students, etc)

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## 5. Reporting and Deliverable Schedule – When?

- Support for student wages, travel (faculty, too), and materials are reviewed on a rolling basis.
- Exposium registration will begin in January 2013 for first full week of April
- Summer 2014 is focused on sustaining the following programs SASER, SUPUR (and ISUCCESS, Writing Experience with Dr. Aaron Morales and a focus on working to pilot a summer program in the College of Technology.
- Ongoing videographer and student producer producing digital “stories” of undergraduate research and creativity at ISU as part of the celebration and promotion of undergraduate research and creativity.
- Working with Foundation for external support.
- Sycamores at NCUR2014 (partnership with Colleges to increase student presentations...goal is to have projects from each college and at least 8 projects accepted.
- BUILD ISUCCEED is an effort to secure an NIH BUILD grant. The CSRC took the lead in writing a planning grant proposal to assemble a team and draft and submit a proposal for ISU BUILD ISUSUCCEED. Ultimate success here is a multi million dollar grant to support 15-20 minority and female, first generation undergraduate researchers in STEM areas with a special emphasis on health research. The Planning Grant was submitted on May 10<sup>th</sup> 2013.

## 6. Budget – How Much, a General Discussion of Funds Use?

\$220,900. This is an increase of \$17,600 (14.5%) over last year’s request, (original request \$157,500) however, a supplemental request was made and funded for \$45,000 for a total budget of \$202,500. It is important to keep in mind that growth in the CSRC means more student participation in research and creative activities and as more students participate that means increased costs.

The three basic areas of the budget are for salaries for the CSRC office (Director and Administrative Assistant), \$68,400 for salaries for director and asst (up from \$41,000, a 66% increase). This reflects that the summer stipend for the Director, which was formerly paid out of Administrative Affairs, was not being paid from SPIT40.)

The second basic area is in student wages. This year’s request is for 120,000 an increase of \$45,000 (up from \$75,000 or a 167% increase). The CSRC spent or encumbered \$31,500+ for FY2013 (but another \$60,000 in Lilly Funds were expended, too). That equals \$91,500+. To meet benchmarks for Fall 2014, 16 more students must be supported. If those 16 students should be in summer programs, a minimum of \$48,000 more would be needed to fund them.

The third basic area is for CSRC operations. This year’s request is for \$32,500 (down from \$41,500 or a 22% decrease). This decrease represents a reduction in travel budgets for students, to be explained more thoroughly at number 9.

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## **7. Stakeholders and Management Plan – Who?**

- Undergraduate students and faculty are major stakeholders.
- SURE program (undergrad research program administered in Chemistry and Physics Department, supported by CSRC)
- The following CSRC initiatives: ReCOH, SASER, Creative Writing Summer Workshop, SURF, SUPUR, ISUCCEED

Management Plan. In conjunction with the CSRC's Strategic Planning Team, Tom Derrick, Lindsey Eberman, Jay Gattrell, Eric Glendening, Fran Lattanzio, David Malooley, David Robinson, and Linda Sperry, this plan has been developed:

- Tom Steiger is Director of CSRC, Jenifer Pollom is full-time OA. They are responsible for CSRC operation on day to day basis.
- Oversight of specific research and creative projects are ISU faculty sponsors.
- Approach is Centralized-decentralization.(The CSRC is a centralized office of information and support but it decentralizes that information and support to the department and individual faculty level.)

## **8. Outcome Assessment & Future Testing**

(How will we know that we were successful?)

A CSRC strategic plan is under development and with that an assessment plan for the CSRC should emerge. Target draft plan was approved in December 2012. However, the assessment plan requires work and has languished due to the unexpected windfall monies and initiatives that were able to be created with those monies. The benchmarks remain the same as last year. Those benchmarks are: 1) increase percentage of graduating Seniors that have had an Experiential Learning Component (undergraduate research/creativity) supported by CSRC; 2) increase hard # of students receiving support from CSRC; 3) increase hard# of students presenting research/creative projects at "showcases"/professional presentations; 4) increase hard# of lower division students participating in research/creative project experiences; 5) Increase overall attendance at annual "Exposium" celebration of student research and creativity.

We collected 991s from all students who receive support from the CSRC as well as those who present at Exposium as well as post these students' activities to the CO-curricular Transcript. Using swipe technology to register those students who attend Exposium as audience is not really feasible, so other means are being investigated to capture those students' identities.

## **9. Line Item Budget Discussion that tracks Budget Templates ...**

(These sections also need to be as long as is necessary to articulate each of the budget line items.)

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Three things occurred in FY12 that altered the use of SPIT40 funds and are reflected in this budget request. The summer stipend for the Director was not included in the SPIT40 request last year as it was paid for from Administrative Affairs. However, those stipends for this summer are being paid from SPIT40 and will be ongoingly. Hence, this budget request reflects that increase.

Second, the initiative that was sharing the AA with the CSRC was “halted” and the monies to pay Ms. Pollom were transferred to the CSRC after the budget was submitted and funded. This request includes the other half of the AA’s salaries and benefits.

Third, OSP has a fund for research support for graduate and undergraduate students. That fund’s distribution was turned over to the CSRC. A significant part (\$25,000) was transferred to the graduate school for distribution to graduate students and the remainder the CSRC distributed resulting in reduced demand on SPIT40 funds. This increased request reflects a lower increase than would be required if it were not for controlling this new source of funds. Indeed, the CSRC will assume operational control of the budget for graduate students in FY2014.

Labor		
Faculty Salaries	Enter descriptors as necessary to complement Budget Narrative	Budget
Faculty 1	buyouts for Director, 4 courses x \$3000	\$12,000
Faculty 2	summer stipend for Director	\$14,400
Faculty - All Others		\$0
<b>Faculty Benefits</b>		
Benefits - AY		\$0
Benefits - Summer		\$0
<b>Faculty Total</b>		<b>\$26,400</b>

In order to direct the CSRC a buyout of 4 courses per year is required. That and the summer stipend make up these lines. The summer stipend represents an increase from last year as that is where the Director’s stipend came for 2013 and now the CSRC needs to reflect this cost.

Staff Salaries		
Staff 1	full time equivalent staff support for CSRC	\$30,000
Staff 2		\$0
Staff - All Others		\$0
<b>Staff Benefits</b>		
Benefits - AY	40%	\$12,000
Benefits - Summer		\$0
<b>Staff Total</b>		<b>\$42,000</b>

Staff salaries doubled in the request because Ms. Pollom is now full time with the CSRC. Last year, monies were transferred from the Leadership Initiative to SPIT40 to cover her salary. Her full salary and benefits are requested this year.

Undergraduate Student Wages		
Undergrad 1	student wages (not 10 week stipends)	\$15,000
Undergrad 2	summer support (ReCOH, SUPUR, SURE, SURF, Creative writing Workshop, etc)	\$105,000
Undergrad - All Others		
<b>Undergraduate Total</b>		<b>\$120,000</b>

Undergraduate wages to pay for students to work on research and creative projects of faculty members is the key method for encouraging undergraduate research/creativity and performance. While this budget line reflects a significant increase over last year, it is more a shifting of former SPIT40 monies budgeted for travel and research support to student wages. The increase also reflects the ongoing commitment to five initiatives from 2013, SUPUR, SURF, SASER, ReCOH, and the summer creative writing workshop. For now, these are ongoing initiatives and require ongoing funding from the CSRC. Summer support reflects support for

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approximately 35 students and the other regular students wages reflects a commitment to fund a maximum of 30 students during the regular year. This represents about one third of the goal for 2014 of supporting 171 students in undergraduate research. The remainder of support is in the form of material support and travel support, which is NOT reflected in this budget request.

Operational		
Supplies/Expenses		
a	Exposium	\$7,500
b	CSRC S&E	\$5,000
Travel		
a	faculty best practices and director travel (CUR)	\$5,000
b	student travel for NCUR	\$10,000
Contractors/Consultants		
a	faculty stipends for undergrad summer research programs	\$5,000
b		\$0
<b>OPERATIONAL TOTAL</b>		<b>\$32,500</b>

The operational budget is reduced from last year due entirely to removing funds for travel and material support for research. That cost is taken from the monies OSP supplies for this purpose and now administered by CSRC. As Exposium expands, it will require more support. The line item for student travel to NCUR, needs to remain this high. For 2013 and 2014 the sites for NCUR were close enough to drive thus reducing transportation costs, but when air flight is required, a \$10,000 budget is not unreasonable (NCUR2013 cost about \$6500). Typically NCUR requires three nights of lodging and partial per diem. In order to increase opportunities for students, faculty must be compensated. The CSRC plans to discuss with the Deans different ways to compensate faculty for mentoring undergraduate researchers and artists/performers.