

Strategic Plan – Initiative Work Plan FY2015

Initiative Name CSRC Goal 2 1.B Date 31 May 2014

Goal # 2 Goal Chair(s) VP Nancy Rogers

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

Thesis Statement _____

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); Study Abroad and Travel (Goal 2) 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.)

FY2014 is the second full year of CSRC operation. During the regular fall and spring semesters, the CSRC funded 134 requests for support involving 372 students. This is an increase of 83 requests and 302 students. (FY2013 numbers do not include students funded for Summer 2012 nor do they include students funded for activities during Summer 2013)

The CSRC put forth no new initiatives for FY2014, instead focusing on developing those begun in FY2013. Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF) will have its first class in Fall 2014, 11 students expected; Sycamores at NCUR2014 produced 12 posters and 12 students presenting at NCUR2014 (an increase of 6

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posters and three students); ReCOH (Research Experience in Community Health) was not announced early enough and will have only four students participating this summer but plans already are made to announce much earlier in Fall 2014.; SASER (Sycamore Artists Summer Experience in Residence will have 8 students in summer 2014; Creative Writing Workshop failed for the third time and is now scrapped but the CSRC is working more closely with the student organization of Creative Writers to build the culture for creative writing; Scientia fabricator conjunctum was not repeated in 2014, will attempt again in 2015.; and SUPUR (Summer Unbounded Possibilities Undergraduate Research) has morphed into ISUCEED. 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.

There are two new initiatives for 2014-2015. They both originated outside the CSRC. One came from the COT. It is a mobile application program boot camp. The CSRC is funding a pilot this summer and has received a proposal for an ongoing summer programming experience for students. That proposal will be reflected in the increased budget request.

The other has come from the Department of Applied Health. It is for an REU for 10 students in Health, Spirituality, and Religion. The professor driving the experience is Dr. Anthony Walker. Funds to support 10 students during the summer of 2015 is reflected in this budget, however, the Department has indicated that unless the funds are transferred, they have no monies to initiate the program; hence, unless monies for the student stipends can be transferred (and not reimbursed) this program will not occur.

Sycamores at NCUR2015 will continue but with a slight modification. Because NCUR2015 will be held in Spokane, WA, travel costs will be much higher than the previous two years when we could drive students to the location. Hence, I will be asking the Deans to kick in \$250 dollars for each student in their college who has a project accepted. The goal for NCUR2014 was 8 projects with at least one project from each college. The number of projects was exceeded but only three colleges were represented. I am hopeful that because of the pilot initiative in COT, that a project will emerge from that for submission and presentation at NCUR2015. The goal for NCUR2015 is 14 projects spanning at least four colleges and 18 students. This will be the basis for a significant increase in the CRSC budget request.

ReCOH (Research Experience in Community Health) involves funding a required summer research experience for students in ISU's Rural Health BA/MD program. This program was funded last summer with non SPIT40 monies but is funded this year with them. I think the program should have a separate budget as it is a required element of these students' curriculum

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, Art and Theatre continued with versions of the program this summer. Music put forth a proposal but because the faculty mentor could not be paid, the program will not go forward.

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 ISUCEED with the African American Cultural Center. The CSRC's resources are now focused on ISUCEED .

Exposium is a week long (4 days in 2014) celebration of student research and creativity. Located in the CML's public events area, Exposium includes one day in the Landini Center to better accommodate the performing arts. 149 posters were on display in the library and 40 performers. (performers were down because no one

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from theatre or from the creative writing groups signed up to perform. A total of 426 people attended Exposium in CML and 200 attended the Performing Arts day in the Landini Center for a total attendance of 686.

Not all CSRC initiatives “worked.” 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. IN the fall of 2014, the faculty sponsor declined to try again for the summer workshop.

CSRC is funding 3 students in summer research experiences related to community engagement and sustainability. One is a student placed with Amy Rhoades, a land –based environmental educator in Indianapolis. The student will learn about such education and work on an evaluation and assessment project with Ms. Rhoades and I. Two others students are working in a start- up business in Terre Haute, a sustainable aquaponics operation. And five other students will be working on a research project on alternative sentencing begun last year.

Total students supported by CSRC for FY2014 is 372. The goal for 2014 was 171. A major reason for the increase was a spike in requests for travel support and support for study abroad that included a research or creative element.

Benchmark goal for 2013 for students participating in professional presentations, including Exposium, was 205, the actual number was 250. I believe that more students and faculty sponsors are becoming aware of CSRC support for such activities and demand is growing.

Benchmark goal for 2014 for overall attendance at Exposium was 361, actual attendance was 626.

In the fall of 2014, the CSRC will experiment with a two-day fall Exposium to feature all the work of the summer REUs, study abroad projects, and SASER activities.

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 and end of October)
- Faculty support (travel, development, one-time investment monies to create opportunities for undergraduates, and in 2015, if funded, small stipends to summer mentors)
- Summer Research/Creative experiences (\$3500 summer stipends for research/creative experience ex: SURE, ISUCCEED, SASER, ReCOH, Mobile Programming Boot Camp)
- Student support for travel to professional meetings to present their work (NCUR2015, 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 September 2014 for first full week of April
- Summer 2015 is focused on sustaining the following programs SASER, ISUCCEED, pilot a summer program in the College of Technology, and the sustainability experiences.
- 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 NCUR2015 (partnership with Colleges to increase student presentations...goal is to have projects from at least four colleges and at least 15 projects accepted).

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

\$518,222. This is a 124% increase over last year’s request of 230,900. However, only \$30,822 of that request was allocated (13%) because monies which had been promised had not yet been transferred (since SPIT40 monies can no longer be transferred until expensed as during year 1 of operation). Of the \$124,137 in carry forward for FY14, \$60,321 was used to pay for FY13 funding because departments delayed in getting their requests to the CSRC for reimbursement. This has caused much headache in both local departments and the CSRC. This reduced funding for the CSRC in its third full year of operation resulted in not paying faculty modest stipends for their efforts during summer REUs, the scientia conjunctum competition not running, the Director not traveling to CUR events, and an inability to develop any new initiatives to further the goals of the CSRC and the Strategic Plan. Were it not for the \$60,000 in accumulated funds for undergraduate research material support and travel from OSP, which the CSRC now administers, significantly reduced numbers of students would have been supported. Indeed, demand for travel and material support was so great, a supplemental request for funding was awarded (\$32,000). 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 CSRC must be able to commit to proposed projects early on, for instance, the trip to Thailand this summer, led by Jimmy Finny, involving 9 undergraduate students, was encouraged by the CSRC with a commitment of \$15000 to help fund student travel in the summer of 2014. That commitment was made in the summer of 2013. The CSRC is awaiting a proposal from COT Dean English for a program in design to develop projects for major competitions. The CSRC needs its funding to be able to commit to those initiatives early on.

The first basic area of the budget are for salaries for the CSRC office (Director and Administrative Assistant), \$67,222 for salaries for director and assistant, essentially no increase.

The second basic area is in student wages and stipends. This year’s request is for \$305,000 an increase of \$185,000 (up from 120,000 or a 154% increase) \$280,000 of that represents 80 summer stipends of \$3500

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each. The breakdown of support for the following summer programs: SURE (6); PSSURE (5); ReCOH (10); ISUCCEED (10); SASER (25); Mobile App bootcamp (10); SURF (10); REU in Health, Spirituality, and Religion (10); and Community Engagement (sustainability) (4). If any department approaches the CSRC in the fall with an idea for a summer REU or creative experience, I will request supplemental monies to fund it. A miscellaneous fund for such things would be preferred.

The third basic area is for CSRC operations. This year's request is for \$145,000, up from \$32,500 (over a 300% increase). This significant increase reflects that the accumulated funds from OSP for undergraduate travel and material support was exhausted in FY13 and I do not expect demand to diminish. Also, the CSRC is committed to fully funding students who are accepted to present at NCUR, which in 2015 is in Spokane, Washington. I am budgeting \$2000 per student and am budgeting for 20 students. OSP anticipates about \$15,000 for undergraduate travel and support for FY15 (\$35,000 less than available in FY13). The CSRC supported 47 students making professional presentations off campus. Lastly, students in the SURE and ISUCCEED programs who work with the Center for Genomic Advocacy are expensive in terms of supplies. Hence, \$15000 is set aside to reimburse the CGA for its supplies used for undergraduate research.

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, SURF, ISUCCEED

Management Plan. In conjunction with the CSRC's Strategic Planning Team, Tom Derrick, Lindsey Eberman, Lynn Maurer, 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?)

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

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students participating in research/creative project experiences; 5) Increase overall attendance at annual “Exposium” celebration of student research and creativity.

The CSRC would welcome assistance with assessing the students’ experiences but a comprehensive assessment plan and resources to conduct are required and until the CSRC is on the regular budget, I see no reason at this time to pursue that.

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.)

FY13 saw tremendous growth in the demand for CSRC support. That demand, the reduced budget allocation (real) and the growing institutionalization of undergraduate research and creative activities is reflected in this budget request.

Virtually no increase is requested for faculty and staff salaries. I do note, that the “new” monies allocated to the CSRC covered only about 75% of these nondiscretionary funds.

This is the case even though the CSRC is administering the Graduate Student Fund for the Grad School and will publish an electronic annual magazine highlighting the years activity in undergraduate research and creativity. The amount of administrative oversight has grown without additional costs.

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	\$13,000
Faculty - All Others		\$0
Faculty Benefits		
Benefits - AY 2013		\$0
Benefits - Summer 2013		\$1,560
Faculty Total		\$26,560
Staff Salaries		
Staff 1	salary for full time CSRC administrative asst (Jenifer Pollum)	\$23,151
Staff 2		\$0
Staff - All Others		\$0
Staff Benefits		
Benefits - AY 2013		\$17,511
Benefits - Summer 2013		\$0
Staff Total		\$40,662

Undergraduate wages to pay for students to work on research and creative projects of faculty members is an important method for encouraging undergraduate research/creativity and performance. While this budget line reflects a significant increase over last year, it also reflects the growing summer experiences being institutionalized. This request will fund 80 full time 10 week REU like opportunities for ISU students for summer 2015. These positions are part of ongoing summer experiences, so the funding is vital to keep the programs running. These programs are key because it is from these experiences that research posters come which in turn are the basis for travel to professional meetings, especially NCUR. The \$280,000 reflects ongoing commitments to the following programs: SURE, ISUCCEED, SURF, SASER, ReCOH, PSSURE, the Mobile App Programming Boot Camp, the REU in Health, Spirituality, and Religion; and the Community Engagement research experiences.

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Undergraduate Student Wages		
Undergrad 1	student wages	\$25,000
Undergrad 2	summer student stipends (3500 each) 80	\$280,000
Undergrad - All Others		\$0
Undergraduate Total		\$305,000

Last year's operational budget was reduced because of the administration of the OSP funds. Because most of that fund was "windfall" due to it accumulating over several years, this year's operational budget is significantly increased to reflect student travel and material support. I am again requesting support for faculty stipends (token, only \$250) for those who work with students in summer programs. Despite adding a fall Exposium (two days) to better capture the work of students in summer programs, the increase of \$1000 in the S&E budget is for \$1000 to pay for ISU's institutional membership in CUR (Council on Undergraduate Research). This membership has been paid out of OSP until this year. Student travel is reflected in this budget which explains the huge increase. \$40,000 of that budget is for NCUR2015 and the CSRC's commitment to fully funding students who submit and are accepted for presentation. 47 students presented research at off campus events in FY2014. 15% more students presented in 2014 than in 2013. If that growth occurs in 2015, it represents about \$4000 in additional expenses. There is also a line for faculty travel. Two faculty members, Rick Fitch (Chemistry) and Jen Latimer (EES), both who are vital supporters of undergraduate research, have been elected by their peers to be CUR (Council on Undergraduate Research, the leading professional association for undergraduate research and sponsor of NCUR) Councilors. The Councilors are the policy advisory group to CUR. They meet every summer and it is appropriate that the CSRC support their travel. The rest of that budget is for those faculty who request \$200 in appropriate travel support.

Operational		
Supplies/Expenses		
a	Exposium	\$7,500
b	CSRC supplies and expenses	\$6,000
Travel		
a	Student travel and material support (includes NCUR2015)	\$121,000
b	other faculty travel and director travel	\$5,000
Contractors/Consultants		
a	stipends for faculty who work in identified summer REU programs	\$6,500
b		\$0
OPERATIONAL TOTAL		\$146,000