

Services & Activities Fee Annual Program Review

Program Name: Office of Undergraduate Research – SOURCE
Note: Name change in process
Likely new name: Office of University Student Research – SOURCE

Program Manager: Dr. Brandy Wieggers

Fiscal Year: FY22

1. In what ways does your program support CWU students? Please be specific, yet concise.

SOURCE supports CWU students by providing a professional local conference experience. Students present work that was funded by OUR grants, as well as any other student projects completed in or out of class. For students who may not be able to travel out of state for other conferences, SOURCE serves as great experience, professional development, and either peer review or discipline judging experience.

2. What are your specific program goals or learning/operational objectives? How are you assessing the effectiveness of your program in achieving those targets?

SOURCE aims to be an accessible conference for all students at CWU. Having students present their work helps to prepare them for their professional career, as well as share what they've achieved to their friends, family, and colleagues. Since we've gone virtual the last two years, we have had a much wider audience viewing SOURCE presentations. We hope to keep this accessibility aspect a priority as we continue hybrid and in-person events. We assess the effectiveness of our program achieving these goals by asking for feedback in a survey after each event we host, and use that feedback to help improve and better serve students in the future

OUR Program Goals align with Central's Core Themes for ASL Strategic Planning. Below we explain how and what assessment we are completing to track this alignment.

- **Access and Opportunity:** OUR will increase access and opportunity by expanding programming beyond Spring SOURCE to include professional development program to support undergraduates who are doing research, scholarship, and other creative activities. **Assessment:** Tracking growth of OUR programming provided.
- **Inclusiveness and Diversity:** OUR will share best practices for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access in undergraduate research and scholarship through campus promotion, program messaging, and developed trainings. **Assessment:** Looking at the participation in our programs compared to the broader university programs.
- **Sustainability:** OUR will work with campus resources including Foundations and the Sponsored Projects offices to find funders in the greater Washington area that will sustainably fund undergraduate research. **Assessment:** Tracking fund raising efforts and success.
- **Transformational Teaching and Learning:** OUR will support faculty to incorporate research, scholarship, and creative works within their classroom including apply for in-class research training grants such as the Howard Hughes grant which would support faculty in introducing first-year students to active research with their first lab experiences. **Assessment:** Tracking growth of OUR programming provided.

3. What is the overall purpose of your program and what service(s) does your program provide?
- a. Are there overlaps or intersections with other university programs who have a similar purpose or service?

The overall purpose of SOURCE is to engage students, faculty, and the Ellensburg community in a conference experience, and showcase the work of CWU Students. In the months leading up to SOURCE, our office provides various how-to sessions to help students succeed (abstract workshops, how to prepare presentations, etc.).

4. How does your program align with the purpose of S&A funding? *“Supporting cocurricular and extracurricular activities and programs participated in by students in the furtherance of their education.”*

SOURCE provides a space for students to present their work experienced in extracurricular activities, as well as work that has been done in class. Many students will be going into fields where they will continue research and attending conferences to further their education, and SOURCE is an excellent platform for students to gain that experience before leaving college.

5. How does your program support CWU’s mission and goals? (<https://www.cwu.edu/mission/>)

SOURCE allows students to present research, scholarship, and creative expression to the public, and their work may serve as a resource for other students, faculty, and the Ellensburg community.

6. Please provide detailed information regarding who utilizes your program? *(Students, faculty, staff, community? Specific demographic information? Class standing, gender, ethnicity, transfer, campus location, etc.)*

Students, faculty, staff, and community all utilize SOURCE in some way. Students are able to present work, or attend and observe various presentations that may inspire other projects in the future. Each student who presents at SOURCE has a faculty mentor, who may also judge sessions and/or facilitate questions with audiences to engage our community. Staff have always been excellent volunteers helping SOURCE succeed.

In our 2020-21 cycles, we had 219 presentations representing 265 students from Ellensburg and other CWU campuses.

- 62% female applicants
- 40.4% first generation students, 27.2% pell eligible
- 63.8% European/Middle Eastern/White , 17.9% Latino/Hispanic, 7.5% Multiracial, 7.2% Asian, 18.1% Not Reported

These students represent 219+ faculty member mentors.

We mainly served students in senior standing. We are looking into ways to diversify our applicant pool and make sure all students know our grants are available.

7. How many unique CWU students utilize your program or services?
- How do you gather these metrics?
 - If you do not, what is preventing you from getting that data and how are you determining usage by CWU students?

All students apply to our program with their SID. We used this with Institutional Effectiveness to do an analysis of our participants. The OUR office will continue to work with Institutional Effectiveness to determine more details about what students utilize our services.

8. Are there any current vacant positions in your program?

Erin Cone, Program Coordinator, will be leaving March 15th. During spring quarter, the office will have a part-time staff member. The program coordinator position will be redesigned and plan to start Fall 2022.

We are also hiring a graduate assistant to help with Spring 2022 SOURCE

9. Given the budget reductions taking place and continuing for the remainder of the funding cycle, please tell us what specific impacts those reductions have had on your program compared to what was originally planned and including in your initial base funding request.

The budget reductions, our office will continue to run SOURCE, and possibly look for fundraising opportunities, as well as other campus sponsors.

10. Are there any circumstances or challenges that are currently impacting your ability to use your base funding allocation this year?

The pandemic has limited us from utilizing our full funding for this event since it is a large in person event usually. Virtual events have allowed more accessibility to participants and viewers, and as covid restrictions relax, we will be able to utilize our funds for in-person events again.

11. What growth or increases would you like to see in your program in the future?

We would like to see more faculty involvement with our event to better serve students. We hope to see more students participate in SOURCE each year and find ways to involve our community as well.