



Western Oregon UNIVERSITY

Sponsored Projects

Fall 2020 Newsletter

Sponsored Projects News at a Glance

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Greetings

The Sponsored Projects Office at WOU is pleased to help bring in the 2020-2021 academic year. Our doors are open to all faculty and students Monday through Friday, 8:00 to 5:00, or by appointment. Any grants and funding related concerns should be brought to the attention of the SPO.

Check out the new Website!

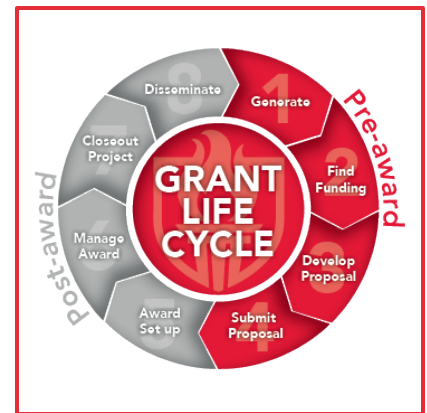
We have a new website! Visit www.wou.edu/spo to learn about the SPO process for submitting grant applications. The site includes a page containing the various forms needed, such as the Intent to Submit and the Routing forms, as well as forms for managing awards. The site also includes links to the centers, institutes, programs and SPO partners.

Organizationally, the SPO is under the Graduate Studies and Research Office, so the SPO website links to the Dean's Office if you need to get to the Graduate Studies website.

The site links to the [Research at Western R@W Blog](#) where you can read posts about WOU grants activities. A recent post to the blog provides guidance on resuming research activities at WOU regarding COVID-19, and includes the form needed to get approval to resume research projects. A [video presentation on how to submit a grant at WOU](#) is also available on the blog.



If you're on twitter, please follow [@WOUresearch](#) to keep up-to-date on research and scholarship happenings at WOU.



2020 Grant proposal activity: a year in review

The start of a new academic year creates an opportunity to look forward and to look back. In 2020, the Sponsored Projects Office helped submit 55 proposals by 41 different faculty and staff members, totaling just under \$20 million. As of this writing, 29 of those proposals have been funded, bringing \$12,785,316 in grants and contracts. That's a 54.5% success rate for proposals, and brings in a revenue of \$757,401 of indirect dollars that the university can use to support the finance and administration operations of sponsored projects.



Some highlights of successful FY 2020 grant applications, including projects in CLAS, CoE, WOU Foundation, Student Affairs, and in a TRI Center:

- Mathematics Assistant Professor [Dr. Leanne Merrill](#) received a [Dolciani Mathematics Enrichment Grant](#) from the Mathematical Association of America. Her project “Polk County Math Circle” was awarded \$5,000 for a unique partnership with local schools in which WOU students facilitate advanced math enrichment tutoring.
- [Darryl Thomas](#), Professor of Dance, was awarded \$9,964 from [Oregon Sea Grant’s Program Development](#) grant program. The project combines Dance with Computer Coding to interpret the effects of ocean acidification. The project is a multi-departmental collaboration between Computer Science, Biology, and Dance, with [Camila Gabaldon](#), [Breeann Flesch](#), and [Karen Haberman](#).
- [Dr. Denise Thew-Hackett](#) received not just one, but two grants from the [US Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services](#). Both grants are for \$1,000,000 each, and 80% of the funds goes directly to students. The five-year projects increase participation in long-term training for students in the Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling program.
- [Dr. Megan Patton-Lopez](#) in the Division of Health and Exercise Sciences in the WOU College of Education received a grant for \$52,396 from the [Oregon Health Authority](#). The project is a unique partnership with [Polk County Public Health](#) and the funds will train students as contact tracers.
- Director of Smith Fine Arts, [Lisa Schachter](#) in the WOU Foundation, received \$9,000 from the [Oregon Community Foundation’s Oregon Arts and Recovery Program](#). The funds will help sustain the Smith Fine Arts which experienced lost revenue due to COVID.
- [Colin Haines](#), Director of the Veteran Resource Center, secured a grant from the [Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs](#). The grant is for \$76,226 and will help WOU promote services to Veterans. Under Colin’s leadership, WOU was formally recognized as a [Veteran Friendly Campus](#).
- [Robyn Lopez-Melton](#) from the [Center for Early Learning and Youth Development](#) in [The Research Institute](#). was awarded a contract for \$770,844 from the [Oregon Department of Education Early Learning Division](#) to develop emergency standards for child care providers in response to COVID.

Special thanks to [Darryl Thomas](#), Professor of Dance who **submitted five grant applications** during FY 2020, four of which were funded, the most by any faculty member.

FY 2021 is already off to a great start. **By October 2019, the Sponsored Projects Office had helped submit \$1.1 million** in proposals. **By October 2020, that figure is nearly \$4 million**. So, as you can see, some exciting news to think about as we move into the new academic year.

Welcome note from the new Dean of Graduate Studies & Research:

Dr. Hillary Fouts



Welcome to the Sponsored Projects Office (SPO) at Western Oregon University! At SPO, we partner with WOU faculty, staff, and students in seeking and managing external funding from a variety of entities, including federal and state agencies, private foundations, and corporations. We work with you every step of the way to bring your ideas to fruition. This includes assisting in idea generation, identifying funding sources, building collaborations, developing your proposal and budget, and helping you successfully manage your award to completion. We understand that obtaining and managing external funding requires significant effort and the world of research administration and funding may seem daunting. We

strive to demystify and streamline the process to support you in achieving your funding goals. Reach out to us. Partner with us. Whether you are new to external funding or experienced, we are here to support you.

Office: AD 107A | 503 838-8366 | foutsh@wou.edu

Meet the Staff

Aaron East

New to the SPO is Business Manager and Analyst Aaron East. Aaron comes to SPO after having led the Traffic Safety Education program at WOU. Aaron is a WOU alum, and brings a wealth of knowledge to the SPO office. He helps Centers, Institutes, and Programs manage their budgets and accounts.

Aaron will be filling in on an interim basis and can assist grant recipients in managing their awarded funds. A [search is currently underway to fill the Post-award Administrator position](#).

Office: Todd Hall 104 | 503 838-8792 | east@wou.edu



Lucinda Milligan

Longtime WOU employee, Lucinda Milligan is now the Grants Management Accountant for the SPO. Lucinda's knowledge of accounting practices will be a great benefit to us all.

Office: Todd Hall 102 | 503 838-8486 | milliganl@wou.edu

Eric Dickey

Lucinda and Aaron join Eric Dickey to expand the SPO. Eric is the Pre-award Administrator and is here to assist faculty in submitting grant applications.

Office: APSC 414 | 503 838-8474 | edickey@wou.edu

