

Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Fall 2016

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IRA Funds Request for Bio 499: Sea Change -- Field Trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific

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Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Summary

Project Sponsor	Geoffrey Dilly
Activity Title	Bio 499: Sea Change – Field Trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific
Activity/Event Date	11/12/16
Date Funding Needed By	9/1/16
Previously Funded?	Yes
Semester/Year	Fall 2015
Proposal #	#679
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity?	Yes
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity	irareportform679.docx
Additional Report #1	ListofStudentsforIRA679.docx
Additional Report #2	StudentReflectionsfor679.docx
Additional Report #3	—
Additional Proposers	—
Academic Program(s) / Center Name(s)	Biology
Estimated total Course Fee revenue	0
Amount Requested from IRA	1425
Estimated Number of Students Participating	24
Conditions and Considerations	Field Trip
Brief Activity Description	<p>This activity is a Saturday field trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach for the students in the Biology 499: Sea Change capstone course. The experience will be a guided tour through the aquarium, as well as a behind the scenes tour gauged at college level students at the Aquarium with an emphasis of types of jobs available in marine science including engineering, training, veterinary, chemist, aquarist and more - set up in advance between myself and aquarium educational staff. Furthermore, in prior years, NOAA and many other organizations have had an in-service day in mid-November which this field trip would seek to match. The costs of this activity are essentially to cover the Roadrunners 25 person shuttle (using the 2015 cost of 800 dollars), and the estimated entrance cost of the students using the special educational rates (estimated for 2016 to be ~\$25 per student) (normal behind the scenes tickets are >\$45 dollars). Biol 499 is a biology capstone course focusing on Ocean Conservation and Marine Biology. This course is highly interactive, featuring weekly student presentations, journal discussions, and proposal writing. One thing missing from the course, however, is a tangible connection to the organisms and themes we discuss in class every week.</p> <p>This will be the second time this field trip has been included in the curriculum of the capstone class, and it was very well received by all the students involved last Fall. It ran perfectly in Fall 2015, and the only significant change I will make to this version will be a more concerted effort to teach the students about the organizations that will be in attendance at the Aquarium so they know what to look out for - such as Channel Island Keepers, NOAA, USGS, NMFS, and many other groups. Student reflections from the first run of this field trip showed student engagement and excitement by the trip, as well as some who even mentioned potential volunteer and paid position contacts for employment after graduation from CI.</p>
Learning Outcomes and Relation to IRA to Course Offerings	This trip will allow students to connect with the animals and plants they've learned about in class, as well as make connections concerning many aspects of ocean conservation with real life examples. The field trip will occur late in the semester so students will have had plenty of time to learn about many of the ocean conservation themes that will be explored. In addition, by matching our trip with the NOAA (and others) in-service day, this experience would introduce the students to researchers, scientists, providing them with role models as well as direct contacts for careers in the marine sciences and conservation. The Biology 499: Sea Change course is one of discussion, interaction, and reflection. To tie this field trip into the themes of the course, we will have a wrap-up discussion of the exhibits and presentations we saw at the Aquarium of the Pacific the following week in class.
Description of Assessment Process	The field trip will be integrated back into the classroom experience by having a wrap up discussion when we return the next week to the capstone lecture. This will solidify the experience into one of learning and growth connecting real world examples to the topics we have covered in class. Beyond an in-class discussion, I will also ask for a 1-2 page summary of their thoughts and experiences there. I will request this to be free form, having them reflect on what struck them most about the experience. Finally, as this will be near the end of the class, I will encourage the students to seek out exhibits and ask questions that pertain to their particular graduate student grant proposal assignment, due at the end of the semester. Last fall, students sought out advice on topics including Plastics, Ocean Acidification, Overfishing, and Marine Debris.
Activity Budget	Dilly_Bio499_Fall2016_IRA.xlsx

CIA Budget	—
CIA Proposal	—
Course Syllabus	—
CIA Certification	—
Other Sources of Funding	There are no current additional sources of funding for this field trip at this time.
Target Audience/Student Marketing	My intended audience is the entire Biology 499 course. As this will be announced with financial support with the syllabus with 3 months notice, the field trip will be mandatory (with standard exceptions for child care, sickness). This will be marketed as the highlight of the course, a chance to experience marine environments first hand in a capstone course that is otherwise entirely classroom based. These are seniors, and this is a great chance for them to engage with the subject matter of ocean conservation firsthand.
Bring Benefit to Campus	I hope this will be student driven benefits. Beyond the 24 students in my course, I hope they will continue to spread the importance of community and political engagement on topics of ocean health. In the previous year, students put together a symposium on-campus to explain the COP21 Climate change talks in Paris, and drafted a letter of support to Sec. Kerry after returning from the Aquarium and learning about the threats of ocean acidification and climate change.
Sustainability	This is a perfect fit for sustainability content. The Biology 499 course is focused on ocean conservation and sustainability, and this field trip will be the centerpiece of this content providing face time with the plants and animals we are working to protect.
Program Chair/Director	amy.denton
Dean	karen.carey
Acknowledgement	I acknowledge that I have reviewed and accepted the Conditions and Considerations herein. Please check off boxes as appropriate.

Program Chair/Director Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	Amy Denton
Date/Time	3/2/2016 6:58:29 AM
Validation	myCl-signin-5C-0874
Comments	—

Dean Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	Karen Carey
Date/Time	3/2/2016 7:54:29 AM
Validation	myCl-signin-9G-1823
Comments	—

IRA Committee Decision

Decision	—
Comments	—

Current Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Assigned To
IRA Committee Decision	3/2/2016 7:54:29 AM	David Daniels

Completed Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Time Completed	Completed By
Review from karen.carey, Dean	3/2/2016 6:58:29 AM	3/2/2016 7:54:29 AM	Karen Carey
Review from amy.denton, Program Chair/Director	3/2/2016 3:07:29 AM	3/2/2016 6:58:29 AM	Amy Denton
Fill out Request	3/1/2016 11:57:25 PM	3/2/2016 3:07:29 AM	Geoffrey Dilly

Actions

- [IRA Committee Decision](#)
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