

# Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Spring 2020

## ▼ Submitter

### Submitter Name

Barbara Thayer

### Submitter Email

barbara.thayer@csuci.edu

## ▼ 1. Basic Details

### Activity Title

Western Psychological Association Convention for Independent Student Research

### Activity/Event Date

April 30 - May 3, 2020

### Date Funding Needed By

February 1, 2020

### Previously Funded?

- ☒ No  
☐ Yes

### Additional Proposers

Susan Beers

### Academic Program/Center/Organization Name

Psychology Program

### Estimated total Course Fee revenue

N/A

### Amount Requested from IRA

\$10,400.00

## Estimated Number of Students Participating

13

### ▼ 2. Brief Activity Description

Describe the activity and its relationships to the educational objectives of the students' program or major

#### **Brief Activity Description**

Students have helped to design several projects, including an investigation of the relationships among estrogen, multitasking ability and other aspects of cognition, such as attention, working memory and spatial navigation capacity. Students participated in developing the IRB application, developing measures of multitasking and cognition, designing computer-based programs to test aspects of cognition, recruiting and testing participants, collecting and analyzing data, drawing conclusions and disseminating results. Currently, 7 students are participating in this project. In order to accurately assess the relationship between estrogen and these cognitive activities, estrogen levels will be assayed using an outside service. Additionally, we seek funding to procure two licenses for a computer software program, Inquisit, which will allow students to design and conduct experiments investigating various aspects of cognitive and social psychology and neurophysiology as well. The Inquisit licenses may also be used in other projects and do not expire. Other research underway by 6 additional students includes projects investigating the impact of stress on implicit biases; differences in reading comprehension and retention between electronic media and paper textbooks; the relationship between rumination and self-compassion; and a test of math-specific anxiety.

Next May marks the 100th Annual Convention for the Western Psychological Association, a landmark in the history of psychology and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our students. We anticipate having 13 students presenting their findings at the Convention and thus are requesting travel and conference funds. The opportunity to present their experimental findings and meet and network with others in the field can open doors to future graduate school opportunities and career paths.

These research projects are closely aligned with the second educational objective in Psychology, "Recognize, understand the strengths and weaknesses of, and be able to use, major research methods in psychology, including study design, data analysis and interpretation," as well as the fourth objective, "Demonstrate information competence and the ability to use computers and other technology for multiple purposes," and the fifth objective, "Use and respect skeptical inquiry, critical thinking and the scientific approach to understanding behavior." Students are integrating various methods of inquiry in their projects – for example, incorporating biological perspectives with cognitive techniques – and learning to use new technology to assess aspects of cognition. Students are reading the primary literature and developing expertise in experimental design and execution, data collection and analysis, and collaboration and scientific presentation.

Please provide a list of administrative support work needed to fulfill the goals of the proposal. Indicate the estimated time of year and amount of time needed for each work item to the best of your ability:

#### **Administrative Time**

Minimal administrative support is required for this project.

Interactions with vendors/funds disbursement (Spring 2020): 0.5 hours per month

Assisting with travel arrangements and funding (Spring 2020): 2 hours each, February and March

### ▼ 3. Learning Outcomes and Relation of IRA to Course Offerings

All IRAs must be integrally related to the formal instructional offerings of the University and must be associated with scheduled credit courses.

1. Please list all classes that directly relate to the proposed activity.
2. For each class listed, describe in detail how exactly the IRA activity will be integrated with the class's activities, how often/ on what expected date(s), and to what extent

## Learning Outcomes and Relation of IRA to Course Offerings

This will directly relate to Psychology 497 (Beers) and Psychology 497 (Thayer). Both courses support independent student research.

The IRA activity constitutes the coursework for all students involved. Students read primary scientific literature to learn about previous research on their project: for example, students working on the multitasking project read literature on (1) multitasking and other features of cognition, (2) how hormones influence cognition, and (3) what other cognitive assessments have shown with respect to the effect of hormones and estrogen in particular. Students are responsible for learning about conducting ethical research with human subjects and completing appropriate training. They recruit participants and interact with them in a variety of ways, from explaining the informed consent process, to collecting saliva samples for assaying estrogen, monitoring the various cognitive assessments, and completing a debriefing process. They learn about confidentiality and how to effectively collect data. Students are also responsible for gathering and otherwise developing all instruments necessary for the research, including programming in Superlab and Qualtrics. Students then analyze the data collected, using knowledge of statistical methods from other coursework. They draw conclusions and will present their findings at one or more scientific conferences where they have the opportunity to interact with other researchers and learn about new developments in the area. We anticipate students presenting these findings at the SAGE Student Research Conference as well as at the Western Psychological Association Convention next May.

A pilot study was undertaken in the Fall Semester of 2019 which was funded by the Psychology Program.

## ▼ 4. Activity Assessment

Describe the assessment process and measures that the program will use to determine if it has attained its educational goals.

**Please note that a report will be due at the end of the semester.**

### Description of Assessment Process

At the end of the semester, students will submit an American Psychological Association (APA)-format scientific research paper detailing their experiment: the background, the methods, the findings (including statistical analyses as appropriate) and conclusions. Students will also prepare and submit research abstracts to selected student and professional conferences for publication of the studies' findings. If the abstracts are accepted, students will develop presentation materials, such as posters and slide presentations for professional talks. Successful completion of the research paper, conference abstract, and presentation are indicators of attainment of the educational goals. In addition, the students will complete a survey asking them about their experience with the project and how the project encouraged and supported their critical thinking skills, research experience and preparation for post-baccalaureate study.

## ▼ 5. Activity Budget

Please enclose a complete detailed budget of the entire activity. Indicate specific items that you are requesting IRA to fund.

You should use either the Regular Activity budget (for events on campus) or -- if your event involves any travel-- you MUST use the IRA Travel Budget Form.

You can download both of the IRA Excel Budget sheets at <http://www.csuci.edu/ira/application.htm>.

### Activity Budget

[ira-travel-budget-form-fy19-20 Thayer Beers.xlsx](#)

## ▼ 6. International Trips

If your event is an international trip submitted through the Center for International Affairs, you must include copies of:

1. Complete Center for International Affairs/ UNIV 392 proposal
2. The program budget as submitted to the Center for International Affairs (to ensure congruency between the two budgets)
3. as well as a copy of the course syllabus

### **Center for International Affairs Budget**

### **Copy of Center for International Affairs Proposal**

### **Course Syllabus**

### **Certification**

☐ I certify that students attending this trip are not previous or repeat attendees of a prior International UNIV 392 Trip

## **▼ 7. Sources of Activity Support**

Please list the other sources of funding (including course fees), and exact expected amounts of additional support for the activity. Please indicate if there are no other sources of funding

### **Other Sources of Funding**

No other support is anticipated this semester.

## **▼ 8. Promoting Participation**

### **What is your intended audience and how do you intend to market this to your students?**

The intended audience for this instructional related activity are undergraduate psychology students who are interested in psychological research and may be considering applying to graduate programs in psychology. Graduate schools in psychology generally place significant importance on instructional activities related to research in selecting future students for admission. For these reasons, students either approach faculty such as ourselves who supervise student research in PSY490, PSY494, or PSY497 courses regarding research opportunities, or faculty offer the opportunity to interested and capable students enrolled in their other classes. Currently, 13 such students are involved in the research described in this application. These students have been given the opportunity to work on a variety of research projects related to their interests.

### **If this is an event that is off campus, how do you plan to bring back the benefit of this event to campus?**

N/A

## **▼ 9. Approval and Acknowledgement**

### **Program Chair/Director**

de Oca, Beatrice

### **Dean**

Wyels, Cynthia (Arts & Sciences)

**Program Chairs and Deans may inform proposer of any staffing capacity needs or limitations (optional comments below):**

### Conditions and Considerations

- ☐ **Artist/Performer/Speaker Fees & Honoraria:** On the Activity Budget, please indicate whether the vendor's price was set by you/CI Representative, or is a fee that was set by the vendor.
- ☐ **Large Event:** For a large event, consultation with the campus Event Coordinator's office at (805)437-8548 is required.
- ☐ **Field Trip:** Sponsor must comply with all policies found at:  
<http://www.csuci.edu/rm/programs/academic-field-trip-guidelines-and-forms.htm>. If approved, Identified Risks of Participation and Release Agreement must be submitted for each student to the Program Office (Public Folders-HR Forms).
- ☒ **Involves Human Subject Data Collection for Public Dissemination -Requires IRB Approval :** If Project Sponsor proposes to conduct research with human participants, the proposal may be subject to Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects (IRB) review. All research that involves any type of interaction with human subjects - from simple surveys to complex biomedical procedures - must be reviewed and approved by the IRB prior to starting the research. Data for "Public Dissemination" indicates interviews/surveys that result in a journal/poster session/newsletter, etc.
- ☐ **IT Requirements:** If your activity has IT requirements, coordination with and approval from IT Administration is required.
- ☐ **International Travel:** Requires International Travel application be submitted to Center for International Affairs. Include copy of CIA budget and course syllabus in your IRA application. Must utilize the University's Foreign Travel Insurance Program (FTIP) and follow all International Travel Guidelines listed at: <http://www.csuci.edu/rm/insurance/foreign-travel.htm>
- ☐ **Risk Management Consultation:** Events that involve or engage students directly with a performer or artist (i.e. in a workshop or other than as a passive audience member) will require consultation with Risk Management. Requires proof of correspondence with Risk Management.
- ☐ **Space/Facilities Services Requirements:** Consultation and coordination with Facilities Services is required.

### Acknowledgement

- ☒ I acknowledge that I have reviewed and accepted the Conditions and Considerations herein. Please check off boxes as appropriate. Please note that late applications will not be reviewed by the committee.

### ▼ Chair Review

#### Recommendation

- ☒ I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
- ☐ I DO NOT recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page

#### Comments

The Psychology program strongly supports this proposal. The proposers are 2 full-time lecturers who have been at CSUCI for several years. The project involves 13 students who will gain valuable experience in a variety of methodologies and have the opportunity to present their original research at a conference.

 Beatrice de Oca Nov 4 2019

### ▼ Dean Review

#### Recommendation

- ☒ I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page

 DO NOT recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page

## Comments

 Cynthia Wyels	Nov 22 2019
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