



# Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Spring 2015

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- Workflows
- Current Tasks
- My Workflows
- My History

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

### Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Summary

<b>Project Sponsor</b>	Geoffrey Dilly
<b>Activity Title</b>	Bio 499: Sea Change -- Field Trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific
<b>Activity/Event Date</b>	11/14/15 (or alternate weekend)
<b>Date Funding Needed By</b>	8/1/15
<b>Previously Funded?</b>	No
<b>Semester/Year</b>	—
<b>Proposal #</b>	—
<b>Report submitted for previously Funded Activity?</b>	—
<b>Report submitted for previously Funded Activity</b>	—
<b>Additional Report #1</b>	—
<b>Additional Report #2</b>	—
<b>Additional Report #3</b>	—
<b>Additional Proposers</b>	—
<b>Academic Program(s) / Center Name(s)</b>	Biology (Capstone Course)
<b>Estimated total Course Fee revenue</b>	n/a
<b>Amount Requested from IRA</b>	1100
<b>Estimated Number of Students Participating</b>	24
<b>Conditions and Considerations</b>	Field Trip
<b>Brief Activity Description</b>	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, set up in advance between myself and aquarium educational staff. Furthermore, in prior years, NOAA has 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 2014 quote of 800 dollars), and the estimated entrance cost of the students using the special educational rates (normal behind the scenes tickets are 40+ dollars).

<b>Learning Outcomes and Relation to IRA to Course Offerings</b>	Bio 499: Sea Change  Bio 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. This activity, a mid-November trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, would allow the 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 at the Aquarium of the Pacific. In addition, by matching our trip with the NOAA presence, this experience would introduce the students to NOAA scientists, providing them with role-models for careers in the marine sciences and conservation.
<b>Description of Assessment Process</b>	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. 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-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. Previous topics have included Ocean Acidification, Overfishing, and Marine Trash.
<b>Activity Budget</b>	<a href="#">Dilly_Bio499_Fall2015_IRA.xlsx</a>
<b>CIA Budget</b>	—
<b>CIA Proposal</b>	—
<b>Course Syllabus</b>	—
<b>CIA Certification</b>	—
<b>Other Sources of Funding</b>	There are no current additional sources of funding for this field trip at this time.
<b>Target Audience/Student Marketing</b>	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 first-hand.
<b>Bring Benefit to Campus</b>	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. This year, the students are creating a letter which they will be sending to state and US congress representatives for California that include practical, simple solutions that help our oceans stay clean and sustainable which will be signed by all 25 members of the course (myself included). I hope this field trip will inspire further acts of campus and civic engagement as well.
<b>Sustainability</b>	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.
<b>Program Chair/Director</b>	amy.denton
<b>Academic Affairs AVP</b>	karen.carey
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	I acknowledge that I have reviewed and accepted the Conditions and Considerations herein. Please check off boxes as appropriate.

#### Program Chair/Director Approval

<b>Approval</b>	I approve the IRA Funds Request described on this page
<b>Name</b>	Amy Denton
<b>Date/Time</b>	10/1/2014 12:27:14 AM
<b>Validation</b>	myCI-signin-JY-6981

#### Academic Affairs AVP Approval

<b>Approval</b>	I approve the IRA Funds Request described on this page
<b>Name</b>	Karen Carey
<b>Date/Time</b>	10/1/2014 8:00:30 AM
<b>Validation</b>	myCI-signin-C3-8773