



Proposal # 513

Instructionally Related Activities Report Form

SPONSOR: **Kimmy Kee-Rose, Ph.D./805-437-3276**
Department: **Psychology**
ACTIVITY TITLE: **2013 National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)**
DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY: **April 10 – April 13, 2013**

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Attach:

- 1) Student evaluations or assessments
 - Please see attachments.

- 2) A list of attendees complete with each student major and expected graduation date
 - [REDACTED], Psychology and Anthropology, May 2013
 - [REDACTED], Psychology, May 2013
 - [REDACTED], Psychology and Biology, May 2014
 - [REDACTED], Psychology and Spanish, May 2014
 - [REDACTED], Psychology, May 2013
 - [REDACTED], Psychology, May 2013
 - [REDACTED], Psychology, May 2013
 - [REDACTED], Psychology, May 2013

- 3) Images demonstrating student participation (up to 6 images)
 - Please see attachments.

- 4) A summary of expenses
 - Roundtrip Airfare \$ 1,723.00
 - Conference Registration \$ 1,062.32
 - Hotel in La Crosse, Wisconsin \$ 1,714.68
 - TOTAL AMOUNT: **\$ 4,500.00**

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- (1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY;
Funding was requested for 8 CI undergraduate students from the Psychology, Anthropology, Biology, and Spanish programs, who were enrolled in my ongoing year-long Psychology courses (see #2 below), to present the findings of their empirical research at the 27th Annual National Conference on Undergraduate



Research (NCUR) which was hosted by University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Wisconsin from April 10 to April 13, 2013. Through the funding of IRA (\$4,500), the students presented a total of 3 papers and 1 poster on the findings of their research projects.

(2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?

One of the primary goals of the courses listed below was for students to present and disseminate their research findings at regional and national scientific conferences. In the field of Psychology, the experience of presenting at such conferences would help to better prepare students and significantly enhance their ability to obtain competitive positions in graduate study programs across the fields of behavioral science. Hence, this opportunity was one that would not only help with meeting the Psychology program learning outcomes, but would enhance the students' future careers as well.

PSY 490 (Special Topics: Experimental Psychopathology I and II)
PSY 494 (Independent Research in Psychology)
PSY 497 (Directed Study in Psychology)

(3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?

The NCUR is dedicated to promoting undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative activity in all fields of study. This annual gathering welcomes scholars and their faculty mentors from across the nation. The NCUR creates a unique environment for the celebration and promotion of undergraduate student achievement.

As mentioned above, the students presented a total of 3 papers and 1 poster on the findings of their research projects, and they received excellent feedback. More importantly, the students reported that the experience was tremendously helpful to them for increasing their enthusiasm and commitment for pursuing their career goals in psychology as well as enhancing their applications for graduate school.

(4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?

The hotel rooms with a discounted rate for the conference were sold out a few months before we received the IRA funding. Consequently, we had to pay for students' rooms at the standard rate, which was significantly more costly. Unfortunately, receiving the IRA funding in January/February and thus paying this higher rate in the future could mean that we would only be able to fund this activity for fewer students.



**INSTRUCTIONALLY
RELATED
ACTIVITIES**

C H A N N E L
I S L A N D S

(5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?

If we would be able to receive the IRA funding earlier, we would be better able to obtain a discounted rate on the hotel rooms and would thereby be able to include more students in this activity.

(6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?

Please see attached comments from students.