Student Civic Fellows

$6,000 for the salary/wages of the Student Civic Fellows
$800 for lodging and food for a retreat
$6,800.00 TOTAL Salary/Wages

Campus Department or Organization: Teaching and Learning Center’s Office of Community-Based Learning and Research
Contact Person: Karen Ericson Email: kericson@uw.edu
Phone: 425-352-3365

Executive Summary
Please provide a concise overview of the program, activity or service for which you seek funding. The Teaching and Learning Center’s Office of Community-Based Learning and Research started a Student Civic Fellows Program this year. The Student Civic Fellows are currently a group of seven students: three from the University of Washington Bothell graduate programs, three from UW Bothell undergraduate programs, and one from Cascadia Community College. These students focus on research, action, and education projects centered on community-based learning and social justice.

Community-service projects that the Student Civic Fellows currently work on are: MLK Day of Service, Cesar Chavez Day of Service, researching the needs of our community-partners, leading presentations in community-based learning courses, creating dialogues around social justice issues etc.

The Student Fellows meet once a month to discuss new projects/ideas, and work three to four hours a week developing these projects individually, in pairs, and/or together as a group.
Please feel free to email or call Karen Ericson (kericson@uw.edu, 425-352-3365) or Kara Casey (kcasey@uw.edu, 425-352-3365) if you have any further questions about the Student Civic Fellows Program. You can also view the current Student Civic Fellows at http://www.uw.edu/cbls/student-civic-fellows

Program/Service Need
In 150 words or less, please describe the need for this program or service. Include any data that might support your proposal. If your program is currently funded by SAF, please indicate how you have used the money to help your organization meet its goals.

We are requesting $6000 to provide a stipend for ten Student Civic Fellows for the 2010-2011 year. They will receive $500 for the academic calendar for completing three hours a week, or $700 for completing 4 hours a week. This averages out to approximately $600 per Student Civic Fellow.

We are also requesting $800 for a Student Civic Fellow retreat at the beginning of the fall quarter. Our seven Student Civic Fellows are currently funded through the National Learn and Serve Grant received from Washington Campus Compact in ‘08-‘09. In the year ‘09-‘10 Campus Compact did not receive the Learn and Serve Grant, and therefore none of the Campus Compact Member Schools in the State of Washington received Learn and Serve funding. The status of the Learn and Serve grant for ‘10-11 is uncertain. The emphasis for this grant has also changed to issues of habitat restoration and sustainability.

Assessment
How do you plan to assess the program or service's success?
We can assess whether the Student Civic Fellows have reached their target goals of supporting days of service by tracking the number of individuals involved and having an evaluation of the day(s). Each Student Fellow will be responsible for completing an end of quarter report, which might discuss what their research accomplished, how many community-based learning classes they visited and what impact they had on meeting the needs of our community partners. By fall quarter 2010 we plan to have a pre and post community-based learning assessment measuring the effectiveness that participating in the Student Civic Fellows Program may have on student development.

Scope of Program
1) How many currently enrolled students will likely benefit from your proposed service or
program? 2) Estimate the number of other individuals (faculty, alumni, etc.) that might benefit from this service or program? 3) Please indicate other sources of financial support.

Ten students would have the opportunity to become a Student Civic Fellow. Many additional students and community members will benefit from the service projects and social awareness events coordinated by the students. For example, all of the Student Civic Fellows helped out with this year’s MLK Day of Service- a total of 68 UW Bothell students, staff/faculty, and family members participated in this event by serving the community. In addition, 84 Cascadia students, staff/faculty, and family benefited from the leadership roles of the Student Civic Fellows. The Student Fellows are planning two smaller days of service for this winter and spring quarter. The Student Civic Fellows also conduct in-class presentations that explain and promote the importance of community-based learning. They presented in five courses this winter quarter, reaching approximately 130 students. The community-partner and poverty research that the Student Civic Fellows conduct influences the type, quality, and populations served by community-based learning, therefore benefiting the recipients of service. The estimated number of individuals and students that benefit from the work of the Student Civic Fellows is 500.

Benefits

The Student Civic Fellows have the opportunity to develop their leadership, academic/research, and professional skills. The Office of Community-Based Learning and Research provides the students with short leadership development trainings during our monthly meetings. They are also invited to professional development trainings such as the Bellevue Volunteer Manager’s Summit and the Mentoring: Skills for Success Conference. The Student Civic Fellows gain a sense of civic responsibility, community, and satisfaction through the work and service they provide for the students, community, and the Office of Community-Based Learning and Research.

21st Century Campus Initiative

The Student Civic Fellows Program mainly supports the initiative of Community, to deepen and broaden community engagement and research. The Student Civic Fellows directly promote undergraduate and graduate involvement in service and community-based learning and research through the in-class presentations, current research, and the service related events they coordinate for the UW Bothell community. Through their efforts, they strive to make an impact and meet the needs of our local community. The Student Civic Fellows also develop relationships with the employment community of social services, non-profits, and other community organizations in which they partner with for service-projects.

The Student Civic Fellows program also supports diversity in perspectives of learning and scholarship within the diversity initiative, as they work with a broad social/cultural spectrum of community organizations. They encourage innovative teaching methodologies under the innovation initiative, through the use of experiential educational opportunities.