



Establishing a Research Identity

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Defining Acceptable Research Activity at the University

- When examining your center's ability to conduct research, consider the DD Act which defines the core function of research for UCEDDs as:
 - (C) Conduct of research, which may include basic or applied research, evaluation, and the analysis of public policy in areas that affect or could affect, either positively or negatively, individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.
42 USC 15063 SEC. 153. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES
- Of course, this will have to be meshed to your university's definitions and range of acceptable options, especially when cooperating with academic faculty and departments.



Defining Acceptable Research Activities

- Publications
- Basic, applied, or policy analysis



“Counting” Research Activities

- **Ensuring faculty/staff/students record “research” in NIRS**
- **Having collaborators credit the UCED**
- **Creating a Research Core Function Committee**



Role of the Consumer Advisory Committee

- Identifying needs
- Evaluating Program/Projects
- Reviewing policy
- Participatory Action Research (PAR)



Getting Recognized as Researchers in your University

- Communicating your activities
- Serve on university research committees
 - IRB
 - Dissertation

Infusing Disability Issues into University Research

Examples:

- Emergency Preparedness
- Violence against Women
- Women's Health
- ADA



Making procedure accessible



Create an Interdisciplinary Research Group

(Quarterly Meetings)

- Identify folk who have an interest in disabilities
- Disseminate opportunities to do interdisciplinary research (share grant opportunities)
- Brain-storm collaborations
- Share students



Developing Capacity

- Recruit 2-3 researchers per topic
- Maximize on the strengths of your UCEDD to expand into larger projects

Developing Capacity

Insert a research component into proposals you are developing.

■ Needs:



"The current proposal will extend the existing needs assessment"

■ Goals and Objectives:



"Conduct a survey of providers of developmental disabilities services"

■ Evaluation:



"Collect consumer satisfaction data on technical assistance provided"



Becoming the Research Arm of State Agencies

- Needs assessment
- Public forums
- Evaluation piece of block grants
- Data for policy development



Establishing Creative Partnerships

- **Work with other departments/disciplines**

Establishing Partnerships by Showing how Disability Issues Apply to Research Topics

- Law school – ADA
- Engineering School – Assistive Technology
- Creative Arts – Artists with disabilities
- Family Studies – Siblings of people with disabilities
- Health Sciences





Investing in Research

- Incentives for running research through the center
- Using what you have
- Allocating indirect funds
- “Buying time” of faculty to work together
- Providing students (MCH/LEND or other pre-service) for work with faculty outside the CED
- Stipends – time-limited supports for grant writing and research assistants

Stipend Announcement



GUIDELINES FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STIPEND AWARDS



West Virginia University
ROBERT C. BYRD HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
"Commitment To Excellence"

8-22-2007

The Center for Excellence in Disabilities (CED) is offering a limited number of stipends to promote research in the field of disabilities. Recipients must be West Virginia University students interested in extending training in their discipline to support, assist, include or develop services to persons with disabilities. Application deadline is June 1, 2007 for Fall Semester awards. Applications are reviewed by CED faculty and awards are announced by September 4, 2007.

STIPEND AWARD OF \$1000 - \$1200

RESPONSIBILITIES

Recipients will be contracted to work with a designated WVU faculty member in their discipline on a specific project combining the student's and faculty member's discipline and the area of disabilities. Recipients will register as trainees with the CED. Projects must be research-based.

Approximately 160 hours should be devoted to the project objectives by each recipient, during the funded period. Recipients may not hold positions or appointments that limit additional employment. Recipients will present final project results to their faculty supervisors in early April and be available to present an overview of the project to the CED faculty and staff at a meeting. Stipend awards will be paid upon successful completion of project requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS

Recipients will be WVU graduate students, fellows, interns or senior undergraduates who indicate an interest in conducting research in their specific discipline related to disability issues. Students submit an application form and one-page abstract of the proposed project via mail or e-mail to the address below.

APPLY

Interested persons should complete an application and submit with a one-page abstract to:

Dr. Sherry Wood Shuman
Deputy Director/Associate Professor
Center for Excellence in Disabilities (CED)
959 Hartman Run Road
Morgantown, WV 26505
(304) 293-4692, ext. 1181
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Maintaining Focus

- Balancing opportunities with focus
- Contributing resources/monitoring