

Ancillary Unit Annual Report
Center for Research, Evaluation, Assessment, and Dissemination (CREAD)
July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

Purpose of Ancillary Unit

The Center for Research, Evaluation, Assessment, and Dissemination (CREAD) supports the mission of the University by offering a variety of support and professional services to students, faculty, and the local community. CREAD offers support services related to research and grant writing to KSOEHD students and faculty, encouraging a scholarly culture. CREAD impacts the broader University community by providing culturally-sensitive and equity-focused program evaluation services that engage stakeholders and maximize desired program outcomes. In addition, CREAD educates and supports local education and community-based organizations with professional services related to projects that address local, regional, and international needs. These activities are directly related to the University's mission by supporting student success; creating a culture that fosters diversity and equity; engaging the community; and producing scholarly research.

Administrative Housing of Ancillary Unit

CREAD is housed administratively in the KSOEHD; it is not part of any department or program. The director oversees the Center and manages the work, develops grant and contract proposals, works with faculty and students, and manages the budgets of the various funded programs. Responsibilities are assigned to staff and to other faculty according to need and area of expertise. CREAD has no existing relationships, other than contracts through the Foundation, with any other public agencies or organization.

Major Accomplishments 2012-2013

CREAD participates in a variety of grant and client-funded research, evaluation, and assessment projects. CREAD was awarded several new contracts this year and had several contracts and projects extended. Additionally, CREAD provides a variety of *pro bono* services to students, faculty, and local organizations.

- a. A description of the accomplishments of the unit this year including a list of related achievements, scholarly works, or other results of the unit.

During the 2012-2013 fiscal year, CREAD completed 3 consulting projects, worked on 6 continuing projects, and initiated 3 new contracts. The new contracts included \$85,105 in program evaluation services. In addition, CREAD collaborated on 11 other grant projects as a program evaluator. A description of contract and pro bono projects are listed below.

Contracts

Promise Neighborhoods Planning Grant - Needs Assessment and Segmentation Analysis. CREAD was contracted to conduct the needs assessment and segmentation analysis for the Fresno Promise Neighborhoods Planning Grant awarded to Reading & Beyond, which was

funded by the United States Department of Education. The vision of the program is that all children and youth growing up in Promise Neighborhoods have access to great schools and strong systems of family and community support that will prepare them to attain an excellent education and successfully transition to college and a career. The purpose of Promise Neighborhoods is to significantly improve the educational and developmental outcomes of children and youth in our most distressed communities, and to transform those communities. This needs assessment and segmentation analysis was included in a funding proposal for the Promise Neighborhoods Implementation grant, which was one point shy of the cut-score for award. CREAD continues to work with Reading & Beyond and the consortium to incorporate the USDE feedback to prepare for a resubmission to the implementation grant in 2013.

Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) 09-598. The CSUF Math Department was awarded funding by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to start an eight week long REU for eight students during each of the summers of 2012, 2013 and 2014. The program will have 2 research groups each consisting of four undergraduate students and a university faculty mentor. The research topics will be selected from four areas related to the supervising faculty's research expertise and interests. These are: knot and braid labeling and colorability; multiplier sequences and reality preserving differential operators; embeddings of graphs in finite planes; the well covered dimension of a graph; survival analysis and modeling survival data. CREAD is providing evaluation services for the project.

Agricultural Development for Afghanistan Pre-deployment Training (ADAPT)

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-funded Agricultural Development for Afghanistan Pre-Deployment Training (ADAPT) program was designed to provide standardized basic agriculture training to US government personnel being deployed to Afghanistan. Taryn Harmon of CREAD presented finding to the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) in Washington D.C. The USDA FAS Director, Lee Schatz commented “Taryn – I want to personally thank you for one of the best presentations I have seen in a long time. You demonstrated an impressive ability to succinctly present complex information to an audience with varied backgrounds. You provided a great context for the meeting sessions that followed.” CREAD is providing formative, implementation, and summative evaluation services over the two-year term of this program. <http://adaptafghan.org/strategy/>
<http://www.fresnostatenews.com/2012/01/university-promotes-self-sufficiency-for-afghan-agriculture/>

Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions (RIMI). This grant seeks to develop a research infrastructure at the California State University, Fresno to address health disparity issues in the Central Valley. CREAD is conducting a process evaluation by monitoring and documenting implementation activities required to comply with the RIMI grant outcomes. This is a five year contract that was originally slated to end in 2012, but was awarded a no-cost extension. Additional information about the RIMI program at CSU, Fresno is available on the program’s website <http://rimi.csufresno.edu/>

Geosciences Mentoring, Education, Training, Research and Outreach (METRO) Center.

CREAD was awarded a five-year contract (through 2012) to provide evaluation services for the National Science Foundation-funded METRO Center, designed to attract underrepresented

groups to the geosciences. The METRO Center provides students with up to three years of financial support while they pursue research and career development opportunities to prepare them for careers and/or graduate study. The program is also committed to raising the profile of the Geosciences at the K-12 level, and to getting the word out about the tremendous career prospects in these critical fields. Additional information is available on the program's website <http://www.csufresno.edu/geosciencesmetro/>

Fresno Teaching Fellows (FRETEF) – Noyce III. CREAD is evaluating the six-year FRETEF program which is a prestigious program funded by the National Science Foundation that offers large stipends and support for pursuing a teaching credential and a master's degree in mathematics or science and teaching in a high needs school. Award information is available at <http://www.recovery.gov/Transparency/RecipientReportedData/pages/RecipientProjectSummary508.aspx?AwardIdSur=31788&AwardType=Grants>

Intellectual Capacity Development in Food and Agricultural Sciences through Modernization of Research Capability. CREAD conducted the evaluation for this project, which included a document review of the course syllabus for Introduction to Food and Dairy Processing (FSC41) and Agricultural Laboratory Techniques (AGRI 201), comparing the syllabi prior to, and following, the acquisition and implementation of the new equipment for the Graduate Laboratory. In addition, a document review was employed to monitor the number of research projects utilizing the Graduate Laboratory. Lastly, a review of published material regarding the use of the Graduate Laboratory was conducted. A comprehensive evaluation report was provided to the program staff as well as providing custom reporting to meet funder requirements. *Intellectual Capacity Development in Food and Agricultural Sciences through Modernization of Research Capacity* met and exceeded the goals and objectives proposed for the project.

Expanding the Capacity and Instructional Capabilities of the Food Science, Culinary, and Plant Science Programs at California State University, Fresno. CREAD is providing the evaluation services for this project which aims to investigate how to decrease post-harvest losses in fruit and vegetable handling. This project proposes to construct a post-harvest laboratory and provide funding for faculty and student to investigate ways to make the post-harvest process more efficient and effective.

Fresno City College Transfer Pipeline (Title V). Fresno City College was awarded a five-year Title V grant to foster student success and transfer to four-year institutions. CREAD evaluators work with the Title V Director and stakeholders as appropriate to gather data and provide findings. The summative evaluation report for the final year of the program will provide an evaluation of each of the measurable outcomes detailed in the plan.

Responsible Fatherhood - Proving our Parenting Skills (POPS). The Local Equal Opportunities Commission, in partnership with the Local Conservation Corps and a consortium of other local service agencies, was awarded funding by the US Office of Family Assistance to develop and implement several programs aimed at improving fathers through economic support (e.g., job training/placement), relationship skill building (parent-parent and parent-child), and recovery support services. CREAD joined this consortium to provide assistance with data

collection, standardization of data collection procedures, establishment of an electronic database, data entry, statistical analysis, assistance with 2 Federal PPR and OLDC reports, and preparation of a final report for community dissemination.

Service to Students, Faculty, and Community Pro Bono Work

Assistance to Students, Faculty, the University, and local community. CREAD continues to provide assistance to district personnel and faculty who are writing grants or who need help with designs or data analyses. CREAD staff also provides support for master's students' research projects through research design advice, help with development of survey instruments, and analyses of data. A partial list of service for 2012-2013 includes:

- Collaboration with UC Merced on the grant proposal (NSF) for the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) Program
- Collaboration with Lindsay Unified School District, WestEd, et al, on the Lindsay Unified School District Performance Based System Implementation funding request (IES)
- Collaboration with the Institute of Public Anthropology and UC Davis on the Disconnected Youth grant proposal (William T. Grant foundation)
- Collaboration with the Institute of Public Anthropology and UC Davis on the Bridging Formal and Informal Learning Gaps: Linked Learning and Youth Transitions into STEM Education and Careers grant application (NSF – REESE)
- Collaboration with the Renaissance Program on the Supporting Effective Educator Development grant proposal (USDE OII)
- Collaboration with UC Merced on the BOSS grant proposal (USDE)
- Provided data analysis services to Dr. Susan Schlievert on Pre-Service Questionnaire data for AERA presentation
- Provided preliminary data analysis on instructor consistency issues to West Hills College
- Served as a judge at the 2013 Central California Graduate and Creative Activities Symposium
- Collaboration with Save the Children and the Orange Cove Promise Neighborhood consortium on the Promise Neighborhood (Orange Cove) funding proposal
- Coordination of DPELFS students on Jefferson-Lowell-Webster Neighborhood Needs Assessment
- Collaboration with the Jordan College of Agricultural Science and Technology on the Promoting Undergraduate Research Opportunities and a Pathway to Graduate Studies in Agricultural and Environmental Sciences funding proposal (USDA)
- Presentation by Taryn Harmon or CREAD *Embedded Fieldwork: Linking Theory to Practice* at the International Conference on Doctoral Education
- Data analysis and reporting for the REAL leadership project
- Volunteer coordination for the Central Valley Educational Leadership Institute's (CVELI) annual Exemplary Practices conference
- Served on the planning committee for the first annual CLEAR Mentoring Summit
- Collaboration with CSU Bakersfield and Bakersfield City Schools on an after school funding proposal (State Farm)

Hanford Elementary School District, Alternative Governance Board. CREAD provides pro bono services to Hanford Elementary School District by serving on the Alternative Governance

Board for several elementary schools struggling to exit program improvement status. The AGB conducts site visits and provides feedback to improve teaching and learning outcomes.

Mediator Mentors Project. CREAD provided research, data analysis, and data interpretation services to the Mediator Mentor's Project based within the Kremen School of Human Development and Education. This work will be submitted for publication.

b. Numbers of on and off campus participants

All participants in CREAD activities worked on campus or at home but traveled to contract sites as needed.

On Campus participants (10) Sharon Brown-Welty (Director)
Taryn Harmon (Associate Director)
Don Wise (Faculty)
David Tanner (Faculty)
Susan Tracz (Faculty)
Jason Immekus (Faculty)
Daniel Ayala (Doctoral Student Assistant)
Darlene Murray (Doctoral Student Assistant)
Kimberli Law (Doctoral Student Assistant)
Jessica Morales (Undergraduate Student Assistant)

Off Campus Participants (3) Ann Mayse (Program Evaluator)
Eleanor Richards (Program Evaluator)
Phyllis Kuehn (Professor Emeriti)

c. An evaluation of the effectiveness of these activities

An evaluation of effectiveness of CREAD's activities included an evaluation of the unit's stated objectives.

1. Continue offering research and evaluation services to local school districts and other organizations.
2. During the 2012-2013 FY CREAD was contracted by 3 outside organizations and 5 on-campus schools/departments/units to conduct a total of 11 program evaluations. In addition, CREAD collaborated with an additional 9 organizations (and associated consortiums) on an additional 9 grant proposals. CREAD currently has 5 pending project proposals.
3. Continue offering research and evaluation services to faculty and students in the KSOEHD and across campus.
4. CREAD supported the work of 26 dissertation students during the 2012-2013 FY. In addition, DPELFS students participated in three CREAD projects as embedded fieldwork related to their course of study.
5. Continue to seek external funding for projects, research, and programs that contribute directly to the mission of the KSOEHD and the University.
6. CREAD secured \$85,105 in new contract funding (3 new contracts) during the 2012-2013 FY.
7. Complete the on-going evaluation projects already funded through CREAD.

8. CREAD completed 3 existing projects and continued work on 6 additional contract projects during the 2012-2013 FY.
9. Continue to provide research advice and support to CVERC.
10. THE CVERC was not active during the 2012-2013 FY. No services were provided.

Additionally, CREAD staff maintain regular contact with clients to determine how well CREAD’s services are meeting their needs. The CREAD staff regularly adjust and provide services as requested by the client. During the 2012-2013 FY, Taryn Harmon, a CREAD Evaluator, presented evaluation findings to the USDA (funder). The Director of the Foreign Agricultural Service provided this email:

Taryn –

I want to personally thank you for one of the best presentations I have seen in a long time. You demonstrated an impressive ability to succinctly present complex information to an audience with varied backgrounds. You provided a great context for the meeting sessions that followed. I hope you had a few hours while here to also enjoy some of the sites. Thanks again.

Lee
 H. Lee Schatz
 Office of Country and Regional Affairs
 Foreign Agricultural Service
[202 690-1175](tel:2026901175)

This feedback, both positive and constructive is used to improve the services and operation of CREAD.

Sources of Funding

All funding for the Center came from external grants and contracts awarded to CREAD through the efforts of the director and the CREAD staff. All funding was awarded through and is managed by the Foundation. Funding sources for projects active during the 2012-2013 fiscal year are outlined in the following table. All of the funds expended by CREAD are project staff salaries, fringe, and taxes.

Funding Agency	Client/Partner Organization	Project	Total Contract Amount (Duration)	FY 2012-2013 Funding
US Office of Family Assistance	Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (Conservation Corps)	Proving our Parenting Skills (POPS) Evaluation	\$44,105 (1 yr)	\$10,000

National Institutes of Health	Fresno State College of Science and Mathematics	RIMI: Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions	\$80,000 (5 yrs)	No Cost extension
USDA	Fresno State – Food Sciences and Nutrition	Expanding the Capacity and Instructional Capabilities of the Food Science, Culinology, and Plant Science Programs at California State University, Fresno.	\$12,000 (2 yr)	\$6,000
NSF	Fresno State - College of Science and Mathematics	Geoscience Mentoring, Education, Training, Research and Outreach (METRO)	\$86,000 (5 yrs)	\$17,200
NSF	Fresno State – Science and Mathematics Education Center	FRESTEF (Noyce III)	\$75,000 (6 yrs)	\$12,500
NSF Subcontract for evaluation services	Fresno State – Science and Mathematics Education Center	PROMISE: Noyce Scholars II Program	\$30,000 (3 yrs)	\$8,000
USDA	Fresno State – Food Sciences and Nutrition	Intellectual Capacity Development in Food and Agricultural Sciences through Modernization of Research Capability.	\$13,000 (2 yrs)	\$6,500
USDE	Fresno City College	Fresno City College Transfer Pipeline	\$30,000 (5 yrs)	\$6,000
USDA	Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology	ADAPT: Agricultural Development for Afghanistan Pre-deployment Training	\$25,000 (2 yrs)	\$18,750
USDE	Reading & Beyond	Promise Neighborhoods	\$35,000 (1 yr)	\$20,000
NSF	Fresno State – Mathematics Department	Research Experience for Undergraduates	15,000 (3 yrs)	\$5,000
Total			\$445,105	\$109,950

- a. Funds including income from service and product sales
All CREAD funds (income) were generated by providing professional services. The revenue generated is listed in the table above.
- b. Other revenues and expenditures
There were no additional revenues and expenditures.

Space and Equipment Utilization

No extra space or equipment is being used to support CREAD; all work is done in the existing space of the director and the staff or faculty who work through the Center.

Goals and Objectives 2013-2014

CREADs goal for 2013-2014 is to continue to support the students and faculty of KSOEHD through research and grant development support and to provide quality program evaluation services to the University and local community. Updated objectives for 2013-2014 are:

1. Continue to provide research and grant-related support to KSOEHD student and faculty.
2. Provide culturally-sensitive and equity-focused program evaluation services to the broader Fresno State community that engage stakeholders and maximize program outcomes.
3. Educate and support local education and community-based organization on projects that address local and regional needs.
4. Continue to seek external funding for projects, research, and programs that contribute directly to the mission of the KSOEHD and the University.
5. Complete the on-going evaluation projects already funded through CREAD.

Request for Renewal of the Unit

CREAD has been and continues to be engaged in work that is directly linked to the University's mission, benefits students, and supports local organizations. We request that the unit be renewed for 2013-2014.

APPENDIX

- A. The unit's financial statement prepared by the California State University, Fresno Foundation.