

Agency 365 – Washington State University
2009-2011 Operating Budget Request

The Land Grant University for the 21st Century
Performance Level Decision Package – Policy Level “AC”

Vancouver Autism Center

Agency Recommendation Summary:

A WSU research and clinical center is requested for Southwest Washington in partnership with Education Services District 112 and healthcare professionals to identify autistic students in public schools and provide critical intervention services for both the children and their family. The center will review and set up school-based programs to determine the efficacy of interventions in a real-world setting. It will provide research, consulting, diagnostic, and follow-up services to support autism spectrum students.

Fiscal Details:

	2009-10		2010-11		2009-11 Biennium
By Fund	FTE	Dollars	FTE	Dollars	Dollars
General Fund State	4.6	400,000	15.5	1,280,159	1,680,159
Total	4.6	\$ 400,000	15.5	\$ 1,280,159	\$ 1,680,159

Narrative Justification and Impact Statement:

The number of school-age students diagnosed with autism or other spectrum disorders in Southwest Washington has increased several fold during the last few years. Schools and other community agencies are trying to develop appropriate interventions for these students, but often lack a good baseline of knowledge about research based interventions and programs, as well as expertise in their implementation.

This funding provides four faculty positions to research, analyze, review and recommend interventions for school-age students with autism spectrum symptoms. A clinician and medical consultant will provide diagnostic and outreach services. The equivalent of two full-time positions will be dedicated to: family interface and case management, external relations, and workforce and transition services. Additional funding will provide necessary web and marketing infrastructure and office support for outreach and information centralization.

Many of the services proposed with the center in the budget request are consistent with the recommendations of the governor’s state task force on autism.

The purpose of the Center is to provide seriously needed autism services to Southwest Washington. The region lacks appropriate infrastructure to address the rapidly growing cases and related challenges of autism. Through a partnership between the University, ESD 112, and healthcare professionals, the Center will provide educational services and support to children and families with a focus on being family friendly.

The planning for this center will engage community stakeholders including WSU Vancouver, ESD 112, the Autism Cadre, the autism center at the University of Washington, local members of the Governor's autism task force, and area pediatricians. The center, established at Washington State University Vancouver will provide:

- **Dedicated faculty research** focused on issues confronting secondary students/families and those advancing to college—an area in the current research base that is underdeveloped. Research-based recommendations will be developed for a variety of autism spectrum students
- **Partnerships with community and local diagnostic** services to implement better strategies based on research.
- **Dedicated staff and clinical resources** to community outreach and knowledge dissemination for parents, teachers, community members, medical community and other stakeholders

Outcomes:

- There will be more capacity in Southwest Washington public schools to provide appropriate services to students. While schools are gradually building capacity, the process will be greatly accelerated with the center
- There will additional sharing of resources and information between institutions and organizations that deal with autism and related issues
- There will be more sharing knowledge between the university and schools
- A local source for diagnostic services
- A possible model for use elsewhere in the state

Calculations:

FISCAL DETAIL TABLES - SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON AUTISM CENTER					
	2009-10		2010-11		2009-11 Biennium
By Program	FTE	Dollars	FTE	Dollars	Dollars
Instruction	-	-	-	-	-
Research	-	-	2.0	195,000	195,000
Public Service	2.1	270,500	6.5	611,500	882,000
Primary Support	1.0	54,180	4.0	294,500	348,680
Libraries	0.5	30,640	1.0	79,780	110,420
Student Services	-	8,560	1.0	59,580	68,140
Institutional Support	1.0	36,120	1.0	39,799	75,919
Plant	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4.6	\$ 400,000	15.5	\$ 1,280,159	\$ 1,680,159
By Object					
Salaries					
Faculty	1.6	120,000	5.0	370,000	490,000
AP	-	-	2.0	88,000	88,000
TA/GA	-	-	-	-	-
Classified	3.0	125,171	8.5	345,000	470,171
Benefits		40,269		237,920	278,189
Goods/Services		97,560		148,060	245,620
Travel		9,000		21,000	30,000
Equipment		8,000		70,179	78,179
Total	4.6	\$ 400,000	15.5	\$ 1,280,159	\$ 1,680,159

For more information, contact Larry Ganders, Assistant to the WSU President, Olympia at 360-534-2333