

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

The Land Grant University for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Performance Level Decision Package – Policy Level “LR”

**Latino and Indigenous Peoples Research Institute**

**Agency Recommendation Summary:**

A new academic center that studies policy issues related to Latinos/as and Native Americans is proposed by Washington State University and the Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs. Given the increasing demographics of these populations and the challenges that continue to grow year by year, the request funds two faculty positions to lead a coordinated research effort to study social, political, immigration, economic, labor, health, and educational issues that continue to impact Latino/as and Indigenous peoples across the state and region.

A review of the directory of Latino/a and Indigenous Research Centers ([http://journals.dartmouth.edu/latinox/resource\\_center/academics2.shtml](http://journals.dartmouth.edu/latinox/resource_center/academics2.shtml)) shows that none exist in the Pacific Northwest. Similar centers exist in California and Texas. “Latinos in a Global Society” at UC Irvine and the “Chicano Studies Research Center” at UCLA, have played a significant role in making interventions in the current public debate about Latino/as in U.S. Society.

**Fiscal Details:**

By Fund	2009-10		2010-11		2009-11 Biennium
	FTE	Dollars	FTE	Dollars	Dollars
General Fund State	3.0	300,000	3.0	300,000	600,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>\$ 300,000</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>\$ 300,000</b>	<b>\$ 600,000</b>

**Package Description:**

A professional and academic center would be located in the WSU College of Education to study policy issues related to Latinos/as and Native Americans in the state. Given its geographical location and the number of Latino and Native American students, WSU is an ideal location for such a research institute. The funding provided for two faculty members and the necessary support would be primarily for salaries and operating expenses. The center would be directed to:

- **Fill gaps in public policy research for the state and region.** Even though scholars have begun to research the history of Spanish, Mexican and Latino/as in the region, more contemporary studies are needed that make a more direct/indirect impact on Latino/a communities. In California, for example, the Chicano Studies Research Center produces Public Policy Briefs

(<http://www.chicano.ucla.edu/press/briefs/default.asp>) which are released to mainstream media outlets, politicians and community organizations to spur discussion and debate that will lead to some kind of action. Washington needs a similar report mechanism that examines issues in the Pacific Northwest region.

- **Coordinate and collaborate among organizations and programs that exist in the region.** In Washington State, many groups are working on similar issues but in isolation from each other. This proposed center would bring together representatives of various community organizations, federally-funded programs, professional association, state commissions, and cultural centers.
- **Connect between academia and communities.** Given the existing divide (geography, political, economic) between four-year public universities and the Latino/ a and Native American communities, it is very difficult for community-based groups to envision these academic institutions as a resource for their grassroots efforts. There is a lack of formal venues, spaces, and events that can facilitate discussions and exchanges between faculty, students and community groups.

There are Latino cultural centers at Washington State University in Pullman but there are none in Pasco, Yakima, Wenatchee and Mount Vernon, communities with the largest Latina/o populations. The Latino communities of these areas and the state in general can benefit from a closer connection to a research center that addresses recruitment, mentoring, advocacy, and activism.

A research center will also benefit Washington by linking faculty, community groups, and alumni to future recruitment of Latino/a and Native American students to higher education.

- **Seek federal and private funding** that will leverage the state investment and allow the center to grow. Currently WSU, through its Foundation, is seeking funding from outside sources to supplement any funding received from the state.

#### **Outcomes:**

Within its first two years, the Research Institute will:

1. Produce studies regarding economic impact and educational attainment within the Latino and Native American communities in Washington.
2. Partner with the Washington Association of Hispanic Chambers of Commerce to provide data specific to their needs.
3. Conduct research studies on the effectiveness of new outreach programs to the Latino and Native American communities, and help support the development of pipeline processes for students.

**Calculations:**

<b>FISCAL DETAIL TABLES - LATINO AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RESEARCH INSTITUTE</b>					
	<b>2009-10</b>		<b>2010-11</b>		<b>2009-11 Biennium</b>
<b>By Program</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>Dollars</b>
Instruction	0.5	69,958	0.5	69,958	139,916
Research	1.5	130,042	1.5	130,042	260,084
Public Service	1.0	100,000	1.0	100,000	200,000
Primary Support	-	-	-	-	-
Libraries	-	-	-	-	-
Student Services	-	-	-	-	-
Institutional Support	-	-	-	-	-
Plant	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>\$ 300,000</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>\$ 300,000</b>	<b>\$ 600,000</b>
<b>By Object</b>					
Salaries					
Faculty	1.5	120,000	1.5	120,000	240,000
AP	-	-	-	-	-
TA/GA	0.5	36,232	0.5	36,232	72,464
Classified	1.0	26,000	1.0	26,000	52,000
Benefits	-	48,367	-	48,367	96,734
Goods/Services	-	40,901	-	39,901	80,802
Travel	-	18,500	-	19,500	38,000
Equipment	-	10,000	-	10,000	20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>\$ 300,000</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>\$ 300,000</b>	<b>\$ 600,000</b>

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