

Incorporating Applied Research with Student Organization Funding

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Introduction

Fund raising is a constant challenge for University Student Organizations (SO) especially in communities where resources are limited and the population is less than 30,000 people. An innovative remedy to this funding challenge is to incorporate the SO into research proposals. The purpose of this poster is to illustrate and share a research project that lent its self to a large labor requirement. To resolve organizing and hiring all the labor the PI hired the Natural Resource/Range Management Club of Southern Utah University. The members of the club then developed a bid and performed the work for the agreed upon bid. This project fostered an educational experience into a fund raiser for the club. Many of the members that participated in the project have developed an interest in conducting undergraduate and graduate research. The club has used the funding from this project to help defray expenses to attend professional society meeting. This has been a win, win project and the club now has a reputation of doing quality work and has been approached to complete some other projects.



Objectives

- Provide funding for Student Organization that does not drain local community.
- Develop inter-curricular opportunities for students.
- Expose students to research opportunities.

Narrative

This project consisted of building exclosures, herbicide spraying the plots, burning the dead plant material, planting six thousand Aspen trees, collecting tree growth data and controlling gophers. The majority of the work was done on weekends or during school breaks.



Results and Discussion

The Range Club has provided 682 hours of labor for this project at the cost of \$10.00/ hour. The treasury of the club has received \$6,820.00 for it's labor the past two years. This funding has sent 13 club members to the International SRM meetings.

