Annual Request Information

1. Background: Review and discuss the context of the proposed technology in detail. Explain how this proposal will be used in conjunction with an original proposal or existing technology. If applicable, how is the current technology disabled or inadequate?
First Generation Student Initiatives - First Gen Fellows (FGF) Resources and services that support the academic and personal success of first-generation students at UW Tacoma

First Generation Student Initiatives (FGF) seeks funding to cover the costs of providing virtual resources and services that support the academic and personal success of first-generation students on the UW Tacoma campus, which make up 56% of the student body. Among the many things we have learned through this pandemic is the reminder that many of our students have many commitments and responsibilities including college classes. Some of these commitments make it very challenging for our students to participate in extra-curricular enrichment activities outside of their class schedule, plus most of the students we serve are commuter students.

CHALLENGES:
- Even before the pandemic some of the students who were interested in participating in our programs but were not able to attend (due to transportation issues, lack of schedule flexibility, etc.) were requesting recordings of these programs and/or virtual live streaming of workshops and events.
- During the pandemic we were able to offer virtual sessions between the peer success mentors and students. Our hope is that we can continue to provide this service both in-person and virtually to students. Unfortunately, our current technology in our office can't support this service.

CURRENT TECH:
The current technology resources that we have in our office do not allow for these types of services.
- The two student worker computer stations are towers; therefore, we can't transport them or move them outside of our office space.
- Also, the monitors connected to these computers do not have webcams.

Our hope is that purchasing two laptops and a webcam will allow us to livestream and record the various workshops, Lunch & Learns, and signature events coordinated by our office, thus making our services more accessible for students who can’t be on campus. It should also provide us with the opportunity of hosting virtual interviews for prospective student workers who can't come to campus for interviews. This technology will help the peer success mentors to continue to provide both in-person and virtual services to our students.

Below a listing of the various initiatives and efforts coordinated by our office:
1. FGF serves as a resource for the students, departments, faculty and staff of the UW Tacoma by assisting with recruitment and retention efforts and helping support the experience of a broad spectrum of first-generation students and their families.
2. Providing support and fostering a strong sense of community where first-generation students feel empowered and validated by the institution through engagement and outreach opportunities such as signature events, student cohort programming, and pre-collegiate outreach efforts.
3. Encourage student academic and personal growth and well-being by providing financial wellness programs, peer success mentorship support, scholarship options and research opportunities geared towards aiding in the success of this population.
4. Connecting our students to appropriate individuals, programs, community agencies, on-campus resources, and prospective employers, through our academic and professional development workshop series.
5. Providing leadership development for students and on-campus job opportunities in our office.
6. Increased visibility and collaborations on a national level by connecting with the NASPA Center for First Generation Student Success while being recognized as a First Gen Forward Institution. This is the nation’s first recognition program acknowledging higher education institutions for their commitment to first-generation student success. FGF has also being recognized as a member of the First Scholars Network.
7. Strengthen the relationships and support to First-gen students from UWT faculty, staff, and alumni through advocacy.

2. Benefit to Students: Discuss how students have benefited from the original proposal, if applicable. How will additional funding of the technology benefit students? If this was an unforeseen technology need, discuss how students will benefit from this new proposal and why the need cannot wait for annual allocation funding.

BENEFITS:
- Accessibility for students who are interested in participating in our programs but are not able to attend (due to transportation issues, lack of schedule flexibility, work, etc.) by providing recordings of these programs and/or virtual live streaming of workshops and events.
- Increased student usage of our resources and services.
- Strengthen the relationships and support to First-gen students from UWT faculty, staff, and alumni by providing virtual venues of connection.
- Providing leadership development for students and on-campus job opportunities in our office by offering and conducting virtual interviews of potential student staff.
- Connecting our students to appropriate individuals and programs both on a local and national level, community agencies, on-campus resources, and prospective employers, by offering our academic and professional development workshop series virtually.
- Encourage student academic and personal growth and well-being by providing peer success mentors sessions both in-person and online, with the potential of serving extended hours beyond the traditional 8am - 5pm.

3. Access: Describe who will be using or will have access to the resources being proposed. If the access has changed since an original proposal, be sure to note that here. In addition, all previous requestors, please provide historic data highlighting the usage and accessibility of technology. All new requestors, please provide user need data.
These resources will be used by the five student team staff that coordinate our programs and Peer Success Mentors:

- FGF Leadership Development Coordinator 1 Student leadership position in charge of coordinating the First Gen Fellows Cohort and support Signature Events Planning
- FGF Leadership Development Coordinator 2 Student leadership position in charge of coordinating the First Gen Fellows Cohort and support Signature Events Planning
- FGF Leadership Development Coordinator 3 Student leadership position in charge of coordinating the Financial Wellness Cohort and support Signature Events Planning
- FGF Operations Assistant Student leadership position in charge of coordinating the Workshop Series, Signature Events, support Advisory Board, keep and maintain data, develop and send First Gen Newsletter and other office communications, schedule staff meetings
- FGF Marketing Assistant Student leadership position in charge of updating website and social media; printed and promotional materials; support Workshop Series and Signature Events
- Peer Success Mentors (2)

4. Timeline: Provide a timeline showing how the proposed technology can be completed during the requested period. Describe when you would like to see this proposal initiated and completed, and why.

We would like to have access to these resources at the beginning of the Autumn quarter since all our programming starts the first week of classes. Ideally it would be better during the month of August to provide an opportunity for the students to get familiarized with these resources.

5. Resources/Budget: Discuss available financial, personnel and space resources devoted to the proposed technology and level of support. Proposal must detail all the items/resources requested to be purchased. This includes filling out the Item Detail in next section.

Resources requested:
Amounts below are based on estimates. These estimates will be included with this proposal.

- Dell Latitude 5420 1: $1,595.71
- Dell Latitude 3410 1: $1,069.91
- Microsoft LifeCam Studio for Business: $137.48 (including protection plan)

Space:
The items will be located in the student worker area during work hours. After hours these items will be stored in the coordinators office.

Funding Request Items

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OVERALL TOTAL: $3,089.01