

Centralia College Foundation Helps Fund Capstone Projects

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The Centralia College Foundation recently approved \$10,000 to help fund student research projects in 2015.

The money can be used to complete Capstone Projects across different disciplines, and up to \$500 may be available for an individual or \$2,500 for a group.

In the third year of the Capstone Projects at the college, rapid growth has been seen, requiring assistance from other areas of the college. This is the first year the foundation has offered financial support for the projects.

“By funding undergraduate research, we’re investing first in our own students, and their future,” Robert Frost, Centralia College president, said in a press release. “Once again, we are modeling excellence in teaching, learning and professional development of our students.”

Students previously had to secure their own funding through out-of-pocket means or with private fundraising. The funds will allow more students to complete the hands-on learning projects in their chosen fields of study.

“This is an excellent opportunity for the foundation to support the mission of the college and the work of our students,” Steve Ward, executive director of the foundation, said. “It also provides the opportunity to partner in increasing the visibility of applied research projects at the college. We are excited to showcase our talent.”

In 2013, the first year of the program, the college had six projects total. In the second year there were 17 projects from more than 30 students.

A Capstone Project Presentation Day will be hosted by the foundation on June 5, and students will present their work to the foundation and the community.

Those interested in applying for funds need faculty approval for their project. A budget, description of the project and an explanation of the benefits to the college or community need to be created. Applications are due to the foundation office by March 13 and awards will be announced April 14.

For more information, contact the Centralia College Foundation at (360) 736-9391, ext. 290.