

Washington State University
Research and Innovation in Special Education (WSU RISE)

Center/Institute/Collaborative/Unit

Name of CICU: **WSU Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education**

Director: **Dr. Marcus Poppen**

What is the desired unit email address to be used (if different from above):

Is this a new or existing WSU Center/Institute?

- **New**
- Existing

This C/I is a:

- **College Level C/I**
- University Level C/I

Does this propose unit have a current website address?

- **Yes**
- No

What is your cost center number?

- **N/A**

The proposed center has not yet been established and does not yet have a cost center number.

Where will the unit be administratively housed (e.g., college(s), Office of Research)

- Area/College/Campus 1: **College of Education**
- Area/College/Campus 2: N/A
- Other participating areas/colleges/campuses (if applicable): N/A

What is the primary mission of the proposed unit?

- **Research**
- Teacher, Service, and or Outreach
- Both (unusual – neither research nor teaching/service outreach is primary but both are equally weighted)

Preference for annual and five-year review due dates (please choose one):

- **Annual report submission August 1; five-year review submission November 1**
- Annual report submission December 1; five-year review submission March 1

Mission statement, including specific goals (no more than a paragraph is expected):

Through research, innovation, service, and outreach, the Washington State University Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education generates and disseminates new knowledge aimed at enhancing the lives of people with disabilities, their families, schools, and communities. Built on a foundation of social justice, the Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education fosters and promotes diversity, equity, and full inclusion for all people, including racially, linguistically, and ability-diverse learners. The Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education is engaged in work that directly supports the land grant mission of the university, incorporates interdisciplinary connections, and addresses the need for innovative special education research and partnerships within Washington state and beyond. The mission of the WSU Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education is to transform the lives of people with disabilities, their families, schools, and communities through research and interdisciplinary approaches that seek innovative solutions to problems related to collaboration, inclusion, transition, and instruction.

The Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education aims to achieve the following research goals:

- (1) Generate and disseminate new knowledge aimed at enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities, their families, and their communities by soliciting and securing internal and extramural funding that will support such scholarly activity.
- (2) Build and enhance collaborative structures and evidence-based practices that support diversity, equity, and full inclusion for all people, including racially, linguistically, and ability-diverse learners.

Brief description of major focus areas (100 words or less is expected):

Through research, innovation, service, and outreach, the Washington State University Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education generates and disseminates new knowledge aimed at enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families. This includes grant and contract work to identify and scale evidence-based practices in Special Education.

Keywords for major focus areas (list two to six):

- Special Education
- Disability
- Research

VALUE Added

The proposed research center (Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education) will add value to the University by generating and disseminating new knowledge aimed at enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families, schools, and communities through research and interdisciplinary approaches that seek innovative solutions to problems related to collaboration, inclusion, transition, and instruction. The value added aligns very clearly with WSU's land-grant mission, which is rooted in accessibility and public service (WSU, n.d.). Moreover, the proposed research center will add value to the university by advancing, extending, and applying knowledge through: research and scholarship; leadership, responsibility and service; and, local and global engagement. The proposed research center will also engage in research and scholarship that aligns with the near-term goals identified in the WSU 2020-2025 strategic plan by: engaging in research, innovation and service; creating meaningful experiences for students working with associated faculty; engaging in local and global engagement/outreach; and modeling collaborative work across the One WSU system.

Associated members and their department/school affiliations:

- Lauren Bruno, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Special Education, College of Education
- Michael Dunn, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Special Education, College of Education
- Yun-Ju Hsiao, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Special Education, College of Education
- Don McMahon, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Special Education, College of Education
- Marcus Poppen, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Special Education, College of Education
- Anya Sheftel, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor, Special Education, College of Education
- Holly Whittenburg, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Special Education, College of Education

Affiliate and Interdisciplinary Members and their department/school affiliations

- Jonah Firestone, Ph.D., Associate Professor Science Education, College of Education, WSU Tri-Cities
- Kira Carbonneau, Ph.D., Associate Professor Educational Psychology and Department Chair Kinesiology and Educational Psychology, College of Education

Criteria for membership:

- The individual must have a scholarly interest in furthering the mission and research of the center, and is approved by Center Director and Associated Members.

Does this CICU have an Advisory Board?

- Yes
- **No**

Are there external funding possibilities related to this CICU?

- Yes
- No

Please list (be as specific as possible, e.g., RFA's):

There are several external funding possibilities related to this proposed research center. The proposed center director and associated members have a successful track record of securing extramural funding for research and scholarship related to the mission of the center. This includes a current project funded by the U.S. Department of Education (i.e., Poppen, McMahon, Bruno, Whittenburg, Carbonneau [2020-2025], WSU ROAR TPSID, CFDA: 84.407A [\$2,342,242]) and several contracts with local/state agencies for scholarship related to the mission of the center. Additionally, the several associated members have a grant proposal under review with the National Institute on disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (McMahon, Whittenburg, & Firestone [under review][\$596,094]) and future plans to submit additional applications for funding. Some of the specific external funding possibilities related to the work of the center may include (but, are not limited to):

- Institute of Education Science, Education Research Grant Program, Goal II: Development, CFDA Number: 84.305A
- Institute of Education Science, Education Research Grant Program, Goal V: Measurement, CFDA Number: 84.305A
- National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research, Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects, CFDA Number: 93.433
- National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research, Field-Initiated Projects, CFDA Number: 93.433
- National Science Foundation, Discovery Research PreK-12, CFDA Number: 47.076
- National Science Foundation, Innovation Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers, CFDA Number: 47.076

Does a similar unit exist within WSU?

- Yes
- No

If yes, How is this unit different?

Will the establishment of this unit impact the University Libraries beyond the impact already in place from the individual participating unit(s) (e.g., increased journal subscription needs)?

- Yes
- No

If yes, What is the expected impact?

List specific metrics for evaluation and review (must be coordinated with goals and agreed upon by oversight authority/authorities; it is important there be a common theme to metrics across C/Is)

The Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education has two primary goals: (1) Generate and disseminate new knowledge aimed at enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities, their families, and their communities by soliciting and securing internal and extramural funding that will support such scholarly activity; and (2) build and enhance collaborative structures and evidence-based practices that support diversity, equity, and full inclusion for all people, including racially, linguistically, and ability-diverse learners.

The following metrics will be used to evaluate the success of these goals:

Financial

- Revenue
- Expenses

Operational

- Total space
- Members and affiliations

Productivity

- Number of external awards and grants submitted
- Publications
- Projects completed
- Patents, Software, licenses, etc.

Visibility and Impact

- Presentations
- Outreach activities

Additional Documents:

- Organizational Chart
- Budget Overview

WSU MyResearch - CICU Form

https://myresearch.wsu.edu/cicu/registration

org chart file

- Projects completed
- Honors and awards
- Patents, licenses, companies formed, etc.
- o Visibility and Impact
 - Presentations
 - Outreach activities

Please upload the most recent organization chart (include leadership structure, faculty, staff, and advisory units as applicable; be sure to include oversight authority/authorities):

Org Chart:

Budget overview, showing revenue (e.g., central funding, endowments, external funding, indirect cost recovery, projected income from service centers, tuition) and expenses (e.g., salaries, tuition, equipment purchase and upkeep, licenses, operational expenses, outreach activities), with evidence of approval at the appropriate level. If the C/I includes service centers, a **description** of services and revenue and expenses **analysis**

Budget Overview (Note: You cannot edit this without re-uploading a new file): ▲

Support letter(s) from proposed line(s) of authority (e.g., Dean, Chancellor, VPR, Provost). In addition to providing support and rationale for the overall establishment of the C/I, the oversight authority/authorities must address approval of the allocated budget, if applicable, in the support letter.
[At Least One is Required]

Support Letter:

Support Letter:

Support Letter:

Oversight Authority/Authorities
[At Least One is Required]

Oversight Authority/Authorities Note: must be at the college Dean level or higher.

Lookup Person:

Office of Research Support and Operations | PO Box 641090, Washington State University, Pullman WA 99164-1060, 509-335-9661, [Contact Us](#)
 Copyright © 2022 by Washington State University All Rights Reserved

WSU College of Education



Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education



Marcus Poppen, Ph.D., Center Director



Don McMahon, Ph.D., Assistant Director



Lauren Bruno, Ph.D., Associate Member

Michael Dunn, Ph.D., Associate Member

Yun-Ju Hsiao, Ph.D., Associate Member

Anya Sheftel, Ph.D., Associate Member

Holly Whittenburg, Ph.D., Associate Member

Jonah Firestone, Ph.D., Affiliate Member

Kira Carbonneau, Ph.D., Affiliate Member

CICU Form Comments



Name	Comment	Submitted
Beattie, Mark	I support this proposal.	9/26/22, 4:53 PM
Trevisan, Michael	The faculty behind the proposal are outstanding, enormously talented and successful. I think a university approved center would be an excellent way to organize their work in a more impactful way.	9/26/22, 5:04 PM
Hulbert, Scot	I agree with the statement that the Center is in alignment with our land grant mission	9/28/22, 1:27 PM
French, Brian	This sounds like a great center to move forward. Thank you for allowing me to review. There are a few points to be clarified. First, it is confusing to have WSU at the top of the org. chart, as this implies it is a university level center. The application indicates the College of Education oversees the proposed center. Please clarify. Second, no members are listed outside of Special Education, yet the external funding examples include faculty outside Special Education, and the application states it works across disciplines. Please clarify why such faculty are not members or affiliates given the current work. Third, the proposed center is said to be primarily research. However, in the description and in the funding (TPSID funding), there is a strong focus on service. Please clarify if this is primarily research or balancing service and research. The latter seems to be the case.	10/3/22, 3:23 AM

August 10, 2022

RE: Support for New Research Center

To Whom it May Concern,

I am delighted to write this letter in support of a newly proposed college level research center in Special Education, the ***WSU Research, and Innovation in Special Education***.

The College of Education has made significant personnel and resource investments to improve and expand research and scholarship related to special education. This is an important and growing area of research and scholarship nationally and aligns directly with WSU's mission as a land grant institution as the work will help improve the lives of individuals with disabilities, and their families and communities. Since 2015, our special education program faculty have received several millions of dollars in extramural funding for more than 23 scholarly grants or contracts related to research and innovation in special education. More recently, the College started the WSU ROAR program, which has become nationally known and is attracting both federal and private funding. Faculty in special education continue to be active in seeking additional federal and state funding opportunities to advance their work. To date, program faculty have worked organically with college and departmental support. A logical next step is to establish an organizational structure (e.g., a research center) to support their growth. A research center will assist faculty with interests in special education research to work collectively towards a common mission, share resources, secure additional funding, and recruit highly qualified faculty, staff, and students.

I intend to provide support to establish the proposed college level research center, titled, The WSU Research and Innovation in Special Education. This center will be directed by Dr. Marcus Poppen, with Dr. Don McMahon as the assistant director. I have reviewed and approved the application materials, developed in close collaboration with Dr. Olusola Adesope, Associate Dean for Research in the College of Education.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael S. Trevisan, Ph.D.
Dean
College of Education

From: [Poppen, Marcus I](#)
To: [Hecox, Karen](#); [Monsivais, Pablo](#); [Owen, Jeb](#)
Cc: [Adesope, Olusola](#); [McMahon, Don](#)
Subject: Re: Registration of the WSU Research and Innovation in Special Education: Information needed
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2023 10:40:30 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[WSU RISE Research Center Working Application Feedback from RAC Addressed 2 21 2023.docx](#)
[WSU RISE Organization Chart Feedback from RAC Addressed 2 21 2023.docx](#)

Hello Pablo, Jeb and Karen,

Greetings from myself and two colleagues within the College of Education who are supporting the advancement of a Special Education focused Research Center here at WSU (Proposed Assistant Director Dr. Don McMahon; and COE Associate Dean for Research Dr. Olusola Adesope). We are grateful for your review of our application and questions and comments in the Fall. We apologize for our delayed response as we've had to prioritize our current research, teaching and service activities. Despite our delays, our desire to move forward with establishing a Special Education Research Center has not waned!

In your November review you raised some important feedback and comments that we have addressed in our revised CICU application. The attached document(s) show the text we originally submitted on the CICU application form, with track changes to show how we addressed your comments. We have also provided a written response to each of our comments below:

- **Feedback from RAC Chair and Co-Chair:** Name must include either Center or Institute
 - **Our Response:** We have updated the proposed name in our CICU Application to: "WSU Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education".
- **Feedback from RAC Chair and Co-Chair:** Please specify which metrics we plan to measure, as not all of the metrics are relevant to every center.
 - **Our Response:** Thank you for this clarification. We have updated our CICU Application to minimize the number of metrics that we will measure and report out on. The metrics that we have chosen are those that we believe our most aligned with the overall goals and objectives of the proposed center, and can be used both formatively and summative to monitor and advance our work.
- **Feedback during Stakeholder Comment Period:** "It is confusing to have WSU at the top of the org chart, as this implies it is a university level center. The application indicates the College of Education oversees the proposed center. Please clarify."
 - **Our Response:** To address this comment and clarify the College of Education will oversee the proposed College level center, we have removed "Washington State University" from the top level of the proposed organizational chart. However, if in the

next steps of the review it's determined we should add back in the natural hierarchy of the University, we would be happy to revert to our previous version with WSU as the parent organization to the College of Education.

- **Feedback during Stakeholder Comment Period:** “No members are listed outside of Special Education, yet the external funding examples include faculty outside of Special Education and the applications states it works across disciplines. Please clarify why such faculty are not members or affiliates given the current work.”
 - **Our Response:** Thank you for this comment. We had been waiting until the center was proposed before soliciting partner involvement. However, we have reached out to two of our regular collaborators (Dr. Jonah Firestone, Science Education; Dr. Kira Carbonneau, Educational Psychology) to confirm their role as “Center Affiliate” if the proposed center is approved. The number of interdisciplinary partners is likely to increase once the Center is approved.

- **Feedback during Stakeholder Comment Period:** “The proposed center is said to be primarily research. However, in the description and in the funding (TPSID funding), there is a strong focus on service. Please clarify if this is a primarily research or balancing service and research. That latter seems to be the case.”
 - **Our Response:** Thank you for this comment. Despite the service our faculty engage in, we would like to establish our proposed center as a Research Center focused primarily on Research. Affecting positive change in special education involves interventions that improve the lives of students with disabilities and creating new knowledge and research based on those efforts. This work, and the contracts that help support this work, could be perceived as service; however, with this work we engage in research and scholarship. The innovative work that that we do directly for students with disabilities is designed to test the impact of evidence-based practices and to help develop new models of instruction and strategies to support individuals with disabilities. The special education faculty have a strong track record of capitalizing on this cycle of innovation, research, and dissemination. The WSU Center for Research and Innovation in Special Education will increase these capabilities.

Thank you again for your initial review of our CICU, and your consideration of our proposed responses to your comments. We are grateful that you are excited to move forward with our registration as an official WSU Center, and are also excited about the ways this will further support our work advancing the mission and goals of WSU. We sincerely believe this is to everyone's gain, including students with disabilities and the services and systems that support their educational and life outcomes.

Please take a look at our updated center application, attached documents, and responses to your

comments and feedback and let us know if you have any additional questions or comments. We'll be excited to learn about any next steps.

Sincerely,

Marcus

Marcus Poppen, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Special Education
Washington State University

From: "Hecox, Karen" <karen.hecox@wsu.edu>
Date: Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 8:49 AM
To: "Poppen, Marcus I" <marcus.poppen@wsu.edu>, "Monsivais, Pablo" <p.monsivais@wsu.edu>
Cc: "Owen, Jeb" <jowen@wsu.edu>, "Adesope, Olusola" <olusola.adesope@wsu.edu>, Don McMahon <don.mcmahon@wsu.edu>
Subject: RE: Registration of the WSU Research and Innovation in Special Education: Information needed

Good morning Marcus!

I can absolutely have that form routed back to you for edits. Please let me know if you have other questions, comments, or concerns and I will be happy to assist.

Please note, I will be out of office today from 3:30 pm until Tuesday the 15th at 7 am.

Best,
K.



K. HECOX
RESEARCH OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
Office of Research Support and Operations
Office of Research
Washington State University
Office (voicemail): 509-335-3669
Email: karen.hecox@wsu.edu
orso.wsu.edu

From: Poppen, Marcus I <marcus.poppen@wsu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2022 8:30 AM

To: Monsivais, Pablo <p.monsivais@wsu.edu>

Cc: Owen, Jeb <jowen@wsu.edu>; Hecox, Karen <karen.hecox@wsu.edu>; Adesope, Olusola <olusola.adesope@wsu.edu>; McMahon, Don <don.mcmahon@wsu.edu>

Subject: Re: Registration of the WSU Research and Innovation in Special Education: Information needed

Hello,

Thank you for your follow up on this! We'll work to address your questions and get back to you soon with our revisions.

Would you like us to share our responses via email? Or, is there a way to open the form back up within myresearch so we can make the changes there (right now the form is locked from editing).

I've copied Olusola Adesope, our colleges Associate Dean for Research to keep him in the loop. And Don McMahon, who will be the center's assistant director.

Thank you!

Marcus

From: "Monsivais, Pablo" <p.monsivais@wsu.edu>

Date: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 9:50 AM

To: "Poppen, Marcus I" <marcus.poppen@wsu.edu>

Cc: "Owen, Jeb" <jowen@wsu.edu>, "Hecox, Karen" <karen.hecox@wsu.edu>

Subject: Registration of the WSU Research and Innovation in Special Education: Information needed

Dear Dr. Poppen,

I am a co-chair for the Research and Arts Committee (RAC) with Dr. Jeb Owen (CC'd). We have received your registration for a new Center/Institute at WSU and would like to address a few questions and comments before we move forward.

Firstly, we now ask that each Center or institute includes either "center" or "institute" in the name of their unit to help distinguish between official center/institutes and other groups on campus. (WSU *Center for* Research and Innovation in Special Education, for example).

Second, we are unclear which metrics you will be measuring. In your registration form, it appears the list of suggested metrics from the policy and procedures handbook was simply pasted into your registration form, with some of the bullets appearing as question marks. We ask that you specify which of these metrics (or others) you plan to measure, as not all of the metrics we suggest in the P&P are relevant to every center, and we do not require each center to report on every one of those metrics, only the ones that directly pertain to the goals of the individual center.

Third, during the stakeholder comment period, we received some feedback from another center director who had some questions, and we'd like to give you the opportunity to address these:

1. "It is confusing to have WSU at the top of the org chart, as this implies it is a university level center. The application indicates the College of Education oversees the proposed center. Please clarify."
2. "No members are listed outside of Special Education, yet the external funding examples include faculty outside of Special Education and the applications states it works across disciplines. Please clarify why such faculty are not members or affiliates given the current work."
3. "The proposed center is said to be primarily research. However, in the description and in the funding (TPSID funding), there is a strong focus on service. Please clarify if this is a primarily research or balancing service and research. That latter seems to be the case."

Aside for the three questions posed during the comment period, all remarks regarding your proposed center were very positive and supportive, and the RAC is excited to move forward with your registration as an official WSU center once the above concerns have been addressed.

Please get back in touch with us or our administrator Kay Hecox (CC'd) with any questions you may have.

With my best wishes,

Pablo

[Pablo Monsivais, PhD, MPH](#)

Associate Professor | [Department of Nutrition & Exercise Physiology](#)

o: 509-358-7685 | p.monsivais@wsu.edu



Washington State University
Research and Innovation in Special Education

Center/Institute/Collaborative Unit (CICU) Registration Form
Budget Overview

The proposed CICU does not currently have a cost center number or active budget. Once the center is approved, we will work with our college to establish a cost center number. Any new grants or contracts will be run through this cost center, and expenses will not exceed revenue.