

Division of Student Affairs Budget Priorities

Programing and Staffing
2019-20

James Farmer Multicultural Center

Diversity Peer Educators Program: \$32,000

Peer education is extremely effective for this generation of traditional-age students. In addition, training student peer educators out of the JFMC will allow the three professional staff members to focus on other responsibilities. And finally, the peer educators would benefit enormously from their participation in terms of both career and leadership development. This proposed budget would include training, conference participation, and stipends. Here are models of diversity peer education programs (there are dozens of these programs):

<https://students.georgiasouthern.edu/multicultural/programs-services/diversity-education/>

<https://jobs.housing.umich.edu/job-descriptions/diversity-peer-educator-dpe/>

Student Involvement

SOAR & NEST: \$7,000

Summer Orientation Adventure Retreat (SOAR)

As a supplement to the mandatory summer orientation program, the optional SOAR experience was designed in 2017 to give students an opportunity to build social connections with other trip members and introduce them to the local natural areas surrounding Fredericksburg. UMW runs two of these trips with approximately 38 students total in attendance (18-19 students per trip). In 2019, each available spot for SOAR was filled within five-days of registration open and a sizeable waitlist was formed once again this year. The trips were held at Eagle Lake Outpost and included primitive camping, teambuilding for incoming students and a tubing trip.

- The \$60 cost of the program is in addition to the \$400 new student arrival and orientation fee.
- Presently, SOAR is not a self-sustaining program. Each trip costs between \$1600-\$1900, meaning that the \$60 price point does not cover all expenses.
- Demand for SOAR is great given that both trips filled within five days of signup being opened.

New Experiences for Students Transitioning (NEST)

New Experiences for Students Transitioning, referred to as NEST, is a four-day program that occurs just prior to Move-In which is open to all incoming first-year students. NEST offers a unique opportunity to bond with 80+ fellow new students. Students explore UMW and surrounding attractions by participating in activities that encompass the university's core values of Service, Leadership, and Social Justice. The program consists of activities focusing on all three core values that engage the

student in fun and interactive ways. Students are challenged to step outside their comfort zone in a supportive environment designed to encourage growth and their own exploration of these ideas. NEST saw an increase in interest and the program was full within weeks of opening registration on April 1. Further, the 2019 program had a significant waitlist.

- The cost to students in 2018 was \$300 which was reduced in 2019 to \$180. The reduction allowed increased access to the program and, as such, registration numbers more than doubled in 2019, indicating a deep demand for the program. However, as it stands, the reduced participant price of the 2019 program does not completely cover the cost of the program.
- Currently, NEST Leaders remain volunteers rather than being paid for the weeks of work that they engage in for training and for the program itself. Volunteers limit the accountability for these leaders. The university should seek to give student leaders a very small stipend. Doing so, could increase the cost of the program even more, however.
- The \$180 cost of the program is in addition to the \$400 new student arrival and orientation fee.

Assistant Director for Outdoor Recreation & Leadership: \$32,000

UMW's national benchmarking data supports the need for a position to enhance leadership skills within our student body. Further, the implementation of our Outdoor Recreation program has seen a boom in interest with respect to the establishment of SOAR, outdoor recreation trips, and our rental center, which also serves as a revenue stream. Nationally, recreation programs have been proven to generally impact recruitment with 62% of students surveyed indicated that programs offered impacted their decision regarding which university to attend.

Students are looking for college experiences that include experiential leadership and our competitors all have similar programming and positions.

VCU: <https://recsports.vcu.edu/programs/outdoor-adventure-program/>

VT: <https://www.recports.vt.edu/outdooractivities.html>

Longwood: <http://www.longwood.edu/recreation/outdoor-recreation/>

Radford: <https://www.radford.edu/content/recreation/home/outdoor-programs.html>

UMW Public Safety

Firearm replacement (10 years old): \$20,000

Facilities

2019-20

Athletics/Campus Recreation

Campus Recreation turf field replacement: \$450,000 (note: this is pressing, as it is the turf field in most dire need and used across the University by varsity teams and club teams and community sports as well).

New Turf for A and D Field: \$650,000

Basketball hoops in Goolrick Gym: \$23,000

Residence Life and Housing

Ramps and bathroom cost to make Res Halls accessible to all students: \$50,000