

## *An Invitation for Proposals*

**The Drs. Robert and Elizabeth M. Welty Endowment for  
Systemic Program and Professional Development at  
Community Colleges of Spokane**



*Dr. Elizabeth M. Welty*



**The Welty Endowment for Systemic Program and Professional Development at Community Colleges of Spokane is the cornerstone for a new institutional culture where entire departments, divisions, even colleges – can recreate, retool and re-engage themselves to develop new and responsive educational opportunities for students.**



### **About Drs. Robert and Elizabeth Welty**

“When I first became acquainted with Spokane Community College years ago, it was a trade school,” retired physician Elizabeth Welty recalls, adding “I realized the importance of this training, but over time, I have discovered our community colleges aren’t just trade schools. They provide tremendous learning opportunities for a tremendous number of people who live and work in Spokane and Eastern Washington.”

In December 2004, Dr. Welty established the Drs. Robert F. and Elizabeth M. Welty Faculty Development Award Endowment, allowing CCS instructors to improve and enhance their skills as educators.

And in May 2008, she took another step—an extraordinary step.

Dr. Welty pledged \$2 million to fund the Drs. Robert F. and Elizabeth M. Welty Systemic Program and Professional Development Endowment—recognizing that CCS must engage in a process of constant evaluation and evolution as a way to adequately prepare students for professional and academic success in times of rapid-fire change and social transition.

In essence, she has charged our colleges and the IEL to create and support a comprehensive academic culture where program and professional development is system-wide, socially relevant and directly tied to new and emerging issues and needs in the communities we serve.

### **Endowment Goal**

To improve overall instructional quality and performance at Spokane Community College, Spokane Falls Community College and the Institute for Extended Learning by funding collegial, system-wide projects related to academic planning, curriculum development, training and instruction that respond to emerging regional needs.

### **Endowment Objectives**

Systemic program and professional development at CCS will:

- Create a CCS culture of program and professional development that engages all faculty and staff in a division, department and/or program;
- Systematically identify and address emerging social and economic trends in Eastern Washington; and
- Expose students to faculty and staff who are invested and engaged in developing and teaching classes that actively reflect our region’s social and economic needs.

### **The Process**

Systemic Program and Professional Development (SPPD) funds will be awarded through a competitive grant application process, driven by priorities identified in each unit’s strategic plan. Projects must be department/program-inclusive, focus on emerging trends and regional needs, and emphasize subject matter students need now and in the future. Proposed projects are prioritized and ranked by the applicant’s operating unit and must be signed by the college president or IEL chief executive officer.

SPPD grants are administered through CCS Foundation; grants will be awarded each year, based on evaluation by a districtwide committee that includes

- the CCS chancellor or his/her designee;
- the foundation executive director or his/her designee;
- representation from the CCS Foundation Board of Directors
- the district Academic Services Officer;
- each unit’s Vice President of Learning; and
- three faculty representatives, one from each unit, appointed by the appropriate president/chief executive officer of each unit.

A complete description of the application process, all application materials and instructions for submission can be found at [www.ccs.spokane.edu/Foundation](http://www.ccs.spokane.edu/Foundation)



### **How Funds Are Administered**

SPPD awards span a three-year period.

#### **Year One**

Funds will enable faculty teams to thoroughly research emerging issues and trends affecting their field of instruction and/or the industry it serves. Staff will use this information for curriculum development or redesign.

#### **Year Two**

Funding is dedicated to faculty and staff training/professional development.

#### **Year Three**

Funding is committed to implementation.

#### **Assessment**

Each SPPD grant application will be reviewed annually to determine whether the year's goals and objectives are met. Continued funding is approved at this time.

### **The End Result**

The Welty Endowment for Systemic Program and Professional Development at CCS will transform program development and faculty training at SCC, SFCC and the IEL, allowing for unprecedented innovation at the division, department and/or program level. It will engage teams of faculty and staff in systemwide program and professional development clearly targeted to meet student and regional needs.

The end result? CCS students will leave our colleges and education centers even better prepared and well-qualified for their chosen careers or fields of study. We invite you to join in this process of institutional evolution and change.

### **For More Information**

For more information, contact CCS Foundation Executive Director Gail Stevenson, (509) 434-5123 or [gstevenson@ccs.spokane.edu](mailto:gstevenson@ccs.spokane.edu)



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