

## LEAP Action Plan Statistics Hipsters

<b>LEAP Workshop Year:</b> 2013 <b>Action dates:</b> Spring 2013-Fall 2014	<b>For more information, contact:</b> Leda Nath (X 1125) David Havas (X 1872)
Chris Chapp	Political Science (since left UWW)
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<p><b>General Goal:</b> In February 2013, we developed a common assignment to use in research methods and quantitative analysis courses. It involved students attending UWW's Undergraduate Research Day and to critique their peer's research through a guided evaluation worksheet. This assignment incorporated several LEAP related student learning outcomes and HIPs. In August 2013, we aimed to improve on the first version.</p>	
<p><b>Planned Actions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve the assignment by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Retooling it</li> <li>○ Making expectations more precise</li> <li>○ Making it more amenable to development of an interdisciplinary scoring rubric</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Create plan to implement the new assignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Solicit departmental feedback</li> <li>○ Solicit feedback from outside departments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LEAP (John Stone, Greg Cook, Joan Cook)</li> <li>▪ Undergraduate Research Program (Simone Devore, Catherine Chan)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Broaden the reach of the program by involving other Stats/RM faculty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ List of stats/RM instructors from Don Wozniak in Registrar's office</li> <li>○ Use Collaborative Research Network web page on LEARN Center website</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
<p><b>Deliverables, Completed Actions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Conversation Started with URP:</b> A conversation was started with the URP folks,</li> <li>2. <b>Assignment Shared with Depts:</b> Some team members have shared the assignment with departments for feedback.</li> <li>3. <b>UWW Relevant Faculty Identified:</b> A list of Statistics/Research Method instructors on UWW campus has been created in an excel document.</li> <li>4. <b>Bonus:</b> In addition, the group has discussed using existing resources and infrastructure on campus (computer labs on campus, course options in each department for "undergraduate research" or "independent study," such as SOC 498R) to launch an applied social science research lab primarily housed in the College of Letters &amp; Sciences which incorporates the advising of faculty with the talents of ready students to engage in service in the community and state. Discussions have been started so far with Psychology (Chair Carolyn Morgan), Political Science (Chair Jolly Emrey), and team members. The plan so far recommends that each "applied research project" be written under the "498" independent study/undergraduate research curriculum in its faculty adviser's home department, but that it use a common core of learning objectives to link it to the social science center. For example, <b>the core learning outcomes might include</b> (and with associated <b>LEAP ELOs</b>):</li> </ol>	

- a. Develop a professional relationship with a client (LEAP Civic knowledge and engagement—local)
- b. Exhibit ethical behavior (assessed via client evaluation survey and faculty advisor survey) (LEAP Ethical Reasoning and Action)
- c. Demonstrate professional oral and written communication (assessed via meetings with clients, and presentation of results, and client evaluation survey) (LEAP Oral & Written Communication)
- d. Identify and practice the steps of social science research methods (i.e., clarifying the research question, identify an appropriate research design, complete any necessary IRB-Approval, collect data, analyze data, report results, present results to client) (LEAP Quantitative & Qualitative Literacy; Inquiry & Analysis; Creative Thinking; Teamwork & Problem Solving; Oral & Written Communication)

**Notes:**  
 The revised class assignment provides an opportunity for students to engage in campus and feel part of the campus community, see what their peers are doing, and recognize science across disciplines. It is still used in classes when the date of UR Day is appropriate to the course curriculum. Because more often UR Day occurs too early in each semester for students to be ready with the tools to complete the assignment, conversation took us to consider this independent study service idea. This new social science center has many benefits (as outlined above) as well, and we are very excited about it.