



Washington Campus Compact Awarded \$100,000 Grant
Grant Supports Degree Completion Efforts

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May 14, 2011

BELLINGHAM – Washington Campus Compact (WACC) will receive \$100,000 from the College Spark Washington Foundation to partner with five colleges to assess a strategy to increase the percentage of low-income students completing degree programs.

The Graduation Project will enroll work-study college students in Students in Service, a part-time AmeriCorps program. Students will participate in learning communities, individualized advising, leadership training and reflection activities, along with community service.

College partners are Big Bend Community College, Northwest Indian College, Walla Walla Community College, Western Washington University, and Whitworth University.

“The Graduation Project is a bold strategy to incorporate service and academic support systems directed at degree completion,” said Jennifer Dorr, executive director of Washington Campus Compact. “We want to demonstrate effective ways to support students in their efforts to graduate.”

During the 2010-2011 academic year, WACC expects to mobilize more than 20,000 students at colleges and universities who will volunteer more than 1.5 million hours of service, a contributing in excess of \$30 million in value to communities.

Established in 1992 and hosted at Western Washington University, WACC is committed to providing meaningful experiences for students to become active, engaged leaders in their communities, furthering the civic and public purposes of higher education, and strengthening communities. WACC has 35 college and university members throughout Washington state. It is an affiliate state office of Campus Compact, a national organization comprised of more than 1,200 colleges and universities committed to the civic and public purposes of higher education.