

April 20, 2015



Campus Sustainability Fund  
University of Washington

Re: Support for Engaging Students in Marine Conservation Through Sustainable Shellfish Aquaculture (Phase I)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey our enthusiastic support for this proposal for \$30,000 from the UW Campus Sustainability Fund (CSF) for a feasibility study and the permitting process for a student run shellfish culture operation at the University of Washington Big Beef Creek facility.

Since graduating from the UW School of Fisheries in 1981 I have enjoyed a very successful career in the shellfish culture industry. It has been a disappointment for me as an alumni to see the College of the Environment drift away from training students in shellfish culture and biology. Taking a shellfish hatchery class at UW's pilot hatchery in Manchester (long ago shut down) was what stimulated me to pursue the career I did. This project being proposed for the Big Beef Creek facility is an outstanding opportunity to give students some firsthand experience growing shellfish and to hopefully stimulate them to pursue careers in it. There is tremendous growth opportunity in shellfish aquaculture. We currently have over 550 employees and are steadily hiring more. Having students with the practical experience from the UW farm would be a real asset.

If the project moves forward we would be happy to have one of our staff serve as a technical advisor on the project.

We are excited for this project and hope you will consider funding it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Dewey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Bill Dewey  
Director of Public Policy & Communications