

May 5, 2018

Campus Sustainability Fund Committee,

I am writing on behalf of UW's Olympic Natural Resources Center to voice my support for the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER)-UW Nursery program. The Nursery has consistently provided opportunities for students to engage and learn about botany, plant production, and horticulture, filling a niche on campus not met not any other group or course. As ONRC begins to work with more UW students on plant propagation, forestry, lands management, and restoration through volunteer and internship opportunities, the Nursery will be a key partner.

ONRC would like to offer an ethnobotany internship program starting in the 2018-2019 academic year where students can learn about applied ethnobotany in a tangible and hands-on way. Through this, interns would spend a quarter of their time working in the Nursery to provide support, learn about native plant production, nursery operations, and plant growth. We believe that providing this support will not only help the interns have a more holistic and well rounded internship experience, but will also provide additional support to the Nursery to ensure success. If funded, a portion of my RA position time will also be allocated to provide support to the Nursery included helping to start their new rhizome beds, nursery operations, and assistance in weekly work parties. ONRC fully supports the efforts of the SER-UW Nursery and will provide staff time and intern time to help with their efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Courtney Bobsin".

Courtney Bobsin, M.S.
Research Botanist
Olympic Natural Resources Center
School of Environmental & Forest Sciences