

# Transportation Northwest

University Transportation Center (UTC)

Federal Region X





# First Regional UTC for Federal Region X

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- Region X - Alaska, Oregon, Idaho, and Washington
- TransNow established in September 1988, now in our 20<sup>th</sup> year of operation
- Consortium of 6 universities in the region with transportation programs
  - UAF, UI, PSU, OSU, WSU, UW
  - UW lead university
- How we got started
  - Transportation Acts
  - Competitions



# TransNow

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## What we do


- Four program components
  - Research
  - Education
  - Technology Transfer
  - Outreach
- Coordinate with
  - Local, state, and regional matching partners
  - Other universities



# Budgets

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- First years:
  - \$1 million per year authorized from USDOT
  - Must provide 100% match with non-federal funds
- Next 3 years:
  - FY07 and FY08 - \$2 million authorized from USDOT
  - FY09 - \$2.25 million authorized
  - Must provide 100% non-federal match



# So I can answer questions about a variety of budget issues:

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- Sub-contracts to other universities
- Sub-accounts to other UW departments
- Cash and In-kind match
- Educational stipends and other expenditures that aren't subject to overhead
- Packaging equipment to reduce total overhead charges
- RCR funds and why they are special
- Getting match \$\$\$ (Cash and In-kind)
- Tips on keeping track of all this
- Stretching your \$\$\$

# Increasing Your Chances and Stretching Your Dollars

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- Meet with your potential funders before you need the money.
  - Example: NSF Program Directors in DC
  - Talk to them whenever you are in DC
- Get help from your UW state and federal relations offices
  - They talk to Congress and to other funding resources
  - Potential “earmarks”
  - Keep COE informed. The College must approve the formal requests
- Pledge your in-kind cost-share as match on proposals whenever possible
- Leverage your \$\$\$ to get more
- Use tuition \$\$\$ to fund students
  - No overhead or benefits costs
  - Combine with professional employment to create internships



# 12 Lessons Learned from 20 Years Running TransNow

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- Think big.
  - Think “Why not me?”
  - Think “I can do this.”
- Know what the funders want and make sure they get it.
- Your paperwork must be done right and on time.
- Everything will take longer than you think it will.
- Sooner or later, everything that can go wrong will.
- Defend your money, space, & authority.
- Increase your frequent flyer miles.



# Lessons Learned (Continued)

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- Have a top-rate staff.
  - Keep regular contact with them
  - Reward them.
  - Treat hiring process very seriously
- Delegate but supervise; or, as the Gipper said “trust but verify”.
- Always create a detailed paper trail.
  - Put everything in writing.
  - Follow-up important meetings with written summary to participants.
- Network with people who can help you.
- Don't forget to have fun.





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Questions?