Data Management Plan for NSF STEM Grant Application

The University of Mary Washington is prepared host the data associated with the grant project on a university-maintained web site. Our Chief Information Officer (CIO) has agreed to provide the necessary disk space and server support (either physical or virtual) to enable the data to be publicly accessible through a web site hosted at the umw.edu domain.

Because the scholarship program is designed to support academically talented students with demonstrated financial need, aggregated data about the academic qualifications of students selected, levels of academic need, demographic information about the students receiving awards, retention, and graduation rates will be reported. Additionally, information about students who have entered the STEM workforce or who have moved on to graduate school after earning the baccalaureate degree at UMW will also be reported. Information about median wages for graduates and the percentage of scholarship students who have started and completed an advanced degree are examples of the post-UMW graduation information that might be publicly reported and shared. Students will not be identified by name, and all requirements for maintaining the confidentiality and privacy of individual educational records will be adhered to strictly.

UMW will ensure that data about the program results will be archived for a 10-year period following the conclusion of the grant project. UMW currently has two locations on separate campuses seven miles apart where the main Institutional Data Center servers are housed. The contents of each site are backed up to tape, and the tapes from the two separate locations are exchanged. The University is currently in the process of relocating its Data Center to a new state of the art facility that will be housed in our new Information and Technology Convergence Center, set to open in August. Data operations will be slowly migrated to the new location; as they are, the existing two separate data centers will remain in operation. Once the new Data Center is fully operation, and all data migration activities have been completed, the CIO indicates that the University will explore establishing an account with an off-site vendor to securely archive the tape backups from the new Data Center. Until then, UMW will continue with our process of backing up and exchanging tapes between our two separate campus locations.