

Bicycle Repair Classes. Bicycle repair certification for TCU students/employees.

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Project Abstract

The bike maintenance “staff” at Texas Christian University is seeking a grant to travel to Colorado Springs, Colorado to receive certification in bicycle maintenance from the Barnett Bicycle Institute. The objective is for two of the staff to obtain level 1 certification which is the equivalent of 3 months of experience assembling or repairing bicycles. Funding in the amount of \$3860 is requested for travel and lodging expenses as well as tuition and miscellaneous class fees.

Barnett Bicycle Institute is a school that offers classes in bicycle mechanics and materials for bicycle repair shops, specializing in suspension and wheel building and truing techniques. The Barnett’s Manual DX CD is the most comprehensive guide to bicycle repair and maintenance in production anywhere. Their philosophy of bicycle mechanics is to eliminate guesswork by analyzing a problem, and calculating the corrective action, rather than relying on a trial-and-error method. Their class size is limited to 16 students, with an 8 to 1 student/teacher ratio which guarantees a level of personal attention unmatched by other institutes.

With the knowledge received from this institute the TCU bike mechanics will be thoroughly prepared for any maintenance problem that may arise on campus. This is one of the best courses to take to learn about bicycle repair. The TCU Purple Bike Program and the Bicycle Club will benefit greatly from the program, being more knowledgeable about maintenance issues and also being certified from a respectable organization to resolve the issues.

References

Barnett Bicycle Institute. Accessed 12/6/10. <<http://www.bbainstitute.com/index.php>>

Statement of Need

TCU in the Fall of 2008 had 7,471 undergraduate students enrolled. This number has probably increased since this time with the success of the TCU Football program under Coach Gary Patterson and the nationally ranked Neely School of Business. Bicycle usage has also grown in the past few years. The Purple Bike Program has expanded to include 68 bikes for student use and we see the ever increasing need for bike racks in high traffic areas. The maintenance staff for the Purple Bike Program and Bicycle Club have a need for the training and certification to provide the same high quality work that is expected in all parts of TCU.

Program Description

The training from the Barnett Bicycle Institute will enable bicycle maintenance staff at TCU to provide high quality and knowledgeable bicycle maintenance to all students on campus. With this professional training we will be able to assist students in most, if not all their bicycle related needs at a low cost for them. The training course is called Bicycle Assembly and Maintenance (BAM) and is a 5 day/8 hour course after the completion of which the BSE Level 1 Certification test may be taken. The approximate make up of the class is 35% demonstration and lecture and 65% hands-on lab work. It is aimed to be applicable to all types of bikes that one may have. The ideal schedule is to take the training from June 19 to June 23, and take the certification test on the thursday that we complete it.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of this training is to be knowledgeable about bicycle repair and have a comprehensive understanding of the mechanics of a bike in order to supply the bicycle maintenance needs of the TCU campus. TCU is gaining a student population with more of an understanding of sustainability and is more conscious of the environment around them, thus bicycle are increasing in popularity. Along with the increase in bicycles is an increase in their basic wear-and-tear. TCU should be able to meet this growing need of the student body in a reasonable, safe and timely manner.

Objectives/reasons for having bicycle certified mechanics on campus include the following:

1. Provide knowledgeable persons who is able to repair bicycles for students
2. Provide more confidence to students as well as risk-management about the quality of bicycle repairs at TCU by going through a rigorous and comprehensive training program.
3. Increase the skills of future students by allowing certified instructors to teach bicycle maintenance to future leaders and workers in the global environment.

Budget

Bicycle Assembly and Maintenance course (June 19-23)	\$875/person
Lodging at BBI lodge	\$375/person
Textbook (Barnett's Manual DX)	\$140/person
Level 1 exam fees	\$200/person
Flight from DFW to Colorado Springs	\$340/person
Total	\$1930/person
Trainees	x2
<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>\$3860</u>

Schedule

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date</u>
Submit grant proposal	January 2011
Expected grant notification	February 2011
Purchase plane tickets	February 2011
Sign up for course	February 2011
Fly out of DFW	June 18, 2011
Attend course	June 19-23, 2011

Take certification test	June 23, 2011
Return Flight	June 24, 2011
Work with TCU on program logistics	July-August 2011
Implement skills gained from course	August 2011

Staff and Organizational Information

Quinn Garcia, Purple Bike Program Maintenance Coordinator, holds a Bachelor's degree in Religion from Missouri College and is currently working towards his Master's in Divinity at Brite Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He has been working on the Purple Bike Program for two years in maintenance and has trained several others on basic bicycle maintenance for the program.

Steve Campbell, Assistant Director of Outdoor Programs at the TCU Recreation Center is currently involved with the TCU Bike Club as well as leads outdoor biking excursions in the Texas area.