

1145-Q1-2963      **Brandy S Wiegers\*** ([brandy.wiegers@cwu.edu](mailto:brandy.wiegers@cwu.edu)), 400 E University Way, Ellensburg, WA 98926.  
*Converging support towards includes excellence at Central Washington University.*

Central Washington University (CWU) has worked to create an environment that is most supportive of the diversity of students in the Pacific Northwest that are underrepresented in the field of mathematics. This has been made possible with a specific focus on developing out programs at CWU to include more connections to the successful national programs of the MAA and the Mathematical Alliance. In addition, CWU has created a bi-weekly mathematical seminar, a second-year mathematical orientation course, graduate school professional development summer programs, mathematical outreach programs that encourage more double majors, and more.

This presentation will share lessons learned leading over the last five years, with a focus on the lessons learned and used in the Central Convergence REU program first run in summer 2018. We will also discuss how students are prepared, encouraged, and supported to seek future research experiences (graduate programs, conferences, advanced courses, etc.) to further participate in the professional field. Our success has been demonstrated with a steady increase in the number of female students staying in the major and applying/ attending graduate programs. (Received September 25, 2018)