



USS RANGER FOUNDATION

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Ranger means Education

Life-long Learning: K-20 and beyond

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The purpose of this document is to open discussions between the USS Ranger Foundation and the Oregon and Washington educational systems concerning the Foundation's desire to partner in creating and operating a one-of-a-kind educational venue that includes academic, scientific, vocational and business interests promoting a skilled workforce and enriched cultural environment.



Ranger and the Educational System

Background

The USS Ranger Foundation is a nonprofit corporation chartered to acquire the retired super carrier *USS Ranger* and operate it in the Portland OR metro area, as the anchor of a museum, memorial, educational, and civic center complex. The ship is currently moored in Bremerton WA, and is being held for a no-cost donation. Full details and planning materials are available, as well as live presentations and speaking engagements.

One of the primary uses for Ranger in the Portland OR metro area is to support the educational system. The USS Ranger Foundation is dedicated to providing educational venues, events and physical support in the form of classroom, lab and machine shop space.

Current status

Donation of Ranger is under a federal program conducted by the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) in Washington DC. They have a multi-phase process for proving that the potential donee has the proper corporate structure, tax status and plans for every facet of acquisition, modification, movement, mooring, operation and maintenance.

The USS Ranger Foundation has successfully passed through the first phase that entailed documenting the Foundation is a properly constituted and governed corporation with the correct IRS 501(c)(3) status. In addition, the Foundation commissioned a marketing study in 2007 whose findings were that if the planning were properly executed; the project would be a financially stable and viable in this area of the country. The Foundation has selected a site on the Columbia River known as Chinook Landing near I-5, I-84 and Marine Drive in the City of Fairview.

Phase two

The Foundation entered Phase Two of the NAVSEA process in September, 2009. NAVSEA allows twelve months to complete the required activities in phase two, enabling the Foundation to advance to Phase Three.

Phase two has two major deliverable areas.



A complete financial and business plan – This plan must be properly structured and cover all financial aspect from startup through acquisition and operation for the first five years.

A comprehensive environmental study – This includes air, water, traffic, hazardous material and other known and potential impacts, as well as identifying required permitting activities to be finalized in phase three.

Partnering with the Oregon education system

The Foundation would like to begin now in Phase Two to develop partnerships with Oregon's and Washington's educational systems. We feel that the earlier the involvement, the more effective the entire effort will be. We envision a facility that adds to the educational experience and is created in cooperation with all components of the educational system in Oregon and Washington. Partnership efforts can support the successful completion of Phase Two, and can build creative and realistic plans for Phase Three and beyond.

Our project plan includes an educational coordinator for the complex who is to be the liaison with the educational system at all levels. The possibilities are unlimited. There are opportunities for K-12, for community colleges, and four-year colleges and Universities. Opportunities exist as well for many kinds of life-long learning. The Foundation plans to complement learning environments such as those provided by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) and the Blueback submarine museum, and by the Evergreen Aviation Museum.

Creating a museum and educational center aboard a vessel designed for a completely different range of purposes is not a small task. Through presentations and group brainstorming sessions with various schools and other education-supporting organizations, the Foundation plans to assess what the interests are and how to prioritize them while making this come alive.

Representative Partnership Opportunities

These include but are not limited to possibilities for educational involvement by:

Environmental and Science Students

The battleship Missouri was towed from Bremerton WA to Pearl Harbor Hawaii where it has become a popular ship museum and tourist destination for that state. As part of the environmental planning, it was determined that the growth on the hull from long term mooring in Sinclair Inlet needed to be removed before Missouri entered Hawaiian waters.



In conjunction with the University of Hawaii, a plan was created that had the ship stop at Astoria, OR. While the public was aware of her presence, and she was open to visitors for a short period, the primary purpose was to let the fresh water of the Columbia River kill off the marine growth in a natural and cost effective manner.

We would like to see a science department work with our environmental team and collaborate with University of Hawaii to learn from and replicate their experience. The students and educators would also work with the team on determining and preparing permits, thus exposing them to environmental studies and regulatory processes.

Business students

NAVSEA requires a full range of business and financial plans. We would like to partner with business students in preparation of these plans.

The students and educators would work with the Foundation in the areas of business and financial planning, forecasting, grant preparation and production.

The Foundation is creating a Project Management Office (PMO) to centralize and standardize all business processes. Students and educators can work with the Foundation to develop and implement those processes.

Hospitality and Tourism Students

Ranger had the capability to house over 5000 hungry Sailors and Marines and to feed them four meals a day, 24 hours a day when at sea. Most of that equipment is still aboard. Hospitality and Tourism and Culinary Arts students would work with the Foundation to develop plans and procedures for using the ship's kitchen, laundry and other hotel facilities in educational programs. Ships equipment that is steam driven cannot be activated, nor can the galleys be used for actual food preparation.

Concept planning for the restaurant and other food services the Foundation plans to offer to museum visitors, which will require new equipment, would also provide educational opportunities. They would work with the Foundation on developing new ideas for how to host events such as parties and receptions aboard Ranger. A variety of 'live aboard' programs will require planning for a range of hotel services.

Ongoing service-learning and internship opportunities would be available with the food service operators and event management services.



Technology Students

Information technology students could work with the Foundation on plans to restore and update systems within the ship such as its closed circuit television system and internet, both of which date from the early 1990's. Plans for Web and wireless communications would need to meet the challenges presented by the steel structure of the ship.

The ship was self-sufficient in many ways, and as a result is well-equipped with tools and technologies such as machine shops, metal fabrication shops, electrical shops, even carpentry shops, which all would be vital in the restoration of displayed aircraft and equipment. The Foundation would like to work with students and educators to develop plans to incorporate these assets into both museum and live learning opportunities.

Elementary and high school students

The early stage of planning this comprehensive complex provides opportunities for K-12 students to have real-life hands-on experience in many career and technical areas that create career connections in the minds of young people. These activities also create relevance to math, science, geography and other areas of curriculum. These high-interest active learning opportunities may be valuable to school districts striving to improve retention rates and reduce dropout numbers.

Once again, the Foundation plans to conduct 'live aboard' programs to provide overnight accommodations and allow for special programs geared toward youth groups of all interests. Input from our 'consumers' is vital to assure a vital, interesting and ever-evolving experience that students can not only attend throughout their academic careers, but help create.



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Next steps

Captain David Todd, PhD, USN(Ret), is the designated contact point for advancing this part of our plan. Dr. Todd is a retired Naval Officer and a college instructor with over twenty years experience in higher education. He is a Computer Science instructor at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, OR, where he also serves as Co-Chair of the College's Strategic Planning Council. He holds a Ph.D. in Systems Science from Portland State University, an MBA in Business Administration from the University of Portland, and a BA in Mathematics from the Lewis & Clark College.

For further information

For further information please visit our web site [HTTP://WWW.USSRANGER.ORG](http://WWW.USSRANGER.ORG) or phone (503) 558-8519.

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