In 2005, Oregon State University established the Institute for Water and Watersheds as the hub for water-related teaching and research activities at the University. The goals of the IWW are to:

- provide coordination of water and watershed activities at OSU,
- connect a diverse student body with relevant issues across the state,
- enable capture of new, high-value opportunities for research, education, and outreach,
- engage OSU faculty and students with external stakeholders throughout the state, and
- establish a set of shared water and watershed collaboratories supporting research, teaching and outreach.

IWW funded a graduate student to make a documentary film of the groundwater crisis in Umatilla County. The film was shown in IWW annual Winter Water Film Series to a packed house and to the 2009 State Legislature. It is currently scheduled to be the keynote event at a Pacific Northwest water conference in Skamania, Washington and is making the rounds at regional film festivals.
In celebration of the 100 year anniversary of the Oregon Water Code, IWW sponsored conferences on Aquifer Storage and Recovery and Artificial Recharge in Oregon which was attended by 180 people, [link](http://water.oregonstate.edu/asr/index.htm).

Wells and the Well-Being of Oregon attended by 80 people, [link](http://water.oregonstate.edu/projects/2008/wells.htm)

IWW worked in concert with Oregon Sea Grant and INR to host five Roundtables in Salem, Bend, Newport, Ontario, and Medford to listen and document Oregonian’s concerns regarding water issues since Oregon does not have a state-wide water plan.

A central aspect of IWW is the development of new and innovative ways to engage stakeholders. Oregon is one of two western states without a long-term water supply plan. IWW also participated in the Water Initiative submitted to the Oregon Business Summit and the Exempt Groundwater Well Policy Consensus Work Group to work on Oregon’s rules and regulations on exempt wells.

IWW worked closely with the Institute for Natural Resources Director to develop the water initiative introduced at the 2009 Oregon Business Summit.
IWW, in concert with International Studies, Departments of Chemical, Biological, and Environmental Engineering, Geosciences, and Public Health, hosted the U.S. Institute for the Environment (SUSIE) program, which brings 23 undergraduates from Central American and Caribbean countries to Corvallis for a summer of environmental studies. The students studied water and watersheds, water and wastewater treatment, and coastal development issues through a grant totaling nearly $250,000 from the U.S. Department of State. The project has the potential to be renewed for up to three years.

IWW continues to help build OSU’s reputation in international waters.

Working with Dr. Aaron Wolf of the Department of Geosciences, IWW assisted teaching WRP 599 - Special Topics in Water Resources Conflict Transformation and Governance to 15 students, including water professionals from China, Germany, and two officers in the US Army who were stationed in Iraq. IWW continues to build courses to support the Graduate Certificate in Conflict Transformation through eCampus, including CSS/GEO 335 Introduction to Water Science and Policy, GEO 424/524 International Water Resources Management, and an online version of WRP 599. With these and other courses, IWW has generated courses totaling 13 student credit hours.
This map highlights water pollution issues in the Willamette River system. It was produced by the Corvallis Environmental Center using funding from IWW and published in August of 2008. It is used in eCampus and in-residence classes on water science and policy.

The number of students taking water-related courses in all colleges at OSU continues to climb each year based on the fall enrollments.

2006  <200 students  
2007  approximately 200 students  
2008  485 students  
2009  680 students

IWW is a recognized clearinghouse for securing quality students to fill internships for local, regional, national and international agencies.

- Benton County Water Planning - Water Policy Planner  
- City of Corvallis - Drinking Water Source Water Protection program  
- Umatilla County Planning - Critical Groundwater Solutions Taskforce newsletter  
- Umatilla County Critical Groundwater Solutions Taskforce - Documentary Film  
- Umatilla County Critical Groundwater Solutions Taskforce - Hydrologic data summaries  
- Bureau of Land Management - Marmot Dam restoration  
- Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), India

IWW leveraged the Strategic Initiative funds to increase research by faculty and students while at the same time acknowledging diversity.

**Faculty/Student Impact**

- Diversity Scholarships (2006-2008) = $75,000
- IWW Match for Faculty Grants to USGS mini-grants (2006-2009) = $120,000
- Graduate Student Awards (2007-2008) = $95,000

25 projects funded to OUS institutions through IWW grants:

- Linn-Benton CC
- Rogue CC
- OSU Cascades
- Willamette Univ.
- Portland State Univ.
IWW negotiated a financial gift totaling nearly $40K from former OSU student Mrs. Esther M. Rada to fund renewable energy research using micro-hydro power through the OSU Foundation to fund the very first joint UO Juris Doctorate / OSU Masters in Water Science. IWW is advising graduate student Jennifer Holderman as she completes this work that should provide a benchmark for comparable research under the proposed Professional Science Masters in Renewable Energy offered jointly through Portland State University and OSU. To learn more, read the College of Science Blog “Breakthroughs”:

http://sciencebreakthroughsatosu.wordpress.com/category/water-resources-graduate-program/

The Strategic Initiative investment, Research Office contributions, and other investments totaled $1.4 M. The average annual cost to run IWW approached $439,000.