

FACULTY GRANTS FOR TEACHING

University of Massachusetts Amherst

INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

The Center for Teaching and the Provost's Office award *Faculty Grants For Teaching* to encourage new and improved approaches to instruction.

Purpose. This award program encourages creative undergraduate teaching activities. Projects funded include, but are not limited to, development of new pacesetting courses, innovation in the organization and style of existing courses, development of new modes of instruction--instructional aids or technology. We especially welcome teaching development initiatives in the area of multicultural teaching and learning.

Eligibility. All University of Massachusetts Amherst faculty may apply.

Amount Awarded. The amount of the average individual grants is \$1,500. *Grants will be awarded by May 9, 2008 and funds will be available at the beginning of the fall semester.* A brief report is due at the end of the academic year in which the grant is awarded.

Application Procedures. A complete application consists of:

1. The proposal prepared by the candidate. Proposals must be written in clear, non-technical prose. The review panel is comprised of representatives of various disciplines on the Amherst campus most of whom are unlikely to be specialists in the applicant's field.
2. Signatures of applicant and department head.

Evaluation of Proposal. A faculty committee will review applications, rate each proposal on the basis of 1) originality, 2) need, 3) impact on students, 4) impact on professional development, and 5) overall quality.

Review Process. A committee of faculty members will review applications and award grants within two months after the deadline. Applicants will be notified in writing of the results.

Faculty are urged to be creative in developing proposals for projects they feel will increase their teaching effectiveness and their students' learning. Funds are for the support of faculty work beyond what would be expected as part of regular teaching obligations (e.g., keeping up to date in one's discipline, redesigning a course in light of new discoveries).

Possible projects include the following:

TO DEVELOP, REDESIGN OR ENHANCE

1. An interdisciplinary course
2. A course to meet the needs and interests of particular student constituencies-freshmen, older students, disadvantaged students, etc.
3. A course which will meet student needs in the general education program
4. A course which will give students not only content, but also the skills necessary for a successful college career (e.g., analytical reasoning, speaking and writing skills, interpersonal skills, technology skills)
5. Learning situations which enhance individual attention and small group affiliations or support networks among students
6. Learning situations which combine disciplinary requirements with the University core requirements in productive and coherent ways
7. Mechanisms for introducing non-majors to a discipline in ways which result in appreciation of that discipline
8. Projects designed to improve the retention of the student population in the University
9. Ways to assess the impact of particular teaching strategies on student learning
10. Courses which include ways for students to enhance their multicultural fluency

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APPLICATION FORM

1. NAME: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____ RANK: _____

CAMPUS ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

2. TITLE OF PROJECT: _____

3. GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED: _____

4. DEPARTMENTAL GOF ACCOUNT FOR FUND TRANSFER: _____

5. ABSTRACT (limited to this space):

6. PROJECT DESCRIPTION. Attach a description of the project. Please limit description to a maximum of four pages including the budget.

- a. *Overview of the project.* Offer reasons, which justify awarding funds for this project, for instance, pressing needs, innovative approach, impact on student learning, impact on one's own teaching development.
- b. *Description.* Describe the goals and objectives of the project. Describe the essential activities for which you seek support.
- c. *Outcome.* Describe the anticipated outcomes. Discuss how the results of the project will improve student learning and enhance teaching development.
- d. *Evaluation.* Describe how the impact of grant activities will be evaluated.
- e. *Project Funds:* Describe how the grant funds will be spent.

7. SIGNATURES: Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Department Head: _____ Date: _____

STATEMENT:

Application deadline: March 10, 2008.

Your application should include **four** copies of the following: 1) this form;
2) a project description. Send completed proposal to:

Center for Teaching
301 Goodell Building
140 Hicks Way
University of Massachusetts Amherst