2011 Academic Excellence Days Learning Community Grant Program

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

Request for Proposals

Proposals are due by 10 a.m. on Friday, November 12, 2010

The Faculty Professional Development Committee is pleased to announce the 2011 Academic Excellence Days Learning Community Grants program. The program awards competitive grants to faculty and staff members who want to develop a learning community to foster academic excellence, intellectual rigor, and civil discourse by bringing together people from inside and outside Cal U. Proposed learning communities must be multidisciplinary and include students, staff, and faculty members. Up to three project proposals will be funded up to a maximum of $5000 each. Successful applicants are expected to “unveil” the proposed learning community during the upcoming 2011 Academic Excellence Days event (February 16 and 17, 2011).

2011 Grant Theme
The theme for this year’s grant program is “The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.” The program is particularly interested in communities that focus on the impact of scholarship on teaching and learning, including but not limited to the following topics:

- Integrating the use of scholarship into community development and activities
- Creating communities that serve a scholarly function
- Investigating scholarship as a principle of teaching and learning
- Rethinking scholarship in relation to teaching and learning
- Putting into practice available scholarship on teaching and learning with technology
- Establishing best practices for teaching and learning with technology
- Developing communities around a research question and/or project

Learning Community Grant Goal
In keeping with the University’s mission, the Academic Excellence Days Learning Community grant seeks to enhance student achievement, student success and institutional excellence by supporting communities for students, staff, and faculty to generate and share new knowledge.

Project Proposal Overview
Proposals must address how the applicant(s) will establish a learning community to develop innovative projects in the scholarship of teaching and learning. Successful grant applications will meet the following criteria:

1. Projects build collaborative partnerships among departments and/or University offices or organizations. Projects can also include partners outside the Cal U community.
2. Projects promote a high level of involvement and interaction among several students, staff members, and faculty members by involving at least ten learning community members.
3. Projects include clearly articulated and measurable project goals and outcomes for all community members. If a learning community has been previously funded by an AED grant, the new proposal must establish significant new goals and objectives.
4. Projects provide a plan for sustainability beyond the funding period.
**Project Coordinator Eligibility**
The project coordinator or coordinators must be full-time Cal U faculty members (regular or temporary) or full-time staff members.

**Funding Amount and Period of Award**
Awards up to $5000 will be made to support learning communities between April 2011 and April 2012. Each award recipient is expected to launch its learning community during the 2011 Academic Excellence Days event and conclude activities during 2012 Academic Excellence Days event.

**Proposal Content**
Proposals must include the following information to be considered. Please respond succinctly, including only relevant information. Proposals may not exceed four double-spaced pages (including Cover Sheet).

- **A. Cover Sheet (see attached)**
- **B. Brief description (300 words maximum) of the proposed learning community**
- **C. Statement of project goals and measurable outcomes**
- **D. List of proposed learning community members, including names and affiliations (department, office, organization, etc).**
- **E. Project Methodology**
  1. Description of how the learning community will discover and share knowledge about the scholarship of teaching and learning
  2. Description of how the proposed activities will enhance student, faculty, and/or staff achievement, student, faculty, and/or staff success, and institutional excellence
  3. Description of how the proposed learning community will build relationships between students, staff, and faculty
  4. Number of students, faculty, and/or staff who are likely to benefit annually from the project
  5. Project timeline
  6. Description of how the project outcomes will be assessed
  7. Budget request and narrative
- **F. Project Scholarship Dissemination**
  Description of how results of the project will be shared with others

**Deadlines**
Proposals are due by 10 a.m. on Friday, November 12, 2010. Please submit one hard copy, including the cover sheet with signatures, to the Faculty Professional Development Center (Azorsky 134). Also please submit an electronic copy in MS Word or rtf format as an email attachment to fpdc@calu.edu.

**Funding Decision**
On or before December 6, 2010.

**Other Information**
Any questions regarding this RFP should be directed to Dr. Sarah Meiss, co-chair of the FPDC grants subcommittee (meiss@calu.edu).
2011 Academic Excellence Days Learning Communities Grant

PROPOSAL COVERSHEET

Name of Learning Community:

Learning Community Project Coordinator(s):

Name ___________________________  Name ___________________________
Office ___________________________  Office ___________________________
Phone ___________________________  Phone ___________________________

Amount Requested  $______________

Project Abstract (max. 300 words):

Department Chair Endorsement

Name __________________________________________

Signature ___________________________  Date ___________________________