Focus on Funding is a newsletter published by the St. Louis Community College Office of Institutional Development (OID). It features external funding opportunities available from federal, state, local and private funding sources, as well as other news. For more information about the OID and services provided by our staff, please contact Castella Henderson, Director, at 314/539-5354, or visit the OID web page at: http://www.stlcc.edu/odweb/.

Grant Opportunities
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Talent Expansion Program (National Science Foundation)

The STEM Talent Expansion Program (STEP) seeks to increase the number of students (U.S. citizens or permanent residents) receiving associate or baccalaureate degrees in established or emerging fields within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Community colleges are eligible to submit type 1 proposals that provide for full implementation efforts at academic institutions. The goal of the project must be to increase the total graduation numbers of such students at the institution, and all STEP proposals must include specific numerical targets for these increases.

Project efforts might utilize, for example, one or more of the following approaches:
* Programs that focus directly on the quality of student learning, including those that encourage (a) high-caliber teaching, including enabling faculty to spend additional time teaching participating students in smaller class settings, particularly in the laboratory environment; (b) opportunities to implement new pedagogical approaches including the implementation of web-based course strategies, distributed and collaborative digital teaching tools, or interactive course modules; and (c) training of teaching assistants;
  * Programs that expand the capacity of institutions of higher education to incorporate

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Faculty and Staff Kudos
SLCC receives external funding for a variety of projects and programs. Project directors, sources, grant amounts, and descriptions for some of the recent awards are as follows:

**Mike Twombly, St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District, $30,000.** A grant to expand the “desk to dumpster” recycling program and enhance the visibility, uniformity and convenience of recycling at all SLCC locations.

**Lorna Finch, UAW/GM Center for Human Resources, $19,259.** A grant for instructional, academic advising and administrative services for the United Auto Workers/General Motors Skill Center.

**Jeanne Edwards, Central Missouri State University, $5,100.** A grant to provide technical assistance to schools with early childhood education programs.

CONGRATULATIONS!

For more information on funding opportunities listed, call the Office of Institutional Development at 539-5354.

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current advances in science and technology into the undergraduate learning environment;
- Programs including interdisciplinary approaches to undergraduate STEM education;
- Bridge programs that enable students at community colleges to matriculate directly into baccalaureate STEM programs, including those bridge programs targeted at traditionally underrepresented groups in such disciplines;
- Programs among collaborating academic institutions designed to increase the number of pathways available for achieving a degree in STEM, or to improve the articulation among programs at the institutions;
- Programs, such as mentoring programs, that aim to increase the number of traditionally underrepresented students (low-income, ethnic and racial minorities, persons with disabilities, and women) specifically in STEM undergraduate majors;
- Programs that (a) facilitate student exposure to potential careers, including cooperative programs with industry or government that place students in internships as early as the summer following their first year of study; (b) provide part-time employment in industry during the school year; or (c) provide opportunities for undergraduates to participate in industry or government sponsored research.

Grant duration is expected to be five years, with grants in the $500,000—$2 million range for the five year period.

**Deadlines:**
Letter of Intent due 8/15/06
Full Proposal due 9/26/06