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/.

Funding Opportunities

Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program (Council for International Exchange of Scholars/U.S. Department of State)
The objective of the worldwide Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence (SIR) Program is to bring Scholars and professionals from abroad to U.S. colleges and universities to significantly internationalize host institution campuses and curricula. Preference is given to institutions that infrequently or never host Visiting Scholars and that serve student populations underrepresented in international exchange programs, especially minority students. Under the Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program, accredited U.S. institutions of higher education submit proposals to the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) to request Scholars for one or both terms of the 2008-09 academic year to teach and consult in area studies programs, interdisciplinary programs that focus on global issues or courses where participation of a foreign Scholar can provide a cross-cultural or international perspective.

The Scholar-in-Residence Program is generally limited to requests for Scholars in the humanities and social sciences. While the majority of previous Scholars have been in fields such as history, political science, business, economics, literature, language and the arts, there are many other disciplines that have been funded and will be considered, for example: education, law, architecture, urban studies, sociology, intercultural studies, geography, women’s studies and journalism. The important consideration, especially with requesting Scholars in disciplines such as business and the natural sciences, is how the Scholar will add an international perspective to courses in their field, other programs on campus and community activities. The Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program does not normally support Visiting Scholars in the natural sciences.

For the Visiting Scholar, the Fulbright grant includes a monthly stipend and travel to and from the United States, plus an allowance for up to two dependents. Host institutions usually supplement the Fulbright maintenance stipend and/or assist with other professional expenses through in-kind contributions. Also, institutions structure their SIR programs to allow the foreign Scholars the opportunity to devote some time to their own professional interests as they carry out their teaching and other responsibilities.

In the 2006-2007 program year, ten community colleges received SIR awards.

DEADLINE: October 15, 2007

For more information on grant opportunities, please call the Office of Institutional Development at 539-5354
Summer Stipends (National Endowment for the Humanities)
The National Endowment for the Humanities is again preparing for its Summer Stipends competition. Over the past three years, NEH has awarded almost 300 Summer Stipends to allow faculty members to pursue their scholarship during the summer months. While the program remains consistent with previous years, there are two important changes:

- NEH has increased the amount of a Summer Stipends award to $6,000.
- A new method of applying. Like NEH Fellowships, Summer Stipends will be accepting applications online only through Grants.gov

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves early with the new application instructions and guidelines posted on the NEH website. These guidelines should be consulted by faculty when they draft their proposals for consideration by their nominating officials. ONLY THOSE FACULTY WHO ARE NOMINATED SHOULD APPLY.

The maximum number of nominations from an institution is two; each can be either a junior or a senior faculty member.

The NEH defines the humanities as follows: "The term ‘humanities’ includes, but is not limited to, the study of the following: language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, theory and criticism of the arts; those aspects of social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life."

Any faculty member with a humanities project may apply for nomination for a Summer Stipend. The field of the project determines the eligibility for nomination to and application for NEH Summer Stipends, not the field of the applicant. The following four criteria will be used by reviewers in evaluating Summer Stipends applications:

1) the intellectual significance of the project to the humanities, including its potential contribution to knowledge and learning;
2) the quality or promise of quality of the applicant's work as an interpreter of the humanities;
3) the quality of the conception, definition, organization, and description of the project, and the clarity of its expression;
4) the feasibility of the proposed plan of work and the likelihood that the applicant will complete the project.

Applicants will need the name, title, and e-mail address of their institution's nominating official before they can submit their online application. Applications submitted for the fall deadline will be considered for stipends to support two months of full-time work on a humanities project during the summer of 2008. Recipients usually produce scholarly articles, monographs on specialized subjects, books on broad topics, archaeological site reports, or other scholarly tools.

DEADLINE: October 2, 2007

For more information on grant opportunities, please call the Office of Institutional Development at 539-5354