Grant Opportunities

NEA Foundation Learning and Leadership Grants

The National Education Association (NEA) Foundation for the Improvement of Education offers Learning and Leadership Grants to support public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education for one of the following purposes:

- **Grants to individuals to fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences** such as summer institutes or action research
- **Grants to fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson study, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff new to an assignment.**

All professional development must improve practice, curriculum, and student achievement. Grants funds may be used for fees, travel expenses, books or other materials that enable applicant to learn subject matter, instructional approaches and skills.

Grant amount: $2,000 for individuals and $5,000 for groups engaged in collegial study.

Preference will be given to members of the National Education Association. Grants may not be used to pursue degrees, pay administration costs or salaries, or support travel or conference fees for more than one person.

Deadline: October 15, 2006

NEA Student Achievement Grants

The National Education Association (NEA) Foundation for the Improvement of Education provides grants to improve the academic achievement of students in U.S. public schools and public higher education institutions in any subject area. The proposed work should engage students in critical thinking and problem-solving that deepen their knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students’ habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection.

Proposals for work resulting in low-income and minority student success with honors, advanced placement, or other challenging curricula are particularly encouraged.

Funds may be used for resource materials, supplies, equipment, transportation, software, or scholars-in-residence

Grant Amount: $5,000

Grants may not be used to support afterschool or summer programs, pay administration costs, stipends or salaries, or support conference fees for more than one person.

Deadline: October 15, 2006

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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:

**Donna Dare**, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, $454,842. A grant for educational enhancements (purchase of instructional equipment, software and facility renovations) in vocational programs at all three campuses.

**Diane Foster**, Missouri Campus Compact, $5,000. A grant to support three mini-workshops for faculty at the three SLCC campuses on how to bring service-learning and civic engagement into the classroom with confidence, creativity, imagination and inclusivity.

**David Hanlon**, St. Louis Artworks, $11,000. A grant for the Meramec campus to serve as a teaching organization for the St. Louis ArtWorks program, a youth employment program in the arts.

**Karen Mayes**, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, $272,998. The first year of a three year Nursing Workforce Diversity Program grant. The project aims to enhance the diversity and cultural competence of the nursing workforce in the St. Louis region by increasing the success rate of the minority and international students in the SLCC nursing program.

**Pam McIntyre**, Productive Living Board, $96,696. A grant to provide vocational enhancement services to St. Louis County residents with developmental disabilities through the Access to Continuing Education Program.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

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**AACC Service Learning Grants**

**Available this Fall for Projects Related to Multilingual Needs**

The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) has received a three-year, $1.1 million grant from the Learn and Serve America program of the Corporation for National and Community Service. The purpose of the grant is to develop service learning and civic engagement programs at community colleges nationwide. This new grant, which begins September 1, continues the work of AACC’s 12-year initiative, Community Colleges Broadening Horizons through Service Learning.

AACC will select eight colleges in a national competition to receive grants in the amount of $36,000, plus extensive training and technical assistance, for service learning projects related to multilingual needs in their communities. AACC will also select four experienced service learning practitioners as mentors for the project. The Request for Proposals (RFP) will be available in late August.

**Deadline:** October 2, 2006

For more information on any of the funding opportunities listed, please call the Office of Institutional Development at 539-5354
Grant Writing Tip: Take Time to Plan Your Project
A thorough and careful project planning process is one key to writing a winning grant proposal. Spending the time to answer the questions below, from Sylvie McGee/All For A Good Cause (reprinted by permission) can help you on the road to planning a solid project that will result in a clear, concise grant proposal.

What's the problem we are addressing?
• Remember - the problem is not your need - it's the community's need!

Who else is addressing the problem, and what are the gaps in how it is being addressed?
• Gaps can be related to program, population, time/season, or resources. Gaps are the reason that you have a need!

How are we proposing to address the problem?
• Paint a clear and specific picture of your program! Can your reader see it in action in their mind?

How will things be different/will the problem be solved or improved, when you are done?
• How will you know that you are succeeding? What will you measure in order to understand how you are doing and what needs to change or be adjusted?

What do you need in order to try to solve the problem?
• This must tie to the approach you have described above. It's an opportunity to once again paint a picture of what you will be doing!

What resources do you already have? From whom?
• Don't forget volunteers, donations and in kind services. Show the community participation in your project. Project the image that the funder is joining a winning team, not boarding a sinking boat!

What are the qualifications and experience that make your program the right one to take on this work?
• History, key accomplishments, qualifications of staff and volunteers, relationships in the community...as they relate to this project.

Are there problems or barriers that you can foresee? How will you overcome them?
• We all run into roadblocks when we try something new. Think through what you are going to do carefully. Recognizing the possibility of problems is the sign of a sophisticated and professional program!