Focus on Funding is a newsletter published by the St. Louis Community College Office of Institutional Development. It features external funding opportunities available from federal, state, local and private funding sources, as well as other news. For more information about the Office of Institutional Development and services provided by staff, please contact Castella Henderson, Director, at 314/539-5354.

Grant Opportunities

Initiative for Minority Students: Bridges to the Baccalaureate (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health)

Bridges to the Baccalaureate aims to increase the number of underrepresented minority biomedical research scientists. The program seeks to improve the ability of educational institutions to train and graduate promising underrepresented minority students in the biomedical sciences, including the relevant behavioral, physical, and quantitative sciences.

Bridges grants are institutional and must reflect the plans and priorities of the participating institutions as well as the collective plans and priorities of the partnership between the institutions. Collaborative agreements should be designed to best fit the needs and situations of the institutions involved. The challenge for the participating partners is to create a partnership program, or to enhance an existing program that will focus attention and adequate resources on the institution granting associate degrees and enhance the academic competitiveness of its science graduates.


The earliest start date for project submitted for this deadline is July 2004.

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News and Notes from the SLCC Office of Institutional Development

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Freedom Support Educational Partnerships Program with Eurasia (U.S. Department of State)

The Freedom Support Educational Partnerships Program with Eurasia provides grants to U.S. colleges or universities for a maximum of $250,000 for a project of up to three years. Grants will support linkages in higher education with institutional partners in eligible countries. The eligible countries are: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. Grant activities may include the development or revision of courses, curricula, outreach programs and programs of study at participating institutions in ways that strengthen democracy and free markets in Eurasia, and promote mutual understanding.

DEADLINE: December 5, 2003

Cooperative Grants Program (NAFSA: Association of International Educators)

The Cooperative Grants Program (COOP) of NAFSA provides seed funds of up to $10,000, as well as programming resources, for projects that creatively involve post-secondary international and U.S. study abroad students in U.S. campuses and communities. COOP invites proposals for innovative projects that:

- Encourage international students and scholars attending U.S. colleges and universities to become involved in and knowledgeable about U.S. culture and society apart from their study/research programs,
- Enhance the experience of U.S. Students involved in study abroad prior to their departure, or upon their return, or
- Stimulate and strengthen interaction among international students, their U.S. peers, faculty and communities.

COOP Incentive Grant awards range from $2,001—$10,000.
Deadline: January 15, 2004

COOP Mini-Grant awards range up to $2,000.
Deadline: March 1, 2004

Faculty and Staff Kudos

A number of faculty and staff members have been awarded grants and contracts over the past few months. Project Directors, sources, grant amounts, and descriptions for recent awards include:

Jeanne Edwards, Gwen Pennington, Lovedy Magagnos, Karen Olson, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, $42,450. A grant to participate in the “Improving the Quality of Child Care and Education” program. The grant will be used to help students receive training and apply for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

Steve Long, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, $165,226. A grant to support the efforts of the St. Louis Area Tech Prep Consortium, with the primary goal of building and maintaining strong linkages between area secondary schools and St. Louis Community College.

Jaime Torres, Georgetown University, $572,930. A grant for St. Louis Community College to participate in the Cooperative Association of States for Scholarships (CASS) program funded by the Agency for International Development. Eighteen international students will have an opportunity to earn a Certificate of Proficiency in Electronics Engineering-Telecommunications.

Congratulations!