CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Incentives and Innovations Grants – 2016
College of Arts and Architecture

Background:
Once again this year the College will use revenue generated from summer session resident instruction to fund the “Incentives and Innovations Grant Program”, the purpose of which is to improve existing courses as well as support innovative and timely course and curriculum development.

Purpose:
The primary objective of the fund is to advance college and unit strategic objectives related to undergraduate and graduate instruction. Proposals should be quite clear in describing how the course(s) to be developed or enhanced contribute to key initiatives such as:

- Advancing entrepreneurship and innovative thinking
- Strengthening our significance and reputation in the arts
- Preparing students to thrive in a global environment
- Promoting interdisciplinary teaching and program development
- Assessing and improving student learning outcomes
- Growing the quantity and diversity of general education course offerings

Two types of grants are available. Larger awards up to $15,000 will be granted to one or two proposals in the category of New Course/Curriculum Development, and several smaller awards of $4-6,000 will be provided to Course Enhancement proposals. Please note that faculty summer salary is generally not awarded for Course Enhancement proposals.

Proposals for New Course/Curriculum Development (up to $15,000) should briefly describe the new course or program to be created including an assessment of the need and the relationship of the new program, course or courses to existing offerings. Proposals for Course Enhancement ($4-6,000) should describe the need and how improvements will advance teaching effectiveness and student learning.

A detailed budget describing how funds will be used must be submitted with the proposal.

Additional points to consider in developing either proposal include:

- Developing a new course/program or enhancements to an existing course that has the potential to reach a large audience and generate significant credit hours.
- Developing a new course/program or enhancements to an existing course where credit hours, while not large, may be sustained over time.
- Developing a new course/program that addresses an area of content not currently offered in the academic units or the College.
- Developing master classes, seminars, workshops and symposia from which student credit hours and or revenue may be generated.
- Developing a new program, course or enhancements to an existing course in which a commitment for matching funds or additional support from other sources, either internal or external, has been secured.

*Please note that proposals focused solely on converting an existing course to an on-line course should not be submitted to this call for proposals. They should be submitted to the College’s e-Learning Institute.*

Proposals should not exceed three pages.

**Procedures:**
The Incentives and Innovations Fund will be managed in the office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Outreach. A call for proposals shall be issued during the Spring Semester of each academic year to all academic units of the College. All tenured/tenure track and multi-year fixed term faculty shall be eligible to submit a proposal.

Completed proposals must be submitted via the School Directors and Department Heads. It is strongly advised that faculty first discuss their idea for a new or enhanced course with the unit head/director and, if appropriate, the program curriculum committee prior to developing a complete proposal. The academic unit heads shall evaluate the importance of a proposal to the strategic goals of the unit; discuss the sustainability of the proposed course or program after this initial funding; and, if there are multiple proposals from an academic unit, to rank order the proposals. **The deadline for submitting proposals to Directors and Heads is April 1, 2016.**

Following review by unit administrators, please submit electronic copies of the proposals (PDF format preferred) to Linda Wheeland (ljw2@psu.edu) in the office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Outreach. **Proposals are due to the Associate Dean’s office by Friday, April 8, 2016.**

A committee comprised of The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Outreach, the Associate Dean for Research, and the chair of the A&A Faculty Council will review and evaluate the proposals. The Review Committee shall forward their recommendations, in rank order, to the Dean who shall make the final awards.

**Schedule:**
Proposals shall be submitted and reviewed during the spring semester; awards will be announced prior to the end of the semester. **Funds are released by the college finance office after the start of the new fiscal year in the fall.** The duration of the award, for new or enhanced courses, shall be through the end of the next academic year following the award. For new courses, a course description, in the appropriate format, suitable for circulation in the College
and to the Faculty Senate, shall be submitted to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Outreach by the end of the next spring semester following the award. For enhancements to an existing course, a one or two page report shall be submitted to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Outreach within two weeks of the conclusion of the semester in which the enhanced course was taught.

When a conference, workshop or symposia proposal has been granted an award, a longer period of time to expend funds will be considered. A one or two page report of the event shall be submitted to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Outreach within two weeks of the conclusion of the event.

Adopted by Executive Council 1-30-01
Revised - Approved by Executive Council 2-13-04
Revised - Approved by Executive Council 11-22-04
Revised – Dean Korner and Interim Assoc Dean Leslie 4-28-08
Revised – Assoc Dean Kesler & approved by DDD 2-24-10