

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Faculty Grants for the Development of Service-Learning Courses

The Irvin D. Reid Honors College, through CommunityEngagement@Wayne, invites proposals for teaching innovations from Wayne State University faculty. The proposed projects should advance the Irvin D. Reid Honors College objective to engage undergraduate students, faculty, and community members in learning together through service and civic participation in a diverse, democratic society.

Funding should enable faculty to engage undergraduate students in course projects that involve community partners and address important community or civic issues and/or develop curricula or courses that strengthen community service-learning or civic education. **Preference will be given to general education courses.**

CommunityEngagement@Wayne expects to fund 2 projects in the coming academic year. Awards of \$2,000 are available to individual faculty members.

WHAT IS SERVICE LEARNING?

For the purposes of this grant, service-learning is a method of teaching by which students learn by applying classroom experiences to real-life situations at a specific community site. Service-learning courses will:

- meet a need identified by a community partner;
- be coordinated collaboratively by a faculty member and the community partner;
- integrate the service-learning experience into the academic component of the course;
- provide structured time for students to reflect on and write about their service experiences before, during and after these occur.

(Adapted from *The Alliance for Service-Learning in Education Reform*, 1993. See the CommunityEngagement@Wayne website for more information on course-planning: <http://www.communityengagement.wayne.edu>)

ELIGIBILITY

Funds are available to continuing instructional faculty, provided the course is taught within the 2016-2017 academic year. Awardees will receive \$2,000 for course planning in the summer. This grant can be combined with the Honors Seminar Innovation Grant for a combined grant of \$3,000 for classes that fulfill the service learning and Jr/Sr seminar requirements.

Applicants who have received CommunityEngagement@Wayne funding in the past may seek support for new initiatives, but priority will be given to faculty who teach general education courses.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Proposals are accepted on a continuing basis. Award decisions will be announced within one month from proposal receipt by the Office of CommunityEngagement@Wayne.

A proposal application should include:

1. Completed cover sheet (use form below).
2. Project Summary or Abstract
3. Proposal narrative of 5 double-spaced pages (or less) that provides:
 - **Course description and rationale.** Briefly describe the course—its significance, objectives and scope—and identify community partners. Highlight any features of the course that would make it especially appealing to students.
 - **Impact.** Describe how the course will accomplish learning objectives and develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and experiences. Be sure to include the class-to-community and community-to-class connection you expect to make.
 - **Plan of operation.** Document a realistic timeline for identifying and working collaboratively with a community partner, developing course projects, and managing student involvement in the community site during the semester.
 - **Plan of evaluation.** Describe how student projects will be evaluated in the class and in the community.
 - **Future plans.** Describe your expectations for offering the course in your department beyond the period of funding.
 - **Supporting information.** Attach a letter of interest from your community partner(s).

SELECTION CRITERIA

Grants will be awarded based on the following:

- Quality and extent of expected student, civic, and community service-learning outcomes
- Quality and extent of potential community impact
- Potential impact on the faculty and students' continued involvement in community service, learning, and civic engagement

GRANT REQUIREMENTS

Successful applicants will need to:

- ✓ Agree to sustain the class for an additional semester (subject to departmental approval)
- ✓ Allow Honors students to enroll in the course, if the course has a special topics designation.

SUBMISSION

Please follow the application guidelines and attach the cover sheet provided. Applicants can submit the application electronically or hardcopy to:

CommunityEngagement@Wayne
Irvin D. Reid Honors College
2100 Undergraduate Library
communityengagement@wayne.edu

QUESTIONS

Questions may be directed to Monita Mungo at ah6559@wayne.edu or (313)-577-8912.

