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Grants and Fellowships

All faculty are encouraged to apply for Center grants and fellowships, and all graduate teaching assistants for internships. Faculty will have no restriction on multiple applications for different forms of support; that is, the same person may submit a proposal for a mini-grant award or apply to be a Center Fellow. Only one Center award or appointment, however, will be granted for an academic year. Internships are reserved for graduate teaching assistants only.

Grant, fellowship and internship applications will be reviewed by Center staff and then forwarded to the CRTE Advisory Committee for final approval of an award. We anticipate a 30 day review process before applicants will be notified of decisions. Please note below the application deadlines for specific awards.

- **Mini-Grants:** March 30 for Fall semester and October 1 for Spring semester.
- **Center Fellows:** Six months before a proposed project begins.
- **Instructional Interns:** Before a TA enrolls in a third Center workshop.

Mini-Grants

Priority will be given to proposals that evaluate evidence-based learning through performance outcomes. These include pre- and posttest, portfolio evaluation, and longitudinal tracking of student achievement. Proposals should describe in detail how the award will potentially improve instruction in a course or curriculum and how that improvement will be demonstrated. Successful proposals will also provide clear evidence of instructional practices that encourage active learning. We recommend that proposals be approximately two to three pages (about 500-750 words), with about two pages of narrative and one page for the budget. The best proposals will explain anticipated improvement in teaching, its efficacy in terms of current scholarship on learning, and appropriate plans for assessment. The budget should include specific information about proposed expenditures. Any citations should be in an established scholarly format.

- Mini-Grant Application Guidelines (PDF)

Mini-grant awards will not exceed $5,000. Review of submissions will begin on March 30 for Fall semester awards and October 1 for Spring semester awards. Early submission will improve chances of funding. For additional information or to submit applications, please contact Juana Dumagan (jdumagan@ucmerced.edu) at 228-7950.

Center Fellows

These fellowships are intended for new or recently hired faculty. Fellows will receive a one-course release of no more than $7,000 that may be applied to the fellow's teaching responsibilities or allocated to the Fellow's school for any instructional purpose. Prospective Fellows must submit a detailed statement of intent that explains how the fellowship will enable them to become more accomplished teachers. That statement should adhere to the following guidelines:

- The fellowship activity will focus on teaching and learning at UC Merced. For example, a prospective Fellow could propose teaching a Freshman Seminar that engages students in active learning.
- The activity will be limited to no more than one semester.
- The Fellow's statement of intent will list specific performance outcomes to be achieved by the end that semester. For example, a performance outcome could be completion of a course syllabus that meets accreditation requirements for outcomes-based learning.
- At regularly specified intervals during the project, the Fellow must submit written narratives that report progress of the activity. These interim reports may be in the form of a reflective journal or weblog. A final, formal report that summarizes outcomes of the project activity (or activities) must be submitted within six months after the semester when the project ended.
- As a condition of receiving a fellowship, each Fellow must agree to adhere to these guidelines. Evidence of project completion will be included in a Fellow's employment record at UC Merced.
- Fellowship Application Guidelines (PDF)

Prospective Fellows may contact the Center to discuss these guidelines and to plan a proposal. Applications are due six months before the proposed project begins. For additional information or to submit applications, please contact Juana Dumagan (jdumagan@ucmerced.edu) at 228-7950.

Instructional Internships

All graduate teaching assistants are eligible to receive an instructional internship that culminates in a $250 honorarium and certificate of accomplishment. Interns will attend or facilitate at least five workshops on teaching and learning that are specifically intended for graduate students who have a current or pending appointment as a teaching assistant. There is no time limit on when these workshops must be completed, but we would encourage Interns to attend all five workshops within one academic year. Watching pre-recorded podcasts of these workshops *does not* count toward the required five workshops.

Before completing a third workshop, prospective Interns should contact the Center to apply for an instructional internship. At that time of application, Center staff may require that an Intern attend as many as three topic-specific workshops to qualify for the $250 honorarium and certificate of accomplishment.

- Internship Application Guidelines (PDF)
- Online Internship Application

For additional information or to submit applications, please contact Juana Dumagan (jdumagan@ucmerced.edu) at 228-7950.