

Request for Proposals

Funding of e-Learning Projects

The Offices of the Provost and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education are offering financial support to WSU teaching faculty to develop new courses and/or revise and upgrade existing e-Learning courses aimed at the teaching of on-campus WSU students.

Eligibility:

All fulltime teaching faculty at all WSU campuses.

Level and Duration of Support: We anticipate awards from \$2500 - \$5000 per grant. We request that these funds be spent in one year after receiving the award.

What is e-Learning?

Historically the term e-Learning has a number of meanings. For simplicity we adopt a pragmatic definition of an e-Learning course:

Any course with a significant online-component. For sake of argument, 'significant' implies the online component is greater than 40%. The blended/hybrid/flipped/inverted formats are examples of the latter.

Goal:

Here our goal is to encourage development, experimentation and innovation in e-Learning based instruction by WSU faculty by providing modest support for such. Support is limited to development of courses aimed at WSU students enrolled on-campus (this includes all WSU campuses). It is our desire that these courses add significant value to undergraduate education at WSU, i.e., improved student learning, engagement, and retention.

Expectations:

Our expectations include:

1. These courses would be For-Credit
2. These courses should be substantive, in depth, of high quality, and challenging to the enrolled students. (Online lectures alone would not suffice).
3. These courses should show an improvement (in student learning outcomes) over existing formats.
4. The development and production period should be timely with implementation of the course during the calendar year 2014 (spring, summer, or fall semesters).

Types of activities supported:

The supported efforts might include (but are not limited to):

Conversion of existing traditional courses to e-Learning infused courses.

Dramatic improvement of student learning in existing e-Learning based courses.

Development of e-Learning units that would significantly enhance a traditional course by running in parallel with face-to-face labs/studios/field-trip types of activity.

In addition, critical remedial courses (here, non-credit courses would be appropriate) could be included.

New, previously untaught classes are not encouraged. In our opinion, the effort to develop and implement such undeveloped courses would require considerably more resources than currently available.

Proposal Applications

Please limit the proposal to 3-4 pages + budget page.

Application to include:

Description of the course with a brief summary of possible relevant e-Learning experiences from earlier efforts and from the literature.

Rationale for introducing e-Learning and predicted benefits to student learning.

Description of likely format and details of the proposed course components (online, face-to-face portions, Skype, etc.).

Description of the evaluation/assessment to be applied to the implemented course (guidelines and suggestions will be provided after awards are granted).

For major revisions of existing online courses, include a brief history of course, enrollment, and proposed changes in the course design.

Description and justification of how resources would be used to achieve success (i.e., budget justification).

Proposed Budget

Examples of items that might be requested:

- Funding of an assistant
- Software and equipment for production

- Purchase of online teaching materials (e.g., videos or online exercises)
- Copyright expenses
- Maintenance and/or implementation costs (with a projection of sustainability past the grant)
- Updating/Revision costs

Requests for summer salary are discouraged. Matching funds from departments and deans are strongly encouraged.

Final Report to include:

A description of the course features that were developed and deployed including a course syllabus.

Results of course evaluations/assessments.

Plans for and likelihood of improvements/revision for future course offerings.

(For new e-Learning courses, a preliminary report is requested, followed by a final report to be submitted in a timely fashion).

Review of Proposals:

A subcommittee of the Teaching Academy will review the proposals and make their funding recommendations to the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education.

Awards will be announced as soon as possible.

Proposal Submission and Due Date:

Proposals may be submitted as PDF files by email attachment to Jeannie Holt (jmholt@wsu.edu)

Again, please limit the written materials to 3-4 pages + budget page.

Proposals are due November 22, 2013.

Questions:

If you have questions, please contact Tom Dickinson jtd@wsu.edu