Leonhard Center Request for Proposals

Intent to submit deadline: February 29, 2016
Submission deadline: April 4, 2016
Total funding available: $300,000
Anticipated Number of Awards: 5 to 10
Award duration: 1 to 2 years

The Leonhard Center is pleased to issue a request for proposals to support enhancements of education in the College of Engineering. The projects must be consistent with endowment guidelines, under which funds are used to support development, implementation, and assessment of enhancements to pedagogies, courses, and curricula. The Leonhard Center project funds are to be used to support the innovation process; the funds are not used for sustaining the innovations.

Projects of particular interest for funding this year are: (1) Expanding use of pedagogical approaches that are known to increase student motivation and learning such as project-based learning, service learning, or classroom flip and (2) Course and curricular changes to enhance students’ abilities related to engineering ethics, global readiness, innovation and leadership. These two areas are the same as those listed in the 2015 RFP.

If you have a project concept that does not fall into these two categories, please contact Tom Litzinger, Assistant Dean for Educational Innovation and Accreditation, to discuss the project. He will provide guidance on whether or not to proceed with preparing a proposal.

Departmental-level projects or projects involving multiple faculty members are preferred. Projects may involve undergraduate or graduate education. The Principal Investigator on the project must be a faculty member located at University Park.

If you intend to submit a proposal, please notify Tom Litzinger (tal2@psu.edu) by email by February 29. Please indicate the topic of your intended submission. If a large number of intents to submit are received, a down select process will be initiated.

Projects Funded in 2015
   – Comprehensive Integration of Engineering Ethics into Biological Engineering Curriculum
   – Redesign of Chemical Engineering Capstone Design
   – Improving Problem-based Learning in a Large Junior-Level Mechanical Design Course
   – Collaborating with the Wind Industry in the Creation of Online Project-Based Learning Experiences Scenario-Based Learning Modules for Teaching Complex Building Code Topics
   – Undergraduate Engineering Project Management in a Flipped Classroom
   – Enriching Engineering Education Using Peer-based Gamification of Challenging Course Concepts
PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

- Five pages plus budget
- Submit as a single pdf file to Tom Litzinger (tal2@psu.edu)
- Proposal should include the following:
  - Project Goals
  - Brief Summary of Related Literature
  - Project Description
  - Links to CoE and Department Strategic Plans and to the attributes of a World-Class Engineer
  - Evidence of Departmental Support
  - Conceptual Assessment Plan
    - Detailed assessment design will be done for funded projects in collaboration with Leonhard Center staff.
  - Expected Impact in Department and College
    - Include the numbers of students, courses and/or faculty affected
  - Plan for sustaining innovation after startup period
  - Project Timeline
  - Justification of budget request

BUDGET

- Must be broken down by Fiscal Year
- Project start date should be June 1, 2016 or later
- Fringe benefits must be included for salaries, wages, stipends, etc.
- Indirect costs should not be included

Allowable expenses:
- Support for faculty and students
- Travel support to execute project or to present results of project
- Materials & supplies

Non-allowable expenses:
- Equipment
- Facilities construction or improvements
- Software/IT-based services

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Quality of project concept and plan
- Expected impact of the project – including number of students, faculty, and/or courses involved
- Level of support of project by department
- Degree of alignment of the project goals with College and Department Strategic Plans and with the attributes of a World-Class Engineer
- Alignment between project plan and budget
- Plan for sustaining innovation