**Faculty Grants Committee Annual Report to Senate**

**2011/2012**

April 15, 2012

**From:** Nanci Gasiewicz, Chair, Faculty Grants Committee

**To:** David Boe, Chair, Academic Senate

**RE: Faculty Grants Committee 2011/2012 Annual Report to Academic Senate**

How Faculty Grants Committee (FGC) activities relate to the Road Map to 2015:

The variety of internal grant applications received throughout this academic year have demonstrated a solid desire among faculty and students to continually improve quality of academic programs through research and other creative activities that collectively serve to ensure NMU’s heritage of being a high-touch, high-tech, high-quality center for academic excellence. The aim of internal grant proposals include, but are not limited to, the integration of innovative technologies into the classroom that facilitate student success, ensure environmental sustainability within and beyond our local community, and promote global involvement through service learning and a dedication to life-long learning.

During the 2011/2012 academic year the FGC met six (6) times and evaluated sixty-six (66) grant applications. The following comprises the annual report of FGC activities.

FGC activity for Fall 2011 includes:

1. The Grants and Research Office is now managing the record keeping and administration for the internal grant programs at NMU (formally, the FGC worked with Kathy Maki in the Graduate Office).  To assist with this endeavor (and other grant responsibilities on campus), Basecamp was integrated into the Grants and Research Office operations. Basecamp is a web-based project-management tool from 37 signals and is accessed through the web browser (Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer, etc.).  Installation of additional software is not required.

Basecamp allows one to upload and download files, send messages, view calendars, and assign tasks to selected individuals.  With the FGC, the Grants and Research Office is using this program to manage FGC-related communications, organize the internal grants and reports, and also as a means of getting all of the internal grant applications to members of the FGC. Basecamp is currently not supported by the Helpdesk, and will be managed by Andrew Smentkowsi and Graduate Assistant, Jennifer Thorton from the Grants and Research Office.

The Reassigned Time Award applications, the Spooner Grant applications, the Faculty Grants, and the Peter White Scholar Award applications were provided to the FGC via the Basecamp platform. The FGC finds Basecamp to be an efficient platform for communication of grants applications and related FGC business.

1. On September 27, 2011, Nanci Gasiewicz, Chair of the FGC, and Andrew Smentkowski from the Grants and Research Office held a workshop regarding the internal grant programs overseen by the FGC.

3. On October 13, 2011 the FGC met to review applications for the Winter 2012 Reassigned Time Awards. A quorum was present. Eighteen (18) grant applications were received. Fifteen (15) were deemed eligible/fundable and three (3) were deemed ineligible/unfundable. The rankings are as follows:

**Reassigned Time Awards for Winter 2012**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Final Rank** | **Name** | **Department** | **Title of Project** |
| 1 | Frank, M. | English | Moses Harvey And The Giant Squid |
| 2 | Lawton, L. | Math/CS | Micro Finance Institution Lending Impact on Female Entrepreneurship |
| 3 | Hanes, J. | Earth, Environment, & Geographical Sciences | Biophysical Applications of Satellite Remote Sensing |
| 4 | Rajagopal, S. | Are and Design | Yantra: A Grammar of Archetypal Space |
| 5 (tie) | Brahm, G. | English | Re-Orientalism: Edward Said, Postcolonial Theory, and the “New Anti-Semitism”; and, Festschrift for Paul Hollander |
| 5 (tie) | Ruuska, A. | Sociology/Social Work | Tracing the Trail: Indigenous Postal Carriers Underwriting a Nation-making Experiment |
| 5 (tie) | Cogley, Z. | Philosophy | The Three-Fold Significance of the Blaming Emotions |
| 8 | Demel, S. | Sociology/Social Work | Beaver Island Archaeological Research, Analysis, Writing, and Exhibit |
| 9 | Mills, B. | English | “*African Creolite in Benin; Sourcing the Imagination of the Atlantic World: Oral Contributions.”* |
| 10 | Matherne, B. | English | Bayou des Acadiens/Blind River |
| 11 | Logan, G. | History | Lace Up the Boots, Full Tilt Ahead: Chicago Soccer 1890-1939 |
| 12 | Goodrich, P. | English | Thinking Forward about the Past: Toward a Global Middle Ages |
| 13 | Horn, J. | Math/CS | RFS Shape Nesting Versus Commercial Algorithms |
| 14 | Singh, J. | English | Imagining Nations and Homelands: Gender and Skin Identity in Indian and Diasporic Literature |
| 15 | Johnson, R. | English | Three Short Stories in “A Blended Family: Section of *A Second Marriage: The Ben and Geri Stories* |
| Unfundable: did not follow formatting rules | Sundell, R. | Earth, Environment & Geographical Sciences | Government Policies and Actions That Impact the Lake Superior Environment |
| Unfundable: did not follow formatting rules | Willis, A. | History | “Raising a Christian Nation” |
| Unfundable: did not provide progress report from previous RTA | Truong, B. | Math/CS | “Calculus-Based Proofs in Set-Valued Optimization” (manuscript) |

4. Also on October 13, 2011 the FGC met to review applications for the Fall 2011 Spooner Grant Awards. A quorum was present. Three (3) graduate and one (1) undergraduate applications were received. All were deemed eligible/fundable. Graduate and Undergraduate applications were ranked separately. The rankings are as follows:

**Spooner Grant Awards – Fall 2011**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rank/Graduate Students** | **Name** | **Title of Project** |
| 1 | Sabin, K. | Glioblastoma Exosomes Contribute to Immune Evasion |
| 2 | Fawcett, .S | A Paleoecological Reconstruction of a Neotropical Savanna Utilizing Radiocarbon Dating and Pollen Analysis |
| 3 | Guth, R. | Habitat Fragmentation Effects on Overwintering Brook and Brown Trout: Fish Condition and Movement |
| **Rank/Undergraduate Students** | **Name** | **Title of Project** |
| 1 | Woodford, E. | Analysis and Comparison of Fossiliferous, Cambrian Strata of Dickinson County |

5. On November 18, 2011 the FGC met to review applications for the 2011/2012 Faculty Grant applications. Fourteen (14) applications were received. Thirteen (13) applications were deemed eligible/fundable and one (1) application was deemed ineligible/unfundable. Erich Ottem served as chairperson for this meeting in my absence. The rankings are as follows:

**Faculty Grants for 2011/2012**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Final Rank** | **Name** | **Department** | **Title of Project** | **Amount Requested** |
| 1 | Putnam, L. | Chemistry | Mechanism of Bisphenol A Degradation by Little Bluestream Seeds During Germination | $7,000 |
| 2 | Wickenheiser, E. | Chemistry | Study of the Absorption of Components of Smokeless Powder by Materials in Disposable Gloves | $7,000 |
| 3 | Hanes, J. | EEGS | Investigating the Patterns and Dynamics of Leaf and Needle Growth During the Spring in the Longyear Forest | $5,329 |
| 4 | Ziat, M. | Psychology | Behavioral and Electrophysiological Responses Associated with the Processing of Touch in a Driving Simulator Envioronment | $7,000 |
| 5 | Arenillas, M. | MLL | Revolutionary Movements in Argentina Reconsidered: The Legacy of the 70s for a New Generation | $6,970 |
| 6 | Rajagopal, S. | AD | Sounds of Eternal Truth: Vedic Way of Life and Mnemonic Rules of Pattern, Repetition and Tonal Accent in the Oral Tradition of the Vedas | $7,000 |
| 7 | Johnson, R. | English | Narrative and Appendices of Dr. Ronald L. Johnson: Draft Three Stories for the “Newlyweds” Section of a Book: A Second Marriage: The Ben and Geri Stories | $3,890 |
| 8 | Wedin, H. | Nursing | Men in Nursing: The Experience of Being a Male Nursing Student | $7,000 |
| 9 | Liu, Yan | Chemistry | Characterization of Electroosmotic Flow at High Temperature | $7,000 |
| 10 | Reinhardt, M. | CNAS | Decolonizing Diet Project | $7,000 |
| 11 | Truong, B. | MCS | A Unified Separation Theorem for Closed Sets in a Banach Space and Applications to Multi-objective Optimization | $7,000 |
| 12 | Lawton, L. | MCS | Associate Membership in the Casualty Actuarial Society | $7,000 |
| 13 | Liu, Yu | Chemistry | Development of a Molecular Tweezers Supported Switchable Co(III)-salen Catalyst | $7,000 |
| Unfundable: did not follow formatting rules | Yang, R. | Sociology | Floating Willow Flowers: Poetry Collection | $7,000 |

6. In addition to the evaluation and rankings of Faculty Grants, other FGC business

conducted at the November 7, 2011 meeting included:

* Clarification and definition of final project reports for Spooner Grants.
  + The grant recipient will not be penalized for not submitting a final report, but would be ineligible for another Spooner Grant Award until a final report of the previous award is attached to the new grant application.
* Acceptance of an alternate font for the visually impaired was added to all internal grant guidelines, providing for use of Arial 11.5 or Verdana 10.5 fonts.
* Modification of the Reassigned Time Award coversheet to reduce confusion about   
  number of load credits the applicant will be teaching during the award semester.
* Revision of the Faculty Research Grants coversheet, guidelines, and evaluation rubric to ensure consistent language among all three documents.

Faculty Grants Committee (FGC) activity for Winter 2012 includes:

7. On February 10, 2012 the FGC met to review applications for the Winter 2012 Spooner Grant Awards. A quorum was present. Two (2) graduate and zero (0) undergraduate applications were ranked. Both were deemed eligible/fundable. The rankings are as follows:

**Spooner Grant Awards – Winter 2012**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rank/Graduate Students** | **Name** | **Title of Project** |
| 1 | Munsche, H. | Headsprout as a Remedial Intervention for Low-Performing First Grade Students |
| 2 | Pearch, J. | Genetic Analysis of the Population Structure of Brook Trout Within Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore |
| **Rank/Undergraduate Students** | **Name** | **Title of Project** |
| Not applicable |  |  |

8. On March 2, 2012 the FGC met to review applications for the Fall 2012 Reassigned Time Awards. A quorum was present. Twelve (12) applications were received. All applications were deemed eligible/fundable. After rankings were determined, one applicant notified the FGC Chair that his application was being withdrawn because he received other reassigned time equivalent to his full time teaching load for Fall 2012. Consequently the revised rankings are as follows:

**Reassigned Time Awards for Fall 2012**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Final Rank** | **Number of credit hours requested** | **Name** | **Department** | **Title of Project** |
| 1 | 4 | Galbreath, K. | Biology | Diversity, Evolution, and Biogeographic History of Northern Parasites |
| 2 | 4 | Allen, J. | Pol. Science/ Public Admin. | Memory Politics and Transitional Justice |
| 3 | 4 | Frank, M. | English | Moses Harvey and the Giant Squid |
| 4 | 4 | Ruuska, A. | Soc./Social Work | Place, Performance & Social Memory in the 1890’s Ghost Dance |
| 5 | 4 | Arenillas, M. | Romance Languages/Lit. | Memory Politics and Transitional Justice |
| 6 | 4 | Truong, B. | Math & CS | Sufficient Conditions in Multi-objective Optimization |
| 7 | 4 | Wedin, H. | Nursing | Men in Nursing |
| 8 | 4 | Goodrich, P. | English | Thinking Forward about the Past: Toward a Global Middle Ages |
| ~~9~~  Withdrawn by applicant  3/19/12 | ~~4~~ | ~~Sundell, R.~~ | ~~Earth, Envir. & Geo. Science~~ | ~~Government Policies and Actions that Impact the Lake Superior Environment~~ |
| ~~10~~  9 | 4 | McCommons, J. | English | Railroad History Monograph |
| ~~11~~  10 | 4 | Johnson, R. | English | Three Short Stories in “A Blended Family” Section of A Second Marriage: The Ben and Geri Stories |
| ~~12~~  11 | 4 | Singh, J. | English | Comparative Feminism, Postmodernism, Postcolonialism: Gender and Sexual Identity in Contemporary Turkish Literature and Culture |

9. Revisions to the Reassigned Time Application Evaluation Form were proposed by Andrew Smentkowski in the Grants and Research Office. FGC accepted revisions as written. Revisions were made to Reassigned Time Application Evaluation Form to bring form to closer alignment with published RTA application guidelines and criteria. Grants and Research Office will post revised form to appropriate website(s).

10. Concerns about IRB requirements were raised in relation to use of interviews of experts and/or family members for data gathering related to proposed projects involving case studies. FGC Chair, Nanci Gasiewicz, consulted via phone with IRB Chair, Derek Anderson, regarding FGC concerns. Dr. Anderson confirmed exempt status of RTA applications in question, however recommended that it would be prudent of applicant(s) to seek IRB letter of exempt status for inclusion in grant application when use of human subjects are planned for expert opinion or case study purposes. This measure would alleviate concerns about proposal eligibility related to IRB requirements.

11. On March 19, 2012 Ron Sundell submitted an email notification of his intention to withdraw his RTA application from the rankings for Fall 12. Dr. Sundell has already received other reassigned/release time equal to twelve (12) credit hours for Fall 12.

12. On March 30, 2012 the FGC met to review applications for the Peter White Scholar Award for the 2012-2013 academic year. A quorum was present. Seven (7) applications were received. Five (5) applications were deemed eligible/fundable and two (2) applications were deemed ineligible/unfundable. The rankings are as follows:

**Peter White Scholar Awards – 2012**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Final Rank** | **Name** | **Department** | **Title of Project** |
| 1 | Lindsay, A. | Biology | Conservation Genomics of Common Loons |
| 2 | Singh, J. | English | “Imagine Identities and Homeland” |
| 3 | Johnson, R. | English | Complete a Second Marriage: The Ben and Geri Stories and Revise Novel: Los Angeles 1962 |
| 4 | Yang, R. | Sociology/Social Work | Translation of Floating Willow Flowers |
| 5 | Frank, M. | English | Moses Harvey and the Giant Squid |
| Ineligible  No plan for external funding | Matherne, B. | English | Bayou des Acadiens/Blind River |
| Ineligible  < 5 year interim since previous PWS award was received by this applicant | Whalen, R. | English | The Complete Works of George Herbert |

13. On April 12, 2012 the FGC met to review applications for the 2012 Instructional Improvement and Curriculum Development Award applications. A quorum was present. Four (4) Instructional Improvement Award applications and three (3) Curriculum Development Award applications were received. All were deemed eligible/fundable. The rankings are as follows:

**2012 Instructional Improvement Award Rankings**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Final Rank** | **Name** | **Department** | **Title of Project** |
| 1 | Delpier, T./  Burdick, K. | Nursing | Pediatric Nursing Simulation |
| 2 | Sen, M./  Kapla, S. | Psychology | Transitioning PY100L (Introduction to Psychology) Laboratory Exercises to HTML5 for Laptop Application |
| 3 | Foster, T. | Modern Languages and Literatures | French Culture in France: Site Investigation |
| 4 | Singh, J. | English | Queer Theory and Critical Thinking |

**2012 Curriculum Development Award Rankings**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Final Rank** | **Name** | **Department** | **Title of Project** |
| 1 | Imdieke, S./  Edge, C./  Cameron-Standerford, N. | Education | Rubric on Candidate Clinical Practice |
| 2 | Singh, J. | English | Contemporary South African Literature |
| 3 | Leuthold, S. | School of Art and Design | New Special Topics Course: Art, Culture and Language of Andalucia Spain |

14. Also on April 12, 2012, the FGC met to review applications for the Summer 2012 Spooner Grant Awards. A quorum was present. One (1) graduate application and one (1) undergraduate application were received. One (1) application was deemed eligible/fundable and one (1) was deemed ineligible/unfundable. Graduate and Undergraduate applications were ranked separately. The rankings are as follows:

**Spooner Grant Awards – Summer 2012**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rank/Graduate Students** | **Name** | **Title of Project** |
| Ineligible because applicant has earned an Excellence in Education Award for Summer 2012 | Kimball-Fay, L. | Seasonal Roads |
| **Rank/Undergraduate Students** | **Name** | **Title of Project** |
| 1 | Passino, R. | Induction of Migratory Neurospheres by Simulated Tumor Microenvironment |

During the 2011/2012 academic year, the FGC approved the following recommendations:

* To allow faculty on sabbatical to be eligible to receive the Peter White Scholar Award. This was also a recommendation made in the 2010/2011 FGC Annual Report to the Academic Senate.

Rationale: Sabbatical offers necessary time to conduct and complete proposed PWS project.

* Academic Senate requested (3/12) that formatting requirements for internal grants be lessened or excluded from required internal grant submission criteria. The FGC considered this request and found it would be difficult to responsibly consider and rank grant applications without consistent formatting of the documents. Formatting requirements are not unique to internal grant applications at NMU. Formatting requirements for grant applications are consistently found as required submission criteria for grants within and beyond the walls of NMU. Consequently, it is recommended that formatting requirement remain unaltered at this time.
* Internal grant applicants using human or animal subjects for data collection in any manner should submit their proposals to NMU IRB or IACUC, respectively, for consideration. If IRB or IACUC finds proposed project to be exempt from IRB or IACUC requirements, then a letter of exempt status should be included in the grant proposal submission to the FGC. This will alleviate concerns related to eligibility of grant proposal because of IRB or IACUC requirements.

Annual FGC report respectfully submitted to Academic Senate,

Nanci Gasiewicz

Chair, Faculty Grants Committee

C: Paul Lang, Provost

C: Terry Seethoff, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

C: Brian Cherry, Assistant Provost/Graduate Education and Research

C: Andrew Smentkowski, Grant Administrator

C: Members of the Faculty Grants Committee