Committee Name: Faculty Grants Committee (FGC)
Committee Chair: Christina Hartline
Committee Secretary: Evan Pratt
First Reading: April 23, 2024

Informational: FGC Final Report 2023-2024

1. Work Summary

a. **Membership**: The committee has 9 members and 2 alternates – concurrent with our operating procedures.

NAME	Department	College
Christina Hartline (Chair 2023-24)	Counseling and Consultation	HS&PS
Evan Pratt (Secretary 2023-24)	Chemistry	A&S
Eva Bergner	School of Nursing	HS&PS
Murong Miao	Business	BUS
Lori Nelson	Speech, Language, & Hearing Science	HS&PS
Josh Sharp	Biology	A&S
Cory Toegel	Psychological Science	A&S
Robert Whalen	English	A&S
Kristen White	School of Education	HS&PS
Emera Wilson - Alternate	Library & Instructional Support	LIS
Alex Fekete – Alternate	Art & Design	A&S

b. **Election of Leadership for 2024-25**:
   1. Chair: Evan Pratt
   2. Secretary: Cory Toegel

c. **Work Summary**: All meetings via Zoom
   1. 9/22/2023: Review of applications for Reassigned Time Awards (RTA) for Winter 2024. Discussed changing the rubric for evaluating RTA applications and unanimously voted to continue the discussion during the next meeting.
   2. 11/10/2023: Review of applications for Faculty Research Grants. Discussed how to handle conflicts of interest during review of grants and voted to refrain from participating in the discussion of that grant or ranking of the application.
   3. 12/1/2023: Review of Spooner Grants. Voted to send the revised Operating Procedures to Academic Senate. Voted to approve revised rubric for evaluating RTAs.
   4. 2/9/2024: Review of applications for RTA for Fall 2024.
   5. 3/15/2024: Review of Peter White applications.
   6. 4/12/2024: Review of Applications for Curriculum Development Grant and Instructional Improvement Grant. Discussed ideas for improving the rubrics used in evaluating these applications. Voted for new Chair and Secretary.

d. Recommendation Summary: During the 2023/24 academic year, the Faculty Grants Committee made the following recommendations.

RTAs for Winter 2024:

Applicant (alphabetical order)	**Department**	**Title**
Maria Arenillas	Languages, Lit	Latin American Documentary Film and Its Communities
Nick Dupras	History	Editing and Publication of "The Armorers and their Workshops: The Tools and Techniques of Medieval Armor Production"
Megan Nelson	HHPS	Climbing Lifestyle Intervention to Modify Physical Activity Behavior: A Pilot Study
Evan Pratt	Chemistry	Illuminating the oncometabolite D-2-HG in glioma cells using the novel fluorescent biosensor D2HGlo
Lee Roecker	Chemistry	How Important are Electronic Effects on the Base Hydrolysis of Cobalt Thioether
Kel Sassi	English	Teacher Practices in English Education Alumni

Faculty Research Grants:

Applicant (alphabetical order)	**Department**	**Title**
Matthew Frank	English	The Schindler of Japan; A New Chapter in a Hybrid Book-in-Progress of Poetry and Micro Lyric Essays
Sylvain Giroud	Biology	LInking health status to seasonal telomerase ACtivation in hibernating species (LIAC)
Heng-Hsuan Chu	Biology	Mineral nutrition and heavy metal toxicity in plants
Thomas Isaacson	Business	American soldiers in Rome following liberation during World War II in 1944-1945; propaganda for the accidental tourists.
Liz Mandeville	Biology	Evolution of clonal, all-female Chrosomus fish hybrids in Northern Michigan
Rick Mengyan	Physics	H in BeO by RF-MuSR

*Table continued on next page

Applicant (alphabetical order)	Department	Title
Megan Nelson	HHP	Climbing Lifestyle Intervention to Modify Physical Activity Behaviors - A Pilot Study
Robert Whalen	English	Textual Apparatus for Complete Works: Manuscripts and Collation
Jongeun You	Political Science	Evaluating Cybersecurity Capacity of Michigan's Upper Peninsula Water Sector

Spooner Grant 2023:

Applicant	Department	Title
Dustin Goodman	Chemistry	Fraction Collection HPLC Using Preparative Column for the Identification of Unknown Compounds in Monotropa uniflora

RTAs for Fall 2024:

Applicant (alphabetical order)	Department	Title
Yan Ciupak	Sociology/ Anthropology	A Book Project: <Working with the dying and grieving: Principles, cases, and tools>
Monica McFawn	English	Laughing in Unison: Sketch Comedy and Whole-Class Collaboration
Kia Richmond	English	The Development of Mental Health Awareness and Social Emotional Learning in Adolescents through Young Adult Literature
Cory Toegel	Psychological Science	Evaluating Self-Controlled and Impulsive Choice in Animal Models
Alexander Wilson	Chemistry	Chemical profile and biocontrol potential of endophytes harbored in Radula complanata (leafy liverwort) from Michigan

The Peter White Scholar Award:

Applicant	Department	Title
Sarah Mittlefehldt	EEGS	Biofuels & Btus: The Development of Upper Peninsula Forests as Energy Resources

Curriculum Development Award:

Applicant	Department	Title
Jongeun You	Political Science	Developing Environmental Management Course on Michigan's Upper Peninsula

Instructional Improvement Grant:

Applicant	Department	Title
Lau Romero	Languages, Literatures and International Studies	Making Spanish 101 a Textbook-Free Course

2. **FGC Review:**
   a. **Committee Charge:** *Is the charge of this committee still relevant at NMU today? Should it be modified? Does the committee duplicate part of the work of other committees on campus, or should it be modified to serve other purposes?*

      The FGC Operating Procedures indicate the committee charge as "The committee will meet on a regular basis throughout the academic year to discuss and recommend funding for proposals submitted to the various grant programs." The committee serves this purpose efficiently and effectively with coordination from the Grants Office. The committee does not duplicate the work of other committees, and serves a clear and necessary purpose to the university.

   b. **Committee Membership:** *Is the membership of this committee meaningful for the task at hand? Would the work of the committee be more valuable with more or fewer participants, and from what sorts of constituencies?*

      The FGC consists of nine voting members and two alternate members. The alternates serve when one or more Committee members are absent, for any reason. All FGC members are assigned by the Committee of Elections & Committees (CEC). We do require that members all be from different departments and represent different colleges.

      The current FGC membership is appropriate to the task of FGC. Despite many occasions where members of the committee have been absent, we were always able to have a quorum for meetings and votes.

      The Operating Procedures were revised by the FGC and approved by the Academic Senate on 3/12/24. One update was to have CEC move faculty in the alternate positions to the regular member openings as vacancies arise. Then fill the alternate positions with new faculty. This would facilitate orientation of new members.

   c. **Committee Operating Procedures:** *How does the committee handle conflicts of interest? How is the leadership elected or selected? Are there historical practices that are not codified in operating procedures? Are there ways to make their operations more efficient and effective?*

      According to the current FGC Operating Procedures, FGC policies about conflicts of interest: If a member decides to submit a grant proposal for one of the grant programs administered by the FGC, this member shall inform the chair two weeks before the proposal deadline. The Chair will then assign an alternate member to serve in place of this member. Members submitting grant proposals will not

participate in the activities associated with those particular grant programs. All voting was done anonymously with Qualtrics surveys.

The FGC Operating Procedures were revised during the 2023/2024 academic year by the committee and were approved by the Academic Senate on 3/12/24. One update was to broaden the definition for conflict of interest: "submitting a grant proposal, part of a team grant proposal, or supervising a student with a grant proposal." Other changes were included to reflect current committee practice.

d. <u>Committee Leadership</u>:

Per Senate guidelines, two members volunteered to serve as Chair and Secretary for the 2024-25 academic year and were unanimously approved by the committee members.

e. <u>Operational Efficiency:</u>

Coordination with the Office of Graduate Studies and Research is essential to the functioning of the FGC. We rely on this office to advertise available grant opportunities, enforce deadlines for acceptance of application materials, provide FGC members with links to applications, coordinate feedback to applicants, and enforce the guidelines and requirements for funding and eligibility. If there are changes in grant programs, this office should keep us informed.

3. **<u>Operating Procedures</u>**:

The FGC Operating Procedures were initially revised during the end of the 2022/2023 academic year. The revisions were continued during the Fall 2023 semester, and the FGC unanimously voted on 12/1/23 to send the revised Operating Procedures to the Academic Senate. The Operating Procedures received approval by the Academic Senate on 3/12/24. Changes were made to correct grammatical errors and to modify language to reflect the current practices of the committee.

This report is submitted by Christina Hartline, Faculty Grants Committee Chair 2023-24

Date originated: 04/8/2024

Date submitted: 04/12/2024