Overview and Program Objectives

The Division of Academic Affairs and Office of the Provost is pleased to announce two pilot programs to support faculty development. Approximately $85,000 (from the institution’s Title III grants) will be available to provide incentive grants for faculty research, curriculum development and improvement of pedagogy. **Funds awarded for Summer 2015 projects must be spent by August 15, 2015.**

The two Faculty Grant Programs address several goals/objectives of the University’s Strategic Plan—Vision 2020:

1. Become one of the nation’s premier public universities in experiential and online learning.
2. Align educational offerings across the University to respond to student interests and the District of Columbia’s economic priorities.
3. Build a student-centered learning environment that develops career-ready, civically engaged individuals and enlightened leaders.
4. Increase the University’s focus on equity, social justice, and equality for District of Columbia residents in today’s changing society.
5. Grow opportunities for increased student participation in disciplines related to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).
6. Expand research in targeted disciplines to answer pressing urban issues of the 21st century.
7. Build on research of faculty with a sharpened focus on technology transfer and seek to commercialize existing patents.

**Guidelines and Eligibility for the UDC Faculty Incentive Research Grant Program (FIRG)**

The first program, **The UDC Faculty Incentive Research Grant Program (FIRG)**, provides funding for development of new research projects, scholarship or creative activities, or revitalization of an existing research program. Priority will be given to supporting projects that will: 1) Generate data or establish the principal investigator’s competence in order to strengthen applications for external research funding; or 2) Facilitate development of innovative scholarships that result in peer-reviewed publications or creative products that enhance the national and/or international reputation of the faculty member and the University.

Grants awarded through this program will provide support for expenses that are incurred in the development and implementation of research, scholarly, creative and public service engagement projects. Budgets for proposed projects may include: a summer stipend for the faculty participant(s), stipends for student researchers/assistants, funding for equipment and supplies, incentives for study participants, manuscript completion costs, research design or data analysis consultants, bibliographic or archival research, and other costs incidental to research, publication and/or performance/exhibition. FIRG grants may be used to fund travel to conduct research (e.g. in laboratories, archives, libraries) but generally are not available to fund conference travel, registration and hotel charges. Laptops and personal technological devices are not funded.

All full-time continuing faculty are eligible to apply for research support through the Summer 2015 FIRG program.
Guidelines for Curriculum Development and Pedagogy Improvement Grants (CDPIG)

The second Faculty Incentive Grant Program, the Curriculum Development and Pedagogy Improvement Grant (CDPI), provides support for innovative improvement in curricula or pedagogy. Priority for funding will be awarded to projects that either: (1) **Develop curricula** that (a) create better alignment with discipline-driven or supported pedagogies; (b) facilitate content mastery and progression toward independent inquiry and generative learning; (c) facilitate seamless transition from theory to application to the workplace; (d) is built on evidence-based instruction; and (e) is adaptive, flexible and responsive to learner need and pace (modular, tiered, self-paced); or (2) **Improve pedagogy** through creative use of technology-based and virtual applications, and/or infusion of proven active-learning pedagogies such as undergraduate research, service learning, project-based learning, internships, and study abroad or “global” experiences (global experiences gained locally).

This program is designed to stimulate faculty interest in modifying curricula, testing and adopting learning pedagogies that promote the success of UDC students. Projects must be theoretically grounded, results-driven and pragmatic. Each project application must include a strategy and timeline for assessing the effectiveness of the curricula modification or revised pedagogy.

Final proposals for curricula revisions or new pedagogies that result from faculty projects will be reviewed by a panel of peers, as well as by consultant/reviewers prior to submission for approval through the appropriate University review channels (e.g., program or department curriculum committee, College/School Curriculum Committee, Dean, Faculty Senate, Provost, as appropriate).

All full-time continuing faculty are eligible to apply. Applicants must identify a specific product or assessment project that will result from the proposed project. Prior to completing/submitting an application, each applicant must secure an endorsement from their respective program director or academic chair to ensure that the curricula or pedagogy modification proposed is consistent with the program’s/department’s goals, objectives and strategic direction.

Grants awarded through the CDPIG provide funding for faculty summer stipends, consultants, workshop participation and stipends/incentives for student participants. Software purchases are permissible but must be justified in advance. The cost of conference attendance is not funded, unless for presentation of project findings.
APPLICATION FOR SUMMER FACULTY INCENTIVE GRANTS PROGRAM AY 2014-15

Instructions for Submitting Applications for Both Faculty Incentive Grants

Assemble the application in a single PDF, with pages ordered and numbered. Provide a file name starting with the applicant’s last name, first initial, and the program being applied for (e.g., Brown-F FIRG Application, or Jones-R CDPI). Submit an attached electronic copy via e-mail to: TheProvost@udc.edu. Applications are due by close-of-business (5:00 p.m. EST), April 27, 2015. All applications will be acknowledged; incomplete or late applicants will be notified that their application is ineligible and will not be reviewed. Selections will be notified by May 15, 2015. For more information about the 2015 pilot Faculty Incentive Grant Program, please contact Dr. Connie Webster, Acting Associate Provost (cwebster@udc.edu).

PROJECT NARRATIVE FOR FACULTY INCENTIVE RESEARCH GRANTS

The project narrative should not exceed five (5) single-spaced pages and must address the following items:

1. Project Objectives or Research Hypotheses
2. Importance of project to the discipline or value to the University
3. Description of work to be undertaken (What will be done?, How?, When?, Where?)
4. Applicant’s qualifications to undertake the project
5. Relevance of the project to the applicant’s research program and/or teaching assignment
6. An itemized budget with detailed justification
7. A project timeline
8. An assessment of how the project will facilitate external funding
9. Identification of potential external funding sources

PROJECT NARRATIVE FOR CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND PEDAGOGY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The project narrative should not exceed five (5) single-spaced pages and must include the following:

1. Project Overview
2. Identification of the Curriculum, Teaching or Pedagogy Improvement Anticipated
3. Project Goals/Project Learning Outcomes
4. Project Activities and Timeline
5. Project Assessment
6. Procedures for documenting and disseminating project results
7. Qualifications of Personnel
8. Budget

APPLICATION REVIEW & AWARD PROCESS

The maximum amount for FRIG and CDPI grants is $5,000. Stipends/salary for investigations cannot exceed $2,500. An additional stipend of $500 may be requested for a student research assistant/collaborator. Other allowable costs include research, supplies, and travel for research.

A Faculty Review Committee, whose members will be determined in consultation with the Faculty Senate, will review applications for both the CDPI and FRIG programs and make prioritized funding recommendations. Awards will be made by the Provost on or before May 15, 2015.

POST-AWARD REQUIREMENT

Grant recipients will be expected to provide a written report, submitted electronically, on or before September 1, 2015. They also may be invited to present their report to other faculty during scheduled or specially arranged faculty professional development forums during the academic year.
Name of Applicant: ________________________________________________________________

Title/Academic Rank: ______________________________________________________________

Department: ____________________________ School: ______________________

Campus Address: __________________________________________________________________

E-mail Address: ___________________________________________________________________

Grant applied for: /__/ Faculty Research (FIRG)  /__/ Curriculum/Pedagogy (CDPIG)

Title of Project: _________________________________________________________________

Total Amount Requested: $____________________________

Other Faculty Involved in Project, if any (Identify their rank, department, school):

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Student Researcher or Assistant (if applicable):

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Classification: ___________________________________________________________________

Program/Major: ___________________________________________________________________

Abstract (100 words or less):

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Approvals:

_______________________________________________ _________________________________________

Department Chair/Date  Dean/Date