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Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

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MEMO TO: Faculty
FROM: Earl Lazerson
SUBJECT: Request for Proposals: Excellence in Undergraduate Education

I am pleased to initiate requests for proposals for the second annual $1 million fund for the improvement of undergraduate education.

In its final report on the first round competition, the Planning Council of the Faculty Senate developed a number of recommendations for strengthening the program. Many of these recommendations are reflected in the attached guidelines.

The Planning Council of the Faculty Senate will again review the proposals and advise me with regard to funding allocations. The deadline for applications is April 6, 1987. Ten copies of each proposal, each bearing a cover sheet, should be sent to the following:

Excellence In Undergraduate Education
Office of the President
Box 1151

Attachment
Purpose of the Fund

The purpose of the fund is to support excellence and innovation in undergraduate education. Through this second competition, the fund will support projects commencing during FY1988; the duration of the project may include the summer quarter of 1988. All proposals should have some clearly demonstrated relationship to the education of undergraduate students, and all should indicate clearly the educational purposes to be pursued and the course or curriculum which the proposal is intended to support. While proposals for equipment, visiting scholars, conferences, and the like will receive consideration, proposals directed to the encouragement of active learning are especially welcome. Such proposals might include

--developing alternative methodologies for teaching and learning,
--implementing interdisciplinary projects,
--undertaking curricular innovation,
--promoting learning outside the classroom,
--encouraging faculty-to-faculty learning, and
--undergraduate research.

Although funding commitments will be limited to FY1988 (which ends June 30, 1988), applicants may propose initiatives of longer than one year's duration. Proposals which lay the foundation for external grant requests, for New Program Requests, and for Expanded/Improved Program Requests are encouraged.

Proposals which
--seek funding for construction or renovation projects,
--fail to explain and justify acquisitions sought, or
--require faculty overloads
will not be considered.

Preparing the Proposal

Proposals should be no more than four pages in length, including the required cover sheet. A copy of the cover sheet is attached.

In developing a proposal for submission, applicants should observe the following guidelines:
--Identify clearly the relationship of the proposal to the aims of the grant. I.e., describe the specific educational purposes of the proposed activity or learning resources and indicate the course or curriculum which this activity or these learning resources will support.

--Provide a budget, with all line items clearly delineated.

--Indicate whether the proposal can be accomplished in phases. If so, provide a suitably divided and annotated budget.

--If the proposal involves interdisciplinary cooperation, indicate how administrative details have been (or will be) addressed. If several participants or departments are endorsing the proposal, the proposal should clearly identify those faculty members who will actually participate in the activity or acquisition of learning resources.

--N.b., any proposed new courses or curricula which receive support from the fund remain subject to the established curricular review policies and may not be implemented prior to the completion of the approval process.

**Reporting on the Project**

Within 30 days of the termination of the project, the recipient must direct a report to the Office of the President. Although the reports will vary in form and content according to the nature of the project, all must address the following questions:

--To what extent and in what ways has the completed (or initiated) project supported innovation and excellence in undergraduate education?

--What if any were the short-term benefits of the project?

--What if any will be the long-term benefits of the project?

--Was the funding provided for the project from the Excellence in Undergraduate Education Fund expended as projected in the proposal? Please describe all discrepancies between the projected budget and actual expenditures.

--Will the project continue? If so, what funding sources (other than the Excellence in Undergraduate Education Fund) will support the continuation?
COVER SHEET

PROPOSAL TO THE FY1988 EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION FUND

Name of Applicant _______________________________________________________

Department ____________________________ School _______________________

Course or program to which grant will be applied _________________________

Amount Requested: ______________________ for (check all that apply):

[ ] Equipment [ ] Student Wages [ ] Travel

[ ] Supplies [ ] Salary

[ ] Other: _____________________________

Short Title (36 letters) _________________________________________________

Abstract of proposal (no more than 250 words):

_____________________________________________________________________

s/ Applicant

Comments by the departmental chair:

_____________________________________________________________________

s/ Chair, Department of _______________________

Comments by the dean:

_____________________________________________________________________

s/ Dean, School of ________________________