

**SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING AND LEARNING (SoTL) IN HIGHER
EDUCATION SMALL GRANT PROGRAM
CALL FOR PROPOSALS
2005-2006 (FY06)**

OVERVIEW

The Cross Endowed Chair in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning requests proposals for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Small Grant Program. The program provides funding for small grants, at Illinois State University, in the area of scholarship on teaching and learning (SoTL) as it relates to teaching and learning at the college level.

At Illinois State University, through our work with the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (CASTL) Campus Program, we have developed the following definition of SoTL, “systematic reflection on teaching and learning made public.” This definition allows for work in any discipline and the use of various methodologies and epistemologies. Our definition of SoTL encompasses work in the following areas:

- classroom research,
- program research,
- assessment in a discipline,
- research on teaching and learning in out-of-class experiences, and
- reflections on teaching and learning such as a course portfolio or performance.

All SoTL work must be made public and peer reviewed in some way via presentation, performance, juried show, and/or publication. The work may be quantitative or qualitative in nature. For FY06, however, projects must focus on the topic (broadly defined) of promoting learner autonomy.

Awards up to \$5,000 are available. Funds may be used for any budget category (e.g., printing, commodities, contractual, travel, student help, salary) of which a maximum of \$4,000 may be faculty/staff salary. We expect to award about 4-5 grants. All awards, however, are subject to the availability of funds. If the University sustains additional budget cuts in FY06, all programs, including URG Awards, will be reviewed which may result in their reduction or elimination.

ELIGIBILITY

All tenured and tenure-line faculty, non-tenure line faculty, faculty associates, graduate teaching assistants, and AP staff with teaching or teaching support responsibilities at Illinois State University are eligible to apply. EACH proposal, however, MUST be from a team of at least one faculty/staff member and at least one student (graduate or undergraduate).

See reverse side for Requirements, Selection Criteria, Application Procedures, and Time Frame.

REQUIREMENTS

All award recipients (as teams) must meet five requirements:

1. submission of an IRB protocol form and receiving IRB approval before starting the project (as this research will be made public);
2. participation by at least one team member in a research/writing group, meeting regularly (about three times per semester) in FY06 to discuss the SoTL projects;
3. submission, electronically, of a brief progress report (1-2 pages) on the status of the research and outcomes of the project to the Cross Chair by December 2006.
4. presentation of their SoTL research project and any results thus far at the Teaching-Learning Symposium held in January 2006 or 2007;
5. submission of an article to a teaching newsletter, website, or refereed journal by fall 2006 with a copy to the Cross Chair.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Cross Chair and two other volunteers with expertise in the SoTL will review the proposals.

- Project clearly fits SoTL related to college teaching and learning as defined above.
- Project focuses on promoting learner autonomy.
- Proposal clearly states the teaching-learning issue or problem to be considered.
- Proposal includes a relevant literature review: theory, past research. (Journals on college teaching and higher education practices are available at both Milner Library and CAT.)
- Proposal includes clearly stated changes (expected or desired) in Illinois State University students' learning or related outcomes, and how these will be "measured".
- Project uses appropriate methodology for reflecting on/studying the teaching-learning issue or problem posed.
- Project is ethically appropriate in terms of the use of human subjects.
- Proposal lists specific, possible presentation, performance, or publication outlets.
- Proposal contains an appropriate and detailed budget with budget justifications.

APPLICATION MATERIALS AND PROCEDURE

Please send three copies of the following materials to Kathleen McKinney, Cross Chair, Campus Box 3990 by April 29, 2005:

1. A cover page with name, department and email address of applicants, project title, and signature of department chair;
2. A narrative addressing the first 8 bullet points above under criteria (maximum of 5 double-spaced pages);
3. A reference page/bibliography;
4. A budget as described above including a budget justification; and
5. Optional appendices (e.g., draft of questionnaire or focus questions or course portfolio outline).

TIME FRAME

- Proposals due to Cross Chair before 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 29, 2005.
- Notification of awards in late May 2005.
- Funds available (budget permitting) July 1, 2005 (or as soon as FY06 budget is approved).
- Funds **MUST BE SPENT** by June 15, 2006.