

## **GSE Innovative Teaching Grant**

**Description:** GSE has established an “Innovative Teaching Grant” to encourage faculty to plan and implement broad and creative solutions to persistent educational issues and dilemmas. The goal is to encourage faculty to propose innovative pedagogical approaches that produce new ways of thinking about teaching praxis and build greater teaching capacity in particular programs. While these can include approaches that employ technology, they are not limited to them. This grant will support efforts to investigate and address key pedagogical questions and to bring the fruits of that investigation back into GSE classrooms for improved learning and career readiness.

For example, we encourage proposals that:

- Use technology to engage diverse students and knowledge bases for the purpose of achieving learning outcomes.
- Apply new and diverse learning theories to static and recurring dilemmas.
- Develop new and innovative ways of teaching rooted in interprofessional engagement.
- Facilitate cross-disciplinary or cross-institutional collaborations, which result in a transformed learning environment.
- Experiment with learning architectures and new learning spaces.

**Award Amount:** a total budget of \$20,000 annually is available to support up to two projects for no more than \$10,000/project for one year.

**Scope of Support:** Funding may be used to support graduate students and the purchase of materials, supplies, and equipment. Faculty salary and travel are not allowed. A small amount of funds may also be used to compensate external partners.

**Eligibility:** All full-time faculty in GSE (tenured, tenure-track, and clinical) may apply. We encourage teams of faculty from more than one GSE program and department to apply.

**Conditions of Award:** Awardees are required to develop course activities, events, units, or modules that can be used in varied classes and contexts. These can take many different forms, including multi-modal ones. Awardees are required to submit short reports on the success of the course activity, unit, or module and can make revisions based on classroom practice. Awardees are required to give a short presentation to GSE faculty on the project and provide a short description for the GSE website. We will develop a repository and archive all class resources for others in GSE to explore.

**Proposal Format:** All proposals must be in pdf format with single space, 12 point font and 1-inch margins, and must include:

1. **Cover page:** Listing project title, and all PIs and contact information and key personnel with departmental affiliations.
2. **250-word abstract:** Summarizing project objectives, project design, significance, and anticipated course activity, unit, or module.

3. **Project narrative** (5 pages maximum plus references). Describing the projects' merits for advancing innovative education at UB, including the proposed activity, unit, or module and make a case for why a GSE innovative teaching grant is necessary here. The project narrative should include the following elements:
  - a. **Significance:** Explain how the project looks to address a complex and persistent educational question best addressed through innovative education. State the objectives of the project and elaborate on the impact it will make in GSE education. In addition, describe how the proposed project is aligned with GSE Task Force Report themes. This includes articulating the project with our signature pedagogy of inquiry, engagement, and impact around the curriculum of educational access and equity across the lifespan.
  - b. **Project Design:** Explain in detail the plan for conducting the project, including the methods that will be used to collect and interpret the empirical material, as well as timeline. Describe the roles of all project PIs and participants.
  - c. **Plan for Developing Course Activity, Unit, or Module:** Explain the plan for developing the course activity, unit, or module (e.g., a creative lesson plan for an in-class session or a re-usable learning object that instructors teaching online could insert in their course) including how it will be implemented and assessed.
  - d. **Dissemination:** Indicate possible funding sources to continue this work or journals to which the results of this grant can be discussed (see attached example).
4. **Key Project Personnel:** Include a one-page biographical sketch for each key project personnel including PIs and other key project personnel.
5. **Project Budget:** Include a 1-page line item budget and 1-page detailed justification of resources needed.

**PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:** Applications must be submitted via email as a single PDF by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

**PROPOSAL REVIEW:** A panel consisting of one representative from each GSE department nominated by the department chair will review proposals. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will chair the panel of reviewers. A scoring rubric will be used to rank-order proposals. The scoring criteria will include the following:

- a. Significance (25 points)
- b. Project Design (25 points)
- c. Plan for Developing Course Activity, Unit, or Module (25 points)
- d. Qualifications of Interdisciplinary Project Team (25 points)

**AWARD NOTIFICATION:** The review panel will make recommendations to the Dean; the dean will make award decisions and notify applicants by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and the announcement to the public at large will be made at the GSE Meeting May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 with a celebration and photo shoot planned for the recipients. The earliest project starting date will be August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Although budget with its justification is not a review criterion, the review panel may recommend any modification to the proposed budget. All applicants will receive a summary of the review panel's numerical review scores and qualitative comments on each proposal's strength and weakness.