

Request For Proposals
CILSA Community-Based Research Summer Faculty Fellowship

Tenure-track faculty members of Saint Mary's College are invited to submit a proposal for the CILSA Community-based Research Summer Faculty Fellowship. A total of \$2500 is awarded to a faculty member to help defray the cost of a two-to-three month summer fellowship designed to conduct community-based research (CBR) project. CBR is officially defined at SMC as:

a collaborative and mutually beneficial enterprise between academic researchers and community partners that has as its goal the achievement of social justice through research and actions that are of benefit to the organization/ community and generate and disseminate knowledge.

Example: An instructor in health sciences has identified a rural county health agency interested in creating training materials and continuing education programs for physician assistants (P.A.) on the topic of nutritional literacy for poor, elderly patients in under-resourced and impoverished rural areas. The instructor will conduct research on similar programs and spend three-weeks on-site interviewing and working with county health officials and P.A.s to develop a program that includes impact assessment. A video-based training video for P.A.s will be produced, requiring purchase of a camera, tripod, and editing software. Funds will also be used for printing curriculum, travel, and housing expenses. The overall experience and product from the Fellowship will be integrated into the instructor's service-learning course on nutritional literacy for seniors in assisted living facilities in the Bay Area.

The CILSA Engaged Teaching Advisory Council (ETAC) is comprised of faculty with experience teaching service-learning and community-based research courses and will review applications and select the Fellow based on the following criteria:

1. A tentative CBR project designed to assist a community partner achieve mission goals is clearly articulated.
2. A well-conceptualized research question and methodology related to the community partner goals are presented.
3. A community agency has been identified and provides a written agreement for participation in the proposed project.
4. The proposal articulates how the project and its outcomes will enhance and inform the Fellow's teaching.
5. Indicate how the Fellow intends to disseminate project activity and outcomes in specific scholarly journals and/or professional conferences.
6. A letter of support from the faculty member's department chair is provided.
7. An itemized budget is included.

Fellowship funds are to be used to help defray the cost of the project, which may include: travel, housing, supplies, graduate assistant support, and equipment used in the project. Purchased equipment becomes the property of the Fellow's department. The Fellow will be expected to make a campus-wide presentation hosted by CILSA describing their summer fellowship during the following Fall Semester.

Complete proposals including written agreement of community partner and letters of support from the candidate's department chair should be submitted electronically to Marshall Welch, c/o CILSA by April 13, 2012. Proposals will be reviewed and selected April 20, 2012. For more information, contact Marshall Welch at CILSA.