Office of Corporate Foundation and Government Grants

Got Grants? Bulletin

October 25, 2013

Included in this bulletin are brief descriptions of current funding announcements as well as ongoing and future opportunities. Click on the program name for the full Request for Proposal or for a more detailed announcement. To search for additional opportunities, visit the Grants Office Website.

If you would like to apply for a grant or respond to a funding announcement, please notify your Dean and the Grants Office as soon as possible. If you have questions, contact the assistant director of foundation and government grants Jeanne Gilpatrick at 8008 or jgilpatr@stmarys-ca.edu.

This Issue’s Tip: Alignment with Funder’s Mission Is Key to Success

Like the wolf, you might be passionate and putting all you’ve got into your song, but as much as you love your tune, not everyone will be a fan. A lone wolf might be enchanted by the singing wolf’s appeal, but a farmer trying to get some sleep will not be so impressed. Your project might be teeming with merit, but if it doesn’t clearly and definitively help your funder accomplish their mission, you might as well be howling at the moon.

Grant Forward Database Accessible to Entire SMC Community

Grant Forward, a database for grant seekers, is now available to all Saint Mary’s College Faculty, staff, and students. Grant Forward uses cutting edge technology to retrieve information about funding opportunities from thousands of agencies on a daily basis. Every opportunity is analyzed by a continually-learning algorithm and is classified with appropriate categories, deadlines, sponsor types, status, submission types and keywords. The database, which offers both federal and foundation opportunities, is constantly expanding. To sign up, go to https://www.grantforward.com/index. For questions regarding use of Grant Forward, call Jeanne Gilpatrick in the Grants office at X8008.
On the list of “hot” topics at the annual Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) conference in San Francisco this past June, was an industry trend to fund collaborative projects. Presenters from across the U.S. agreed on at least two points: first, many funders believe that funding collaborative projects nets them a better return on their investments; second, collaborative projects are rife with special challenges. Carol Thompson Cole, President and CEO of Venture Philanthropy Partners, discusses the challenges and benefits of project collaboration in an article titled, “Towards a New Kind of Collaboration—A Networked Approach to Social Change.” Cole’s article also contains links to recent books written on the subject. Following is a link to the article: Cole Collaboration

**Current and Ongoing RFP’s**

**Program:** Literary and Performing Artists Collaborative Grants  
**Funder:** Creative Work Funds  
**Deadline:** 12-06-13 Letter of Inquiry  
**Amount of Award:** $10,000 to $40,000

**Brief Synopsis of Program:**  
Grants are awarded to creative partnerships between literary and performing artists and nonprofit organizations in California. The CWF grant program emphasizes the creation of new work and must feature a lead artist with a strong track record and a strong collaboration between that artist and a nonprofit organization.

**Program:** AAUW Community Action Grants  
**Funder:** American Association of University Women  
**Deadline:** January 15, 2014  
**Amount of Award:** $2,000 to $10,000

**Brief Synopsis of Program:**  
Community Action Grants Program annually provides funds for innovative programs and non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls. Applicants must be women and U.S. citizens and projects must have direct public impact, be nonpartisan, and take place within the U.S. or its territories.
Program: **Education/Public Policy and Civic Engagement**  
**Funder:** San Francisco Foundation  
**Deadline:** Spring 2014  
**Amount of Award:** average $22,000

**Brief Synopsis of Program:**  
The San Francisco Foundation supports projects that help bridge the gaps of opportunity, access, inclusion, and equity in the Bay Area. In order to assure a representative voice in decision-making at all levels of government, the Public Policy and Civic Engagement Grantmaking Program provides resources to leaders, organizations, and communities engaged in social change through all the Foundation’s Program areas, which include arts and culture, community development, community health, education, and environment.

Program: **Small Grants Program in Behavioral Economics**  
**Funder:** Russell Sage Foundation  
**Deadline:** No deadline  
**Amount of Award:** $7,500

**Brief Synopsis of Program:**  
This program supports high quality research in behavioral economics and encourages young investigators to enter this developing field. There are no limitations on the disciplinary background of the principal investigator, and the proposed research may address any economic topic. Interdisciplinary efforts are welcome. Appropriate projects will demonstrate explicit use of psychological concepts in the motivation of the design and the preparation of the results. The Behavioral Economics Roundtable, a group of researchers in behavioral economics formed by the Russell Sage Foundation, will administer the program to encourage inter-disciplinary research in behavioral economics.

Program: **RUI: Research for Undergraduate Institutions**  
**Funder:** National Science Foundation  
**Deadline:** No deadline  
**Amount of Award:** Open

**Brief Synopsis of Program:**  
The Research in Undergraduate Institutions program supports research by faculty at predominantly undergraduate institutions by funding (1) individual and collaborative research projects, (2) the purchase of shared-use research instrumentation, and (3) Research Opportunity Awards for work with NSF-supported investigators at other institutions. All NSF directorates participate in the RUI activity. RUI proposals are evaluated and funded by the NSF programs in the disciplinary areas of the proposed research.
Program: Projects to Advance Knowledge of Plants  
Funder: American Society of Plant Biologists  
Deadline: June 2014  
Amount of Award: Average award $20,000, maximum $30,000

Brief Synopsis of the program:
The ASPB Education Foundations’ is accepting proposals from ASPB members for projects designed to advance knowledge and appreciation of plant biology. Grants will be awarded to support education and outreach projects (not science research projects) for youth, students, and the general public. Projects must focus on increasing understanding of the importance of plants for the sustainable production of medicine, food, fibers, and fuels; the critical role plants play in sustaining functional ecosystems in changing environments; latest developments in plant biotechnologies; discoveries made in plants that have led to improved human health and wellbeing; and the range of careers related to plant biology or available to plant biologists.

Program: Funding Opportunities for Education Research and Research Training  
Funder: Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education  
Deadline: Letter of intent due June 2014; full application due September 2014  
Amount of Award: varies according to project

Brief Synopsis of Program:
The Institute of Education Sciences’ mission is to provide rigorous and relevant evidence on which to ground education practice and policy and to share this information broadly. By identifying what works, what doesn't, and why, we aim to improve educational outcomes for all students, particularly those at risk of failure. The Institute's training programs help ensure that researchers have the skills to produce research that is rigorous in method as well as relevant and accessible to education stakeholders.

Training in Education Research Use and Practice (Use and Practice) projects are to bring together policymakers, practitioners, and researchers around a specific issue in order to share the latest evidence on the issue with policymakers and practitioners and to provide policymakers and practitioners an opportunity to talk with researchers regarding their own informational needs. A project might also provide an ongoing means of support to practitioners/policymakers on a practice/policy in the process of being implemented (as well as means to identify for researchers the important research issues regarding that practice/policy). For example, a State or district that has implemented a new teacher evaluation system might create a working group of researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to obtain research findings on teacher evaluation methods as well as identify further issues to examine to improve the system and its implementation.
Program: Collaborative Research Grants
Funder: National Endowment for Humanities
Deadline: January 7, 2014
Amount of Award: $25,000 to $100,000

Brief Synopsis of Program:
Collaborative Research Grants support interpretive humanities research undertaken by a team of two or more scholars, for full-time or part-time activities for periods of one to three years. Support is available for various combinations of scholars, consultants, and research assistants; project-related travel; field work; applications of information technology; and technical support and services. All grantees are expected to communicate the results of their work to the appropriate scholarly and public audiences. Eligible projects include research that significantly adds to knowledge and understanding of the humanities; conferences on topics of major importance in the humanities that will benefit scholarly research; archaeological projects that include the interpretation and communication of results (projects may encompass excavation, materials analysis, laboratory work, field reports, and preparation of interpretive monographs); and research that uses the knowledge and perspectives of the humanities and historical or philosophical methods to enhance understanding of science, technology, medicine, and the social sciences.