

CETL Incentive Mini-Grants – Spring 2008

CETL is pleased to announce the spring 2008 competition for incentive mini-grants to encourage **assessment for learner-centered teaching**. Awards will range from **\$250 to \$500**, depending on the number of worthy proposals. We have a total of \$1,000 to distribute. Since **the awards are designed to be incentive grants; submission of a budget is not required**.

Applicants should submit a proposal describing their project, not to exceed 500 words, and a timetable for implementation.

Proposals must include the following components in this order:

1. A clear statement of a particular research problem regarding student learning that they plan to investigate. Such a research problem would seek answers to questions like
 - What are the essential skills and knowledge I want students to learn?
 - How can I better determine to what extent students are accomplishing these desired learning outcomes?
 - How can I help students reach these learning outcomes?
2. A description of the plan and methods to be used to investigate the problem
3. A detailed description of the assessment strategies they will employ
4. A description of how this project might make a contribution to others in their discipline
5. A plan for disseminating their project's findings to others in their discipline
6. A plan for incorporating results into their teaching to improve learning further

Incentive grants will be awarded to projects that developed as classroom research projects **focused on discovering what and how students are learning and on how they might learn better**. For example, past learner-centered research projects have included the following:

- Transcribe interviews with students
- Compile an electronic portfolio of student work
- Develop and administer an assessment instrument
- Obtain services of an outside evaluator or consultant

CETL mini-grants are not meant to recognize work already completed, but rather are intended to **encourage the development of new projects**, especially by faculty who may not have much experience in this area. Applications are encouraged from those with little or no experience in classroom assessment/research projects, as well as from those who have engaged in such projects before. CETL also welcomes applications from teams of faculty who may wish to work together. Proposals will be submitted to a blind review. For further information and tips and writing your proposal, visit our CETL web page at <http://info.gcsu.edu/intranet/cetl/minigrants.htm>.

CETL will recognize mini-grant recipients by featuring them in a CETL workshop or teaching tips session. **Proposals will be due to Dr. Deborah Vess on April 1, 2008.**