CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

2014 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

http://www.calstate.edu/csuperb/grants/programmatic/

Key Dates & Information:
RFP Release Date: October, 2013
Proposal Due Date: February 3, 2014 before 5:00 p.m. pacific time
Award Notification: May, 2014
Maximum Award Amount: $15,000
Project Duration: Up to 18 months from the project start date (approximately June 1, 2014)

Program Description:
The California State University Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology (CSUPERB) aims to innovate biotechnology education across the CSU. For the last decade education researchers, federal agencies, employers and professional societies have called for change in undergraduate life science education and other biotechnology-related disciplines (1,2,3). Curriculum improvement efforts aim to increase rates of student engagement and retention, but also to ensure undergraduate education reflects “how science is done in the laboratory and in the field” (2).

The 2014 Curriculum Development grant program will support the development of innovative general education courses, laboratories, and first-year experiences, as well as revisions to lower-level or introductory biotechnology-related courses. CSUPERB emphasizes the system-wide dissemination of curricular materials and outcomes across the CSU system to engage, impact and prepare students in biotechnology.

2014 Review Criteria:

- Proposed projects must be original and/or innovative.
- Proposed projects must directly engage and impact first- or second-year (lower division) CSU students.
- Proposed projects must address the three major tenets of scientific teaching; active learning, student diversity and assessment (see Handelsman citation above).
- Projects must be feasible within the time and budget proposed. If relevant, projects must be feasible within campus administrative frameworks for course development and approval; successful proposals will include letters of support from appropriate chairs and/or deans.
- Proposed projects must have a plan to publish, share with or disseminate work and outcomes to CSU colleagues system-wide.
- All other things being equal, preference will be given to collaborative proposals that partner faculty from more than one biotechnology-related department or discipline, recognizing that the practice of biotechnology is inherently multi-disciplinary.

Eligibility:
The proposed project must be biotechnology-related. CSUPERB welcomes and encourages applications from CSU faculty in all disciplines related to the current practice of biotechnology, including but not limited to life sciences, physical sciences, clinical sciences, math, computer science, agricultural science, engineering, and/or business.

Investigators & Key Personnel:
The Curriculum Development grant program is open to tenured/tenure-track (T/TT) CSU faculty. Other CSU staff or instructors may be listed as co-Principal Investigators (PIs) or key personnel. CSUPERB will consider only one proposal per PI or co-PI at a time to the Curriculum Development grant program. Investigators applying to this grant program are also welcome to apply to other CSUPERB grant and award programs.

Budget:
CSUPERB will accept Curriculum Development grant proposals with budgets up to $15,000. Duration of the award will be 18 months from the project start date (approximately June 1, 2014). Exact project start dates are contingent upon award conditions, including IRB, IBC or IACUC approvals on campus. Please note these awards will be made primarily with fiscal year 2013-2014 CSU general fund dollars, pending the California state budget.
CSUPERB grants are issued as a result of an internal competition within the CSU and are not subject to Facilities and Administrative (F&A), or indirect, costs. F&A costs are not allowed as a grant-funded expense in proposals submitted in response to RFPs from programs, like CSUPERB, that receive the majority of their support from legislatively appropriated funds, CSU lottery funds or student fees (including State University fees). The F&A foregone at the campus/auxiliary's federally negotiated off-campus rate may be shown as cost match on the proposal. This amount may be used by the auxiliary or enterprise fund as an offset to the university's cost allocation plan, in accordance with EO 753/1000.

Proposal Submission:
Proposals, including signed cover sheet, must be submitted electronically on the 2014 Curriculum Development Grant proposal template at the program’s submission web site by Monday, February 3, 2014, before 5:00 p.m. pacific time.

Proposals must adhere to style and length guidelines provided in the proposal template. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in proposal rejection during administrative review. Both the 2014 proposal template and the Curriculum Development Grant submission link can be found on the program’s submission web site at:


Proposals that are complete and meet eligibility requirements will be evaluated for merit by a review panel comprised of CSU faculty with expertise reflecting the applications received. The proposal review meeting will be held in April 2014. The CSUPERB program office will make final funding decisions. Funding decisions are based on recommendations made by the review panel, available funds and CSUPERB strategic priorities. As part of the peer review process, all PIs will receive written reviews.

Post-Award Reporting Requirements:
Successful PIs are strongly encouraged to present the results of their CSUPERB-funded project at the January 2015 or 2016 Annual CSU Biotechnology Symposium.

At completion of the project, PIs are required to submit final reports to CSUPERB within 90 days of project end date. Detailed instructions and report forms are available at:
http://www.calstate.edu/csuperb/grants/report-forms/. Final reporting documents the need for and justifies continuation of the program. CSUPERB may also contact PIs and co-PIs for longer-term impact reporting.

Program Contacts:

For information about the proposal submission process:
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Phone: 619-594-2822

For information about this program and RFP:

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