Welcome to the latest in a series of periodic publications from the Office of Grants Development. The goal of this publication is to provide basic information to faculty and staff about the grants process at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) and to disseminate samples of the types of grant funding that are available. Future topics include the status of various pieces of legislation involving grants for community colleges and various grants applied for and received at NOVA.

If you have any suggestions about topics to include or would like answers to specific questions, please contact Deborah Rosen, the director of grants and special projects, at drosen@nvcc.edu or at 703-323-3440; or Sue Gossman, grants writer, at sgossman@nvcc.edu or at 703-323-3154.

NOVA RECEIVES GENEROUS GRANT FROM JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION

NOVA is the recipient of a grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation in the amount of $75,000 for the Pathway to the Baccalaureate Program in conjunction with the Loudoun County Public Schools. The Pathway to the Baccalaureate is a program designed to enhance access to baccalaureate higher education for qualified Northern Virginia high school students. The goal of the program is to provide a framework to ensure that readily accessible and efficient opportunities to achieve the baccalaureate are available at a time when the capacity of higher education to meet the demands of an expanding college age population is limited. Specifically, the program provides an environment for a smooth transition for students from high school through Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) to George Mason University (Mason). In order to provide this support, Fairfax County Public Schools, Loudoun County Public Schools, Northern Virginia Community College, and George Mason University have joined together to create Pathway to the Baccalaureate.

The grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation will be used to fund a Pathway counselor to work with Loudoun County Public Schools and to provide scholarships at NOVA to selected Loudoun County Pathway students who are high achievers with financial need.

Congratulations to Dr. John Dever, Dr. Anthony Tardd, Dr. Barbara Saperstone, and Ms. Kerin Hilker-Bilkissoon for their support of and participation in this project.
The Annandale Campus has applied through the Department of Education’s Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) to expand and augment an innovative program entitled “Pathway to the Baccalaureate.” The “Pathway to the Baccalaureate” program incorporates the model of a learning community within a one-stop student services philosophy. The profile of the Pathway student is one who has the desire and the capacity to achieve a baccalaureate degree, but whose likelihood of academic success and access to higher education would be significantly enhanced by receiving the special support and structural guidance provided by the Pathway Program.

NOVA has provided significant cash and in-kind support to the project thus far, as have the other partners. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation has just supplemented the program with additional funding. The initial partners in this effort include NOVA; the Fairfax County, VA Public Schools; the Loudoun County, VA Public Schools; and George Mason University.

NOVA’s plan is to incorporate FIPSE funding into an expansion of the pilot project to include additional schools and impact a greater number of prospective college-bound youth. Other programs nationwide have attempted to bridge the secondary, postsecondary, four-year college gap, but the “Pathway” program is unique and innovative in its approach, which includes the systemic involvement and interaction of the university. The level of collaboration; the fact that the in-depth services are offered on-site at the high schools; the commitment of the partners and the concerted effort to sustain this program are its strong and enduring components.

Provost, Dr. Barbara Saperstone, and acting project director, Karen Hilker-Bilkissoon, were instrumental in helping to assemble this proposal. Thank you Barbara and Kerin!!

WHY IT BENEFITS THE COLLEGE TO CARRY OUT A GRANT AS WRITTEN

When a College employee applies for a grant on behalf of the College, that employee is assuming a responsibility to represent the College well. This includes following all of the guidelines, mandates, assurances, certifications and reporting requirements of the particular grant.

In addition to keeping us from being subject to a federal audit or having to repay funds, administering funds from an outside funding source in an exemplary manner benefits the College by getting our name out into the public view and attracting additional publicity and additional funding to College programs.

When we do not comply with the guidelines, we are hurting the College’s chances of receiving additional funds from that source in the future.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill in June that would establish a web-based repository of information on all federal grant awards. NOVA’s federal grant history would be available to anyone with access to a computer and we want that history to be positive. For further information, please contact

Submit items of interest for publication in the Grants Newsletter via e-mail to drosen@nvcc.edu
Deborah Rosen, director of grants and special projects, or Susan Gossman, grant writer.

**NOVA RECEIVES PERKINS ALLOCATION TO CONTINUE TUTORING PROGRAM**

The College has received approval for its allocation of $182,189 in Perkins funding, the majority of which will be used to continue our successful peer tutoring program. This program focuses on students in developmental English and math and ESL and assists the students with additional tutoring to help them succeed in their current classes and move on to the next courses in a sequence. The goal is increased retention of students. Congratulations NOVA!

For further information please contact Deborah Rosen, director of grants and special projects.

Submit items of interest for publication in the Grants Newsletter via e-mail to drosen@nvcc.edu