In July, a NOVA-led consortium application requesting $20 million was submitted to the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor. These funds are made available through the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grants program. In 2012, NOVA was awarded a $12 million grant under this program for a national consortium, Credentials to Careers (C2C), to develop new employer-driven career pathways with stackable credentials in STEM occupations. For this 4th and final round of grants, NOVA invited colleges in Virginia within the Rural Horseshoe, a region facing severe economic challenges and having some of the lowest rates of education in the Commonwealth, to create job opportunities for unemployed and underemployed low-skilled adults. The Virginia Gateway Learning Communities (VGLC) consortium is composed of 14 community colleges (including 10 from the Rural Horseshoe, and also Tidewater, Virginia Western, and Piedmont Virginia). This past spring, the NOVA grants team, led by Milan Hayward, hosted a kick-off with all participants to mobilize our efforts and discuss strategy, held team visits to colleges in the southside and southwestern areas of the consortium, and conducted several webinars to finalize the application, while offering assistance throughout with budget and project planning. The culmination of this effort is a proposal featuring Community-Based Organization (CBO) co-enrollment partnerships that provide wrap-around services to the target population, with a focus on three career pathways: Advanced Manufacturing, Hospitality and Tourism, and Information Technology. The Consortium is also partnering with AspenWSI, Goodwill, the American Council on Education, Multivision, and many local employers and workforce investment boards working in the region. A decision on funding is expected by September/October.

**NSF Application for Remedial Math Pending**

Dr. Andrew Green, Associate Dean, and Dr. Abe Eftekhari, Division Dean, with the Math, Science and Engineering Division, AN campus, and Nicole Brophy, Math Instructor (AN) worked with NOVA’s Grants Office to develop and submit an application to the National Science Foundation last spring. NOVA is requesting a 3-year, $1.79 million grant for Math Ready Future Ready (MRFR), a project developed in collaboration with three high schools in Fairfax County to enhance student math competency before entering Higher Education. The MRFR program expects to add three additional high schools in years two and three. This effort builds on a pilot that took place in spring 2013, when NOVA partnered with Fairfax High School to provide developmental math courses, resulting in an increase in college math readiness. The NSF proposal will further test the proposed methodology, and create a model program for other colleges in the VCCS. A special thanks to Nicole for leading the proposal development, and for her excellent homemade cookies! A decision on the application is expected this fall.
We're on the Web! [http://www.nvcc.edu/about-nova/directories--offices/administrative-offices/grants/](http://www.nvcc.edu/about-nova/directories--offices/administrative-offices/grants/)

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**NOVA Awarded Walmart-Funded Grant By AACC**

NOVA was recently awarded a 3-year, $180,000 grant by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) to serve as a mentor college, and help three or more additional colleges through technical assistance to build their institutional capacity. These funds were granted through the Job Ready, Willing, and Able initiative, funded by the Walmart Foundation, for the purpose of helping unemployed individuals gain middle skill training and credentials. NOVA was selected to be one of four mentor colleges in this nationwide initiative, and 13 mentee colleges were also selected, for a total of 17 colleges. NOVA’s CBO Co-Enrollment Program is expected to manage the project, which includes efforts to strengthen and scale up the new Northern Virginia Family Services (NVFS) Training Futures program at the Manassas Campus.

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**Lunch and Learn Series Held Monthly By Grants Staff**

The Grants Office may be small but it is working hard to be a presence on all of NOVA’s campuses, and to offer faculty and staff assistance in finding the funds you need.

This spring, the Grants staff started hosting monthly Lunch and Learn events at the Pitney Bowes building (AN) that bring together all the designated staff working on grant-related projects at all the campuses to discuss upcoming opportunities and other topics—or simply to get to hear about each other’s projects. Sometimes guest speakers are invited to share their viewpoints or expertise. NOVA’s new budget director, Diana Cline, and Guy Meruvia and Mounia Chehab, with the Office of Compliance and Risk Management, graciously gave their time at the 2nd Lunch and Learn to explain pre-award and post-award fiscal compliance procedures at the college.

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**More Grant Opportunities Coming Up**

Summertime is still here with its hazy days and humid heat. But it is not too soon to think about applying for a grant later this fall and begin developing your proposal. The Virginia Community College System (VCCS) offers professional development grants three times a year. The next deadline for applying is October 15. The VCCS Paul Lee Professional Grants Program promotes faculty development, i.e., builds knowledge and skills within the academic discipline or professional specialty; improves classroom teaching, learning, and assessment techniques; provides tools for effective personal planning to improve the quality of work and life; and enhances administrative and leadership skills to fulfill the institutional mission of the college. Grants usually range from $1,500 to $5,000. VCCS also accepts applications for Workshop Mini-Grants for a maximum $1,500. Rob Henderson and Susi Mattheisen in the Grants Office will work with you to develop your project and provide technical assistance. Information on both opportunities can be found on the VCCS Grants website at [http://www.vccs.edu/](http://www.vccs.edu/). Please note that all applications from NOVA faculty must be reviewed by the Grants Office staff before submission. Starting this year, the Grants Office will also be following up with the awardees regarding the post-award process and/or to answer any questions.

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Throughout the year, Grants Staff Rob Henderson and Susi Mattheisen make regular visits to NOVA’s campuses to meet with staff and faculty, hear about your work, and recommend opportunities for funding in the future. If you would like to schedule a visit, please contact Rob at [rhenderson@nvcc.edu](mailto:rhenderson@nvcc.edu) or Susi at [smattheisen@nvcc.edu](mailto:smattheisen@nvcc.edu) to find a time to meet at your convenience.

We want to hear from you! If you have suggestions for the Grants Office or ideas for this newsletter—or just have a question—please contact us and let us know. Thank you.