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 Robert Henderson, college grants writer at rhenderson@nvcc.edu at 703-323-3493.

NOVA Receives Yet Another Year of State Department Funding

Congratulations to Dr. Syedur Rahman and his able team for a second year of funding from the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs for the “Community College Initiative Program.” An initial $2 million grant for this year will be supplemented by additional funding as the year progresses. Approximately 70 students will be hosted by NOVA and three other community colleges. These students may come from such countries as Brasil, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Pakistan, Panama, South Africa, and Turkey. Participants will take classes in their field of study, gain a first-hand understanding of American society, and develop practical skills that will equip them to participate productively in the economic life of their home countries. This is a major win for the College!

EPA Funds Sought for New Environmental Stewardship Project

In May, the Grants Office worked with Dean Hasan Naima and Adjunct Professor Norman Meres at the Woodbridge Campus to seize the opportunity to submit an application requesting $81,244 to the Environmental Protection Agency, under its Environmental Education Program. This initiative would be a collaborative effort between the College campus, local high schools, and nonprofit partners to conduct a stream monitoring program in Prince William County. The project meets the objectives of the EPA program, which promotes community-based stewardship activities in schools and environmental career development. If selected for funding, this initiative would begin in September 2011.

Another Round of VCCS Professional Development Applications Submitted

The Grants Office moved fast and furiously to assist NOVA faculty and staff with their applications to VCCS for this spring grants round, despite a last minute systems failure near the due date. But in the end we were contacted by many of you with promising ideas for expanding your professional development, and together we made the deadline. There were 10 applications submitted; decisions will be made in June. The Grants Office staff is now standing by ready to help you with the VCCS spring...
semester 2012 applications, which are due by Oct. 1. Look for a reminder that will go out closer to the deadline at the end of the summer.

**NOVA Submits Annual Plan for Perkins Funding**

NOVA has been allocated $249,020 in Carl D. Perkins funding for fiscal year 2011 – 2012. These funds will be used for our math re-design project, which has the long-term goal of removing the barriers that keep many students from advancing to college-level math courses by putting into place redesigned content and processes to promote higher success rates in developmental math. For more information on the Perkins award, please contact Deborah Rosen.

**NOVA Submits Three Applications to Fund Career Coach Positions**

Tech Prep Director Ruthe Brown has submitted three applications to the Virginia Community College System to fund Career Coach positions to work directly with students in various public schools to facilitate activities such as dual enrollment and career exploration. If funded, this will enable us to continue these useful activities with our public school partners.

**College Submits Application to Virginia Department of Emergency Management**

Will Flagler, the College’s Director of Emergency Management, completed a grant application to meet the requirements of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, which has awarded the College $30,000 to purchase emergency management supplies.

**NOVA receives NSF grant for program in Biotechnology**

The National Science Foundation has awarded $190,949 to Northern Virginia Community College to strengthen and enhance the college’s biotechnology program. The grant will support a project titled “Establishing NOVA as a Regional Leader in Biotechnology Education and Training” under the direction of Program Head Dr. Johanna Weiss and Assistant Professor Dr. Ia Gomez at the Manassas Campus.

“NOVA’s biotech program is designed to produce skilled workers to fill a critical need in the local workforce,” Gomez said. “This grant will give us extra tools to make sure our graduates have the knowledge and training employers want.”

The grant will provide support for improving the biotechnology program in four areas: internal recruiting of NOVA students into the biotechnology program, retention and graduation efforts, placing students into jobs or transfer programs, and assessment and evaluation of student success.

**Managing Grants During Lean Times**

Grant funds come with stipulations, and our grantors expect us to achieve certain results. Accountability for results will ensure continued grant opportunities. No matter the economic climate, in order for NOVA to be awarded grants, we must do two things well: 1) We must present a solid proposal which convinces the grantor that we are credible and have an acceptable plan to provide their desired results, and 2) if awarded, we must demonstrate that we have delivered our proposed results on time and have met our reporting requirements.

NOVA’s Office of Grants Development has a long, proven track record of accomplishing the two actions above, which keeps the awards coming to NOVA. We demonstrate our competency by complying with all directives placed on our awards. Even in these lean times, we welcome the opportunity to show our grantors that NOVA responsibly and creatively offers dynamic and comprehensive solutions. When we do this successfully, we help to accomplish the college’s mission and demonstrate that we are excellent stewards of funds.

**For more information on any of the programs mentioned above please contact Deborah Rosen, Rob Henderson, Susi Mattheisen, or Sara Stoller in the Office of Grants Development.**

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