Welcome to the latest in a series of periodic publications from the Office of Grants Development. The goal of this newsletter is to provide information to faculty and staff about the grants process at the College and to disseminate announcements of grant awards. If you have any suggestions about topics to include or would like answers to specific questions, please contact Deborah Rosen, director of grants and special projects, at drosen@nvcc.edu.

Getting Ready to Apply for a Grant?...

The Grants staff would like to remind you that the first step is to contact our office before preparing that draft. Let’s say that Rob Doe sent around an amazing opportunity to get hundreds of thousands of dollars for a project just like the one you are running. Do you: 1) pick up the phone or email the Grants Office to discuss next steps for applying, or 2) write a proposal and send in a request for money, independently of teams of other NOVA faculty who also are competing? The correct answer is 1) – however, 2) is a real actual example of the process breaking down. The result is no one has an idea of what and who at the college is in the running for an award. Chances are dozens of other people have also heard of this same great opportunity. Our office is here not only to coordinate grant activity college-wide. We also offer our expertise working with funders, getting key players together, developing a credible proposal and budget, and facilitate the entire process – so your efforts will have the best chance at success. So give Deborah Rosen (or one of her staff) a call at 703.323.3154, and let’s talk.

NOVA Pursues Opportunities in Brazil

Ms. Stacey Bustillos and Dr. Paul McVeigh of the Global Studies Program have applied for a grant from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the State Department. The goal is to strengthen NOVA’s study abroad capacity by establishing an anchor program in collaboration with the Federal Institute of Education, Science and Technology of Goias (IFG) focused on creating two pilot programs, one in Environmental Studies and one in Portuguese language, which will complement one another. IFG is a committed NOVA partner with whom we have had a series of exchanges in the past. Brazil is a country that attracts broad interest among both students and faculty across a wide range of academic disciplines. Program activities will take place during the spring of 2013 and 2014 academic semesters involving four faculty, two administrative faculty and 16 students should the award of $129,875 be provided. Good luck to Stacey and Paul in this venture!

NOVA Requests Support from Dominion Power

Jonathan Kolm, Assistant Professor of Music (AL), and Dr. Karen Bushaw-Newton, Assistant Professor of Biology (AN), have been busy with the Grants Office staff to submit proposals that will help NOVA become a regional leader in environmental sustainability. A request for $49,272 was submitted to the Dominion Higher Education Partnership for a series of initiatives to take place on the Alexandria and Annandale campuses – including environmentally-themed entertainment (a multimedia music concert and art displays, a film festival), capital improvements (installing a bike rack at the Alexandria campus), and getting information out to students and the public (an environmental town
hall, a new “carbon footprint” website, a green jobs fair. Dr. Bushaw-Newton will also be teaching NOVA’s first course on sustainability, “The Science of Sustainability,” this fall in Annandale. A decision from Dominion to support our proposal is expected in mid-July.

A Milestone Has Been Reached – 100% Success Rate for VCCS Grants!

Good news this month comes from the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) about the latest round of grants. For the first time that anyone can recall, all of the faculty members that applied for a VCCS professional development (and one workshop) grant in April were awarded full or partial funding. Congratulations to all! We hope that this promising streak continues, and would like to hear from you if you are planning an application for the October 15 deadline. A list of the most recent successful awards is provided here:

- **Agatha (Aagje) Engel**, Business, (WO). *Increase Effectiveness of Communication between Accounting Teachers and Students* is a research project to gain insight into the potential discrepancy between learner styles of accounting students and teachers.


- **Amy Harding**, Science Technology and Business, (AL). *Integrating Team-based Learning into the Classroom* will help determine whether students working in teams have improved scores and enhanced performance.

- **Rebecca Kamen**, Art, (AL). *Transforming STEM Education through Creativity and Cross-disciplinary Visualization* will support a symposium designed to be a community outreach program showcasing innovative STEM education.

**Rebecca Kaman**, Art, (AL). *Innovative Teaching Methodologies to Enhance STEM Education and Outcomes* will help prepare a pilot proposal to the National Science Foundation for a Center for Innovative STEM Education to be located at NOVA.


**Jeremy Ruane**, Communications, (LO). *From Student to Professional: Facilitating the LEAP will to inject the foundation of “tutor identity” into the Loudoun County Writing Center staff training program.*

**Walerian Majewski**, Physics, (AN). *Undergraduate Research Projects in Physics* will expose students to undergraduate research involving experimentation on levitation of very strong magnets and on detecting cosmic rays.

**Prof. Rebecca Kamen Begins NIH Fellowship**

NOVA’s own **Rebecca Kamen, Professor of Art (AL)**, began a unique 12 week fellowship at the National Institutes of Health, Neuroscience Laboratory, in early May. This Fellowship will have Professor Kamen working directly with scientists at NIH on the question of integration of art into the representation of natural phenomena. In addition, she will be helping NIH reach out to the community of aspiring scientists and students by working on summer term studies that undergraduates and high school students are pursuing in affiliation with NIH. This appointment, called “artist in residence,” will also produce 15 original works by Professor Kamen to complement her study of the human Retina which has already been chosen as a centerpiece of the atrium of the new building to house the Neuroscience Lab and associated facilities.

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