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.

College Faculty and Staff Proposal Updates

College faculty and staff in various offices throughout the College are keeping the Office of Grants and Special Projects very busy with many innovative ideas, programs, and funding sources. We are never bored and rarely have time to rest, as there is always a looming deadline! Some of the most recent submissions include:

Bill Browning’s proposal to the Walmart Foundation’s America Works Initiative to support a realignment of the region’s workforce system by bringing in new partners for The NOVA Way: Transforming Education through Co-Enrollment Training Partnerships. Bill proposes to increase the number of partners involved in this program in order to scale it region-wide.  

Bill Browning’s proposal to the MetLife Foundation to recognize The NOVA Way as an innovative partnership.  

Bill Browning’s proposal to the Cafritz Foundation to continue support for The NOVA Way.  

Kerin Hilker-Balkissoon’s proposal, also to the MetLife Foundation, to recognize the Pathway to the Baccalaureate Program as an innovative model.  

The MEC’s proposal to the U.S. Department of Labor to support health care education and training in three sub-sectors: nursing, long-term care, and health information technology. The MEC and its partners will recruit, train, and place workers who are unemployed, underemployed, veterans, active military and spouses, and persons with disabilities, in the fields of certified nurse aides and patient administration specialists. In addition, incumbent workers will be recruited for training as advanced certified nurse aides and health information management office specialists. If funded, the project will make an impact on the health care worker shortage and will increase awareness of health care professions. Thanks to Provost Brian Foley, Gail Jackson, Geraldine Hofler, Harriet Zimmerman, Steve Rupp, and David Munch for your contributions to the proposal.

Dr. Johanna Weiss’ and Dr. La Gomez’ innovative proposal to the National Science Foundation’s ATE program in support of their project, BIO-NOVA, Biotechnology Instruction and Outreach at Northern Virginia Community College. This is a refinement of a proposal submitted last year, but not funded. As a result of very helpful reviewers’ comments, Dr. Weiss and Dr. Gomez are trying again to leap over the NSF hurdle. They are al-

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most there and we wish them the best of luck in getting there!

Dr. Lisa O’Quinn’s, Ellen Gray’s, and Dr. Robert Vaughn’s submission to the Chancellor’s E-Learning Enhancement and Development (CEED) program for their proposal entitled, “Waste Water Licensure Conversion of Study Guides to On-Line.”

Laura Young’s proposal, also to CEED, entitled “Meeting the Changing Needs of Our Developmental Reading Students: Preparing them for Research Skills and Beyond— Faculty Inquiry Group & Blackboard Course Repository.”

Dr. Laura Franklin’s third year proposal to the National Security Agency for a continuation of her faculty training project, “NOVA STARTALK: Teaching with Technology.” NOVA and Laura are in the company of other very prestigious institutions with this program. More on this in the next issue . . . Good luck, Laura!!

If you would like to add to this list, please contact Deborah Rosen at 2-3154 or Rob Henderson at 2-3493 for assistance. We are here to help you.

VCCS Professional Development and Mini-Conference Applications for October 2009

NOVA continues its strong showing in the VCCS Professional Development and MiniConference Grants for the October 2009 cycle. We wish the best of luck to all our faculty and staff who submitted these innovative and important proposals.

Vicki Arnold in History (AL) hopes to receive funding to produce a World History curriculum under a proposal entitled Teaching World History— Taming the Leviathan. Ellen Gray in Workforce Development (AN) submitted a VCCS-PD application with Lisa O’Quinn (AN) for a curricular development project to convert traditional courses for Waste Water Management Certification into an online format. Nan Peck of the Center for Excellence in Teaching (AN) submitted a professional development proposal to more finely articulate the support given to legacy development for emeriti faculty. Bill Rhatican (WO) has traced the history and genealogy of the Quander family, a prominent African American family in Virginia, from their arrival in the new world in Barbados, and is seeking a professional development grant to present a new history curriculum on the slave trade using this original research. Carol Sinwell (AN) will continue Supporting Information Literacy through an Embedded Librarian Program and Johanna Weiss (MA) seeks funding for a proposal Promoting Scientific Teaching and Learning through a Faculty Learning Community.

Good luck to TEAM NOVA in this round of VCCS Professional Development Funding!!

Grant Writing Etiquette

It has come to our attention that many busy faculty and staff, including new employees of NOVA, have begun to apply for grants. There is a tendency to use deadlines as targets rather than as a management planning tool. The “secret” to successful grant writing is rigorous process. While many bring excellent justifications for submitting a proposal at the last minute, others have simply fallen behind the writing curve. A balanced, well-written proposal builds the reputation for excellence our College has set as a strategic objective. The Office of Grants Development strongly encourages prior consultation when designing a project. This brings the technical expertise available into the action early on, and ensures that procedural obstacles (clearance signatures, technical support, budget reviews, etc…) are transformed into assets for your work.

Give yourself a bit more time. Review your work. It will pay cash dividends when it comes to winning grant competitions. In brief, giving yourself and your campus administration, including the Office of Grants Development, more time to respond will actually improve your chances of winning an award. Any questions you have about grants, structuring an application, designing a budget, or understanding the technical language of RFPs, can be answered by Rob Henderson and Deborah Rosen.

Another Writer on the Team!!!

Welcome to Bruce Rosenstein who worked for USA TODAY, for 21 years. He was the "embedded Librarian" in the News section, and regularly wrote about business and management books for the Money section. Besides USA TODAY, he has written for Leader to Leader, Information Outlook, ONLINE and Library Journal. Bruce’s first book, Living in More Than One World: How Peter Drucker's Wisdom Can Inspire and Transform Your Life, was published in August by Berrett-Koehler. He is also a lecturer for The Catholic University of America’s School of Library and Information Science. Bruce will work as a writer for the College, assisting in the American Graduation Initiative and other projects.

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