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.

VCCS Professional Development Grants Available Again!

It is that time again. The VCCS is accepting professional development applications from community college faculty in Virginia. Activities may include building knowledge and skills within your academic discipline; improving classroom teaching, learning, and assessment techniques; or enhancing administrative and leadership skills to fulfill the institutional mission of the college. The next deadline for this grant program, offered three times per year, is October 15 for activities taking place during the 2014 Spring Semester. Pending review by the Office of Grants Development, faculty may apply individually or collaboratively for time and expenses. Maximum funding for time is eight credits @ $750 per credit. Faculty may also apply to VCCS for a workshop mini-grant, a maximum of $1,500, to hold day conferences or workshops in conjunction with one other college. Details on both of these VCCS grant programs can be viewed at: http://old.vccs.edu/FacultyStaff/ProfessionalDevelopment/GrantsProgram.aspx.

All applications MUST be reviewed by the Office of Grants and Special Projects prior to submission. If you are interested in applying, please contact Deborah Rosen at drosen@nvcc.edu or ext. 2-3154.

VCCS Website Renovation Continues

Many of you have contacted the Office of Grants Development with questions regarding access to Paul Lee Professional Development Grant applications, final reports, and other documents including the Chancellor’s Innovation Fund as a result of the VCCS website update. We are aware of the challenges and can help. See previous article for the link to the Paul Lee Grant applications. If you encounter difficulties finding the information you need, contact Deborah, Rob, or Susi at the Office of Grants Development for guidance and assistance.

Dr. Ia Gomez to Participate in Bridges to Bachelor’s Program

Dr. Ia Gomez (MA) will be the local director for a project (Bridges to the Baccalaureate) initiated by Virginia Tech and funded by the National Institutes for Health to increase the diversity of the students entering, graduating and transferring from the Biotechnology program at NOVA. Dr. Gomez will ensure that appropriate NOVA advisors and academic support professionals have opportunities to present workshops (if interested) as part of the Virginia Bridges Academic Success Seminar Series, including student success workshops (time management, note taking, library resources, interacting with faculty, effective communication, and conflict resolution), faculty lectures, career exploration, and Research 101, an introduction to the research process.

Submit items of interest for publication in the Grants Newsletter via e-mail to drosen@nvcc.edu
NOVA Faculty Member Dr. Lisa O’Quinn Completes Fellowship in Dublin, Ireland

Last spring, Dr. Lisa O’Quinn, Credit Program Developer at NOVA’s Annandale campus, was awarded a post-doctoral fellowship by Dublin City University, Office of Civic Engagement, to serve as the primary researcher responsible for the creation of an instrument to measure the university’s involvement in civic engagement programs and the impact those outreach efforts have had upon the community and the university. This study of civic engagement activities was unique in that it was the first time the SMEV (Socially Modified Economic Valuation) methodology was applied in a university study. In an era where the greatest value is placed upon revenue generated through FTEs (full time equivalent enrollments) or research grants and patents, the SMEV methodology will allow institutions of higher education to actually document the societal and economic value of public engagement through the services colleges provide to their communities. Dr. O’Quinn’s work with faculty and deans on an individual basis served as a wonderful introduction to the university, as well as an opportunity to build lasting relationships. The experience will also allow her to apply her expertise of partnership development and management at NOVA, and gain a greater insight into the evolutionary process of these community/university relationships and the challenges external factors place upon university outreach efforts. The data collection and analysis process for the pilot study is ongoing, and concludes later this fall when Dr. O’Quinn will present a report on findings to Dublin City University and NOVA.

NSF ATE Biotechnology Grant Receives One Year Extension

Dr. Ia Gomez (MA) has received a one-year no-cost extension for the NSF Biotechnology education grant. The grant activities include implementation of an application process, mandatory faculty advising, curriculum development, creation of articulation agreements and a formal internship program, as well as implementation of Biotechnology exercises in general Biology classes. As a result of the work during the previous two years of this grant, the Biotechnology program has experienced growth and an increase in enrollment, retention, graduation, and student success.

NSF Grant Opportunity for Early-Career Researchers

The National Science Foundation is seeking nominations for the 2014 Alan T. Waterman Award, given each year in recognition of the talent, creativity, and influence of a singular young researcher. Nominees are accepted from all sources, from any field of science and engineering that NSF supports. The selected recipient will receive a grant of $1 million over five years for scientific research or advanced study. NSF is especially interested in nominations of women, members of underrepresented minority groups, and persons with disabilities. Applications are due by October 25, 2015. Please visit http://www.nsf.gov/od/waterman/nsf_watermanaward_2014callfornominations_130730.pdf.

Navy Yard Tragedy Reminds NOVA Community of the Need for Response Training

The NOVA Police Department offers Active Shooter Response Training on a regular basis. Their office has provided a quick video review of the key points we all need at our fingertips should we be confronted with the unthinkable in our own classrooms, administrative offices, or public spaces. This link appears on the NOVA Police Department Website: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VeSwejU2D0&feature=player_embedded. For any questions about training or services provided please contact Officer Tony Ong at tong@nvcc.edu.

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