

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: FACULTY GRANTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICE-LEARNING COURSES**

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Deadline for Application: November 30, 2007

Notification of Awards: December 14, 2007

In an effort to build stronger relationships between the various departments across campus and the Center for Community-Based Education (CCBE), a project of the Honors Program, we are calling for proposals from faculty to develop undergraduate service-learning courses that address the issue of "sustainability" and that could be offered for Honors credit. Your course can be a general education course or an elective in your discipline.

What is Service Learning?

For the purposes of this grant, service learning is a method of teaching by which students learn by applying classroom experiences to real-life situations at a specific community site. Such courses:

- meet a need identified by a community partner;
- are coordinated collaboratively by a faculty member and the community partner;
- integrate the service-learning experience into the academic component of the course;
- provide structured time for students to reflect on and write about their service experiences before, during and after they occur.

(Adapted from *The Alliance for Service-Learning in Education Reform*, 1993.

See the CCBE website for more information on course-planning:

<http://www.ccbe.wayne.edu>)

What do we mean by "Sustainability"?

Wayne State President Irvin D. Reid has designated "sustainability" as the inaugural topic for the university's Forum on Contemporary Issues in Society (FOCIS). FOCIS events bring together people from the university and its many communities, as well as distinguished guests of national and international prominence, in an effort to increase our understanding of the challenges our society faces and how we may resolve them.

The CCBE and the Honors Program are aligning our research and teaching grants this year with the FOCIS initiative. By "sustainability" we mean, "a just and responsible interaction with nature, enabling us to meet the needs of human society without harming ourselves, the environment or biodiversity. Considering the pressures of increasing population and worldwide industrialization, we are confronted with the need to create a sustainable future on a global scale." Sustainability applies to all aspects of human life – social, cultural, economic, environmental, educational, institutional – and is essential to research, teaching and learning in metropolitan Detroit.

### Who May Apply?

Any full- or part-time faculty member in good standing may apply for a CCBE/Honors Teaching Grant, as long as the faculty member can guarantee that the proposed course will be taught within the next year (by the end of Fall 08). Those selected will receive \$1,500 for planning the course and \$500 after teaching the course and submitting a CD containing final student projects, preferably in Powerpoint format, that illustrate the connection between specific experiences in the Detroit area community and the subject of "sustainability." Up to four grants will be awarded. No more than one grant will be awarded per faculty member.

Qualified applicants must agree to all of the following:

- Attend a workshop in Winter, 2008 with other grant recipients to discuss principles of community-based teaching and assessment measures appropriate for community-based courses;
- Develop the course in Winter, 2008;
- Teach the course in Spring/Summer, 2008 or Fall, 2008.

Please follow the application guidelines below and attach the cover sheet provided. Submit the original plus four copies of your proposal by 5:00 PM on November 30, 2007 to: Center for Community-Based Education, Honors Program, 2100 Undergraduate Library. Phone: 577-3030. Contact: Dr. Elizabeth Barton.

*Include a narrative of no more than 5 double-spaced pages that addresses all of the following:*

1. **Course description and rationale.** *Briefly describe the course, identify one or more potential community partners, and indicate how the course addresses the subject of sustainability related to the community site(s). Highlight any features of the course that would make it especially appealing to students, and indicate the faculty member's qualifications to develop and teach this course. If a graduate student will be involved in designing and/or teaching this course, describe his/her role.*
2. **Impact.** *Describe how the course will develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and experiences to help students address the issue of sustainability. Provide a sample course project related to the course theme.*
3. **Plan of operation.** *Document a realistic timeline for identifying and working collaboratively with a community partner, developing course projects, and managing student involvement in the community site during the semester. If you need assistance in identifying a community partner, please contact the CCBE prior to submitting your proposal.*
4. **Plan of evaluation.** *Describe how student projects will be evaluated in the class and in the community.*

5. **Future plans.** *Describe your expectations for offering the course in your department beyond the period of funding.*
6. **Supporting information.** *Attach your CV and, if available, letters of interest from your potential community partner(s). (This material is not part of the 5-page narrative.)*

**Community-Based Teaching Grant  
2007 Application**

Course Title and Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Information:

(1) Name \_\_\_\_\_

Rank/Title \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Department \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I support this application and, if funded, agree to offer the proposed course in  
2008:

Chair/Director's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_