Faculty and Staff Community Engagement Grant Program

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1. Introduction

The Faculty and Staff Community Engagement Grant provides one-time funding of between $250 and $20,000 in support of initiatives that advance SLCC's values of community and collaboration. The grant is open to all full-time faculty and staff. Funds are intended to support new initiatives or specific innovations that significantly increase community engagement in existing initiatives. The goal of the grant is to identify or deepen mutually beneficial relationships between College (institutional, faculty, staff, and/or students) and our community.

2. Program Objectives

- Advance SLCC's commitment to promote reciprocal community engagement through engaged learning and outreach
- Strengthen SLCC's relationships with the community at-large
- Provide a positive learning experience for SLCC students and/or community learners
- Foster cross-college collaboration; encourage community-based grant seeking by staff and faculty; and support our collective values of inclusivity, innovation, learning, community, trust, and collaboration

3. Definition

SLCC defines community engagement as reciprocal collaborations with local, regional, national, and global communities for the purpose of a mutually-beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources.

Although SLCC is certainly a member of the community, we use community in this grant to mean individuals, groups, and organizations external to campus. Our community extends beyond the local, to include regional, state, national, and global partners and may come from a variety of sectors, including but not limited to nonprofits, businesses, civic agencies, and schools.

College-community partnerships enrich scholarship, research, and creative activity; enhance curriculum, teaching, and learning; prepare educated, engaged citizens; strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility; address critical societal issues; and contribute to the public good.

4. Funding Priorities and Criteria

Applicants may request between $250 and $20,000.

The grant supports initiatives in the following areas:
- Community engaged classrooms

- Student leadership initiatives (co-curricular student engagement that meet defined SLCC learning outcomes); and
- Community outreach and partnerships

Successful proposals will advance one or more of the following:
- Contribute to economic and community development
- Champion diversity and cultural enrichment in the community and the college
- Provide community service and involvement activities
- Engage community in higher education

Successful proposals will meet the following criteria
- Initiative is led by SLCC full-time faculty or full-time staff. Adjunct faculty, part-time staff, and students may contribute to designing and leading the activity, but the proposal must be sponsored by a full-time faculty or staff member who serves as principal investigator (PI).
- Proposal is approved by the PI's supervisor.
- Proposal is for a new initiative, specific innovations that increase community engagement in existing initiatives or programs, or one time infusion of emergency funds for existing engagement initiatives
- Initiative is designed and implemented in collaboration with a community partner or seeks to foster new relationships with a potential partner
- Initiative responds to a community-identified issue, opportunity, or need
- Initiative engages students, community learners, and/or the community partner in project design and implementation
- Proposal establishes tangible outcomes
- Proposal demonstrates critical thinking around community issue(s) being addressed
- Proposal includes assessment plan
- Proposal meets the College's definition of community engagement

Preference will be given to proposals that:
- Involve cross-college collaboration
- Demonstrate potential for sustainability

5. Eligible Use of Grant Funds

Funding may be used for direct costs, such as:
- Materials needed for a project, sample materials include, but are not limited to:
    - SLCC branded swag (backpacks, clothing, toys, sporting supplies etc…)
    - Supplies for a community garden- but the garden needs to branded (i.e. a SLCC plaque)
    - Trees (must have a plaque explaining it was from a SLCC project or needs to be on campus)
    - Refreshments
    - School supplies
    - Venue rental for an event
    - Flyers/marketing materials
    - Radio PSA
    - Web domains (The money can't be used to pay someone to create a website)
    - Materials for art projects (beads, cords, glue, scissors, containers, baskets, etc...)
    - Ingredients for meals
    - SLCC branded first aid supplies
    - Containers and toiletries
- Travel expenses for community members, students, and/or faculty and staff to specific locations

- Fees and related expenses for onsite visit
- Stipend to bring in outside speakers
- Technology and software tools

Funding may not be used for
- Existing initiatives and ongoing programs that have not won support from the relevant school or division
- Salaries, faculty or staff stipends, student stipends
- Scholarships
- Indirect costs
- Donations or contributions to a non-College entity
- Professional development unless it is to present the results of the initiative

Funding must be used within the fiscal year of the grant. Grant funds not spent by the end of the fiscal year must be returned to Government and Community Relations.

Grant funds must be spent following the budget provided in the application. If you anticipate significant changes, please contact the Community Relations Office.

6. Selection Process and Distribution of Funds

The review process and distribution of funds to successful applicants is a three step process. First, a Peer Review Committee appointed and chaired by the Community Relations Director will assess each submission in the following areas:

Merit of community engaged approach
- Meets the College-approved definition of Community Engagement
- Advances SLCC's community engagement value
- Responds to community-identified issue, opportunity, or need
- Provides activities and implementation plan
- Identifies measurable impact/outcomes
- Identifies an assessment plan

Potential impact
- Potential impact on SLCC
- Potential impact on the target community

Budget
- Clearly defined budget
- Demonstrates sustainability

Second, the committee may request a question and answer session with finalists if the Committee has questions about the proposal.

Third, grants will be announced within three weeks of the deadline/receiving the application. If you applied previously, but did not receive a grant, you may apply again.

7. Deadline

Requests for funding less than $2,000 may be made at any time throughout the fiscal year. Funding requests greater than $2,000 must be submitted by the deadlines identified on the webpage http://www.slcc.edu/government-relations/community/community-engagement.aspx

You may submit your application by email to jen.seltzerstitt@slcc.edu , by fax at 801-957-4914, or by inter-office mail to: Government and Community Relations, ATTN: CEAP, AAB 101M.

8. Post Award Requirements

A final report by all grant recipients is due to the Government and Community Relations Office, within three months of the completed initiative, no later than September 30 of the following fiscal year. The final report should include a project description, assessment (including demographics of participants, outcome results, a success story), and list of expenditures. Where possible, please submit an electronic picture of the initiative to the chair of the Peer Review Committee. Submitted photographs may be used in SLCC electronic or print publications.

9. Sample Initiatives

These are sample projects that might be considered for grant funding. These are samples only. They are not current SLCC projects.

Sample engaged classroom community development outreach initiative: In this sample project, students work with a community partner to create an inter-professional education campaign and outreach program to promote healthy lifestyles for homeless persons. These services include health screenings, medication management and reconciliation, and education about healthy living with a different focus each month. (The class may be designated as a service-learning class but it need not be designated to receive the grant.)

Sample engaged classroom cultural enrichment project: In this sample project, students will record multi-generation oral histories with Tongan families that first arrived in Utah before 1920. These oral histories will be conducted by students in conjunction with local Pacifica Islander community groups in fulfillment of the course requirements. The interviews will then be posted on the web along with supporting documentation from 20 families. Materials gathered will also be placed in local archives. This project will redress the dearth of sources on this population and trace the legacy of a multi-generational Tongan American family.

Sample student leadership co-curricular initiative: In this sample project, students work with teachers at a local elementary school to create a weekly mentoring program between the College's Latins in Action club and high school students in third grade English and math classes.

Sample economic development outreach initiative: In this sample project, staff work with community leaders and local businesses to create a free entrepreneurial training series for local artisans.

Sample community partnership initiative: In this sample project, SLCC advisors set up an advising program with the local prison.