The Weber State University
Request for Proposals
for
Innovative and Creative Undergraduate Teaching

The Weber State University Provost’s Fund for Excellent Undergraduate Teaching supports the innovative and creative educational initiatives of faculty who teach undergraduate courses at WSU. All full-time faculty (tenure-track and non-tenure-track) are eligible to apply. Awards may range up to $15,000. Up to five projects will be funded.

Proposals are due January 14, 2014 for funds becoming available in mid-May 2014.

Selection Criteria for 2014 Awards

The funds will support ambitious proposals that aim to meaningfully enhance the undergraduate educational experience. In many cases, the proposed course innovations may use new instructional technologies. This is not an absolute requirement, however, and proposals based on a rich portfolio of pedagogics are encouraged.

Funded projects will include the following elements:

- **Depth of Impact:** Will the project introduce fresh perspectives on learning? Will the learning environment be improved? Is there an emphasis on collaborative, active learning or experiential learning?
- **Breadth of Impact:** How many students will benefit from the project each year? Does the project touch multiple class sections, multiple courses or multiple departments? Will the project be sustained?
- **Measurement:** Have desired educational outcomes been articulated, and is there a reasonable assessment strategy?
- **Accountability:** Has a realistic plan of action been formulated, as well as a budget that fits the needs of the project?

Submission Guidelines

Awards may only be made to individual faculty members or groups of faculty, not to administrative units. The Principal Investigator(s) must be full-time faculty. Awards are expected to range up to $15,000, but budgets should be realistic. Proposals should not pad the budget to reach the funding limit. Budgets may include salary, wages, materials and supplies, travel, and fees. Benefits must be included in the budget.

Proposal Format

Proposals should be no more than 5 pages and should include the following information:

- **Rationale:** A description of the project that includes a clear outline of what will happen. Proposals should address the points mentioned above: Depth of Impact, Breadth of Impact, Measurement and Accountability.
- **Description of the innovation:** What are your learning objectives and expected outcomes? What will students be able to do as a result of this project?
Preliminary Evidence: Proposals should describe preliminary indications that the project will help students develop intellectual abilities more effectively than previous methods. This may be evidence from the recognized literature or from your own research and experience.

Implementation: Projects must be implemented starting Fall 2014. Proposals should state the specific sections and/or courses and the number of students who will benefit from the project starting Fall 2014.

Detailed assessment plan: How do you plan to assess whether learning objectives/desired outcomes have been met?

Sustainability: What are your plans to extend this innovation, if appropriate, beyond the funding period?

The entire narrative for the project should not exceed 1,800 words.

Detailed budget: How will grant funding be spent? Explain why the expenditures are essential to the success of the project.

All projects should include a letter of support from the dean.

Deans should submit all the proposals from their academic colleges to the Provost’s office by January 14, 2014.