Presidential Discretionary Fund

Description: An endowment has been established by the Hewlett Foundation which provides a Presidential Discretionary Fund designated for faculty and curricular development, and institutional self-renewal. The principal uses of the Presidential Discretionary Fund are faculty and curriculum development, including instructional methods. Income may also be used for other renewal activities, such as staff development of management improvement. Funds may be used for planning and evaluation studies, experimentation, and program initiation. Faculty undertaking projects which might be funded through other programs should apply to those programs first.

Eligibility: The use of the Presidential Discretionary Fund is restricted to the undergraduate liberal arts program. Full time faculty and senior staff are eligible to apply.

Application: Proposals will be accepted from individual faculty, groups of faculty, departments, committees, or senior administrators. A proposal for the project to be undertaken should be written after discussion with the chairs of any departments involved. The proposal should include a description of the project and a specific indication of the level of support requested from the university. (The proposal should be submitted to appropriate department chairs for evaluation of the project). All materials, including an evaluation by appropriate chairs, should be submitted to the President, who will make the final decision on the disbursement of funds.

Deadline: Proposals may be submitted to the President at any time.

Reporting: A faculty member, groups of faculty members, departments, committees, or senior administrators receiving such funds shall provide the following:

1. any invoices or other documentation required by the Office of Finance to substantiate expenditure claims;

2. a report to the President upon completion of the project summarizing funded activities and assessing their value. Assessment by department chairs should be provided if appropriate.

Special Conditions: Presidential Discretionary Fund recipients agree to return to the university for at least one year following the use of the funds or to reimburse the university for all funds received.