

Presidential Curricular Innovation Grants:

Initiative for Interdisciplinary Minor and Certificate Development

Overview: In its 2012-2020 Hunter Strategic Plan, Hunter College set the goal of strengthening the curriculum by “promoting the development of skills that students will need as citizens and members of the workforce in the 21st century.” The **Presidential Curricular Innovation Grant (CIG) Program** advances this goal by providing faculty the resources needed to develop high quality courses and programs of study that impart such knowledge and skills. *This year, the CIG Program capitalizes on the streamlining of general education requirements via the CUNY Pathways Initiative to create opportunities for the development of new minors and certificate programs that cross disciplinary boundaries and provide focused exposure to exciting areas outside of existing majors.*

Description: A Curricular Innovation Grant (CIG) will provide support for faculty seeking to develop undergraduate minor and/or certificate programs. The grants provide up to \$5,000 in total for faculty stipends and other expenses related to the development of minor programs and related courses or \$7,500 in total for faculty stipends and other expenses for certificate programs and related courses. Faculty may apply for summer stipends of up to \$1,500 for each person with a total of \$4,500 per faculty team of 3 or more. The additional allowed funds may be used to cover faculty development activities such as conference registration and travel, the hiring of students for research and clerical assistance, and the purchase of course related materials. Recipients of CIG awards will also receive assistance in meeting the standards of curricular development required for program and course approval by the Hunter College Senate, CUNY, and New York State.

Applications from individual faculty or faculty teams within and across departments and schools are encouraged. The call for CIG proposals may vary over subsequent funding cycles in the kinds of curricular or pedagogical innovations targeted for development.

Award Recipient Obligations: CIG award recipients are expected to submit the proposed minor or certificate program and affiliated new courses through the curricular process during academic year 2013-2014. Stipend recipients will be expected to work with Academic Center for Excellence in Research and Teaching (ACERT) staff and faculty and other experienced faculty mentors to complete a draft of new course syllabi, new course proposal(s), all curricular paperwork, and the CUNY “Letter of Intent” in 2013-2014. After the certificate or minor program is approved by the Hunter College Senate, it is expected that a comprehensive assessment plan will be developed by relevant faculty in consultation with the Office of Assessment.

Application and Selection Process: CIG proposals for the current will be due to the office(s) of the relevant dean(s) on **May 10, 2013**. Applications must include the following:

- General description of the interdisciplinary minor or certificate program, including whether it is to be housed within an existing department or program, or to be a “stand-alone” program;
- A list of faculty involved in developing the program and a summary of each participants expected contribution to the project (attach an abbreviated curriculum vitae for each participating faculty member);
- Expected student demand for the program;
- Expected student learning outcomes for the program
- A budget that includes a rationale for projected expenses (including stipends, travel, conference attendance, research assistants, materials, and so on);
 - Applicants seeking summer stipend support should include the requested amount in the budget and provide a detailed explanation of the activities to be undertaken by each team member;
- A letter from faculty applicant(s) confirming a commitment to (1) submit the letter of intent, followed by related course proposal(s) through the curricular process by the end of the 2013-2014 academic year, and (2) designate the applicant willing to serve as coordinator/director for the new certificate program for 3 years (with compensation to be determined in consultation with the relevant dean(s));
- A letter from the chair of the relevant department(s) or program head(s) involved in or affected by the proposed program expressing support and a commitment to offer the courses in the proposed program;

Selection of awards recipients will be made by the Provost and Council of Deans in consultation with ACERT. Criteria for selection for CIG funding will include, among other factors:

- The merits of the program proposal, budget, and existing faculty expertise in relevant areas;
- The likelihood that the proposed program will meet the requirements of the curricular process;
- An evaluation of the projected need for and costs of the proposed program;
- The viability of the proposed program to continue beyond the first 3 years.