WILLIAM G. JACKSON CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING GRADUATE ONLINE LEARNING GRANT SOLICITATION (2016-17)

The generous gift from William G. Jackson will allow the Center for Teaching and Learning the ability to solicit one final round of proposals for grants to academic departments or teams of instructors interested in ONLINE course/program development. In accordance with the strategic plan, funding will be made available to revise or promote development of new online courses and/or programs at the graduate level.

Grants will be awarded at the following levels:

**$10,000 grants:** revision of a current series or creation of at least 3 new online courses.

**$25,000 grants:** revision or creation of a full online program.

Instructors, graduate students, and staff working on selected projects will normally be expected to participate in 15-20 hours of workshops, consultations, and development modules with CTL staff to learn current online instructional tools and best practices. A presumption is made that new courses or programs will pursue and receive appropriate institutional or state-wide approvals. Total of all awards is expected to be $50,000.

**Timeline for grant cycle (2016-2017):**

- **Feb 8, 2016** Grant Applications open
- **March 14, 2016** Intent to apply form due: Fill out [this form](#) to be added to a Canvas course where materials will be collected.
- **April 1, 2016** 11:59 PM Grant applications due
- **Late April** Awards announced
- **Summer 2016** Project work begins
- **Summer 2017** Project/courses should be ready to be implemented, assessed and/or disseminated

**Background:**

Michigan Tech recently joined NC-SARA (National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements), a regional accrediting agency for online courses and programs. SARA sets course standards, and certifies online delivery in all SARA states. SARA standards focus on course design, academic integrity, instructor preparation, student support, assessment, and evaluation. All proposers should closely examine (or reexamine) their online course design, especially as it relates to interaction with students, to ensure industry standards are being met.

**Grant goals:**

- Increased instructor training in online course design, pedagogical techniques, and technologies.
- Increased student satisfaction with online course delivery.

Funding may be used for:

- Summer salary for faculty, GTAs or other course designers
- Software, equipment, etc. to better enable learning object creation

The grant proposal MUST include:

- Endorsement by appropriate department chair(s) or dean(s).
- Answers to all “Application Questions” below (budget, personnel, impact, and assessment).
Grant proposals which include any of the following aspects will receive preference:

- Revision of established, successful online graduate programs to increase student engagement.
- Initiation of coursework that will comprise or lead to the offering of graduate programs in an online format.

Selection of the awardees will be done based on the outcomes of reviews by a committee assembled by the Provost and CTL director. The committee will consist of individuals not involved in the proposals who have a demonstrated interest in online learning.

Submission:

The application will be available in Canvas to those who fill out an intent to apply form, no later than March 14, 2016. Full applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM on April 1, 2016. Questions about the submission process can be directed to Mike Meyer (mrmeyer@mtu.edu), Director of the William G. Jackson Center for Teaching and Learning.

- Submit department chair/dean endorsement, which should include departmental commitments and the chair’s signature.

Application Questions:

- Describe the proposed project.
- Estimate the number of students that might be drawn to this new program or sequence. Show evidence of student interest, industry data, or other appropriate data to support this estimate.
- Why is your project “strategic”? That is, how will students, staff, or faculty benefit if this is made a priority at Michigan Tech?
- List all instructors and staff involved. Include a very brief (1-2 sentence) statement of relevant experience or skill that indicates them as important contributors to this project.
- How will the eLearning group need to be involved in this project? Give estimates of the type of and amount of support that will be needed.
- Give an estimated budget for how the grant money would be spent. Include departmental or other contributions (if appropriate) to give a full picture of how the grant fits within the project.
- How do you expect to measure the effectiveness of your project, either in terms of student attitudes or student learning?