

# **Report of the Committee for Support of Faculty Scholarship**

## **Jim Swartz**

### **July, 2004**

Members of the CSFS for 2003-04 were: Brad Bateman, Susan Strauber, Sam Rebelsky, Dan Kaiser, and Jim Swartz (Chair). CSFS is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations on proposals for four different faculty scholarly leave programs: Harris, Research, Study, and Sabbatical. In addition it oversees guidelines for faculty travel, and faculty scholarship support. It reviews requests for grants to support faculty scholarship and allocation of funds to support faculty travel beyond the typical single trip. The Committee also reviews proposals for NEH and Mellon summer stipends and leaves.

#### **Leaves for Scholarly Work**

Year-long leaves (four sabbatical and two Harris) were approved for six faculty, and semester-long leaves (including twelve sabbatical, nine research, and three study leaves) were approved for 24 faculty in 2004-05. Sabbatical proposals continue to be of good quality, following the guidelines for leave proposals by the CSFS. The guidelines are available at <http://www.grinnell.edu/dean/Forms/Sabbatical-gdln.html>.

Ten Harris proposals were reviewed by CSFS, which sent its recommendations to the Personnel Committee for final recommendation. Year-long Harris Fellowships for the 2004-05 academic year were awarded to Brian Borovsky, Assistant Professor of Physics, for his proposal "The Molecular Origins of Friction: Alkanethiol Monolayers Studied with Combined Nanoindentation and Quartz Crystal Microbalance," and Ralph Savarese, Assistant Professor of English, for his proposal "More: A Memoir of Autism, Adoption, and the End of the Welfare State." Harris guidelines may be found at [http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/dean/supfac/oncampusopportunities/fac\\_leaves/harris\\_guides/](http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/dean/supfac/oncampusopportunities/fac_leaves/harris_guides/)

CSFS reviewed proposals of and recommended Research Leaves for the following assistant professors: Lesley Delmenico (Theatre), David Ellison (Political Science), Jin Feng (Chinese/Japanese), Jennifer Green (Library), Raquel Greene (Russian), Ben Gum (Mathematics/Computer Science), Will Pergl (Art), Monty Roper (Anthropology), and Carmen Valentin (Spanish). Research leave guidelines are available at [http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/dean/supfac/oncampusopportunities/fac\\_leaves/jresearch\\_guides/](http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/dean/supfac/oncampusopportunities/fac_leaves/jresearch_guides/)

The Study Leave program has as its goal to allow faculty to improve their scholarly productivity. Three faculty members were awarded Study Leaves: All have elected to use these leaves in conjunction with one-semester sabbaticals for a full-year leave. They are: Tyler Roberts, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, "Religious Studies and Critical Humanism"; Mark Montgomery, Professor of Economics, a proposal to study whether mature workers in industries facing severe competition from imports are more likely to seek and pursue re-education and training than workers in other industries; and Elaine Marzluff, Associate Professor of Chemistry, "Structural Determination of Biological Molecules in the Gas Phase." The guidelines for Study Leaves are located at <http://www.grinnell.edu/dean/Forms/Stdy-Lv-Gdlns.html>.

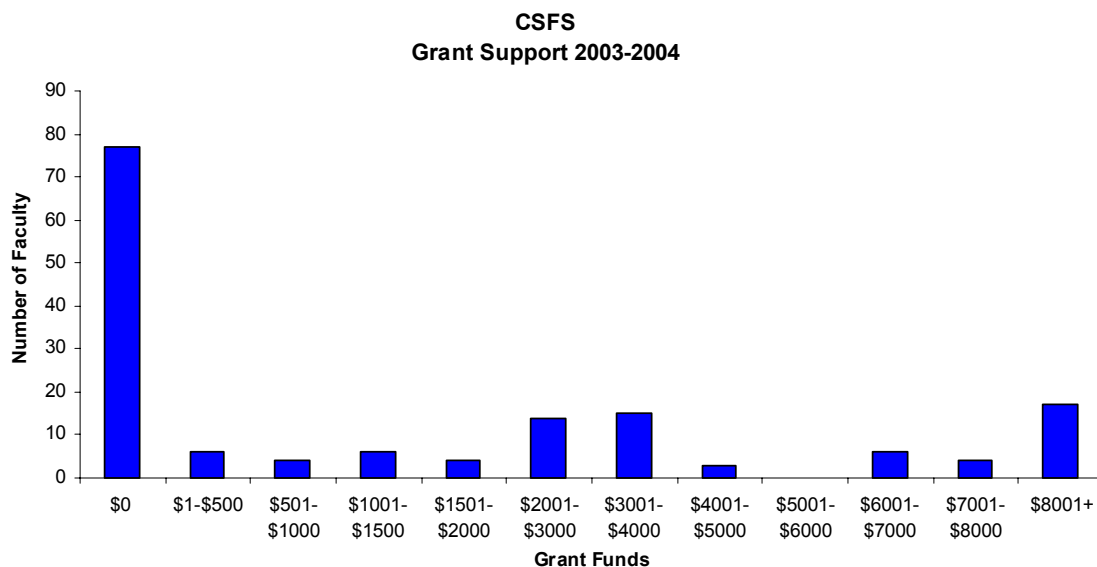
The Committee reviewed proposal for NEH Summer Stipends and selected the two that we were allowed to submit to NEH. We also had funding for two programs supported by our eight-college Mellon Faculty Career Enhancement grant. Grinnell College nominates faculty for these awards and an external committee from the eight-college group selects the finalists. CSFS received proposals and selected the two that we were allowed to submit as applications for semester leaves and the four that we were allowed to submit for summer stipends. A Mellon Faculty Career Enhancement Semester Leave was awarded to Marc Chamberland, Associate Professor of Mathematics. He will combine this leave with a sabbatical semester for a year-long research project. Summer stipends were awarded to Vince Eckhart (Biology) and Alan Schrift (Philosophy).

Members of the committee held the fourth annual open meeting with faculty members interested in applying for Harris and Study Leaves, our two competitive leave programs, to discuss the review and selection process and elements of successful proposals.

### Grants to Support Scholarly Projects

The Committee on Support of Faculty Scholarship awarded 32 grants to 31 faculty members during the academic year and 74 grants to 66 faculty members for summer projects. Funding for these grants totaled \$105,600 from the base budget plus \$10,260 from the Shepard foreign travel fund. The Committee recommended an increase from \$350/week to \$490/week in the *per diem* support for faculty traveling for scholarly projects. The Committee also made recommendations on grants for summer research with students, for a total of 87 Mentored Advanced Projects (MAPs) and Mentored Introductory Projects (MIPs) to be conducted by students and faculty in the summer of 2004. Total funds supporting student-faculty research amounted to \$332,360. In addition we expended a total of \$85,819 for scholarly projects and faculty travel for named chairs.

In making funding recommendations, the committee looked at the proposal, stage of career, and scholarly productivity of faculty members. It generally was pleased with the quality in these areas.



### Support for Travel to Professional Meetings

The guidelines for travel support for trips to professional meetings can be found at <http://www.grinnell.edu/dean/Forms/fac-trav-guides.html>. The committee has established a maximum of \$2000 for ‘first’ meetings, as they wanted to maximize the funds that were left to support additional meetings. CSFS also decided that, in making awards for second meetings, they favored providing funding to more faculty members at a somewhat lower level of support than funding to fewer faculty at full support. Thus most faculty members receiving funding for additional meetings had some out-of-pocket expenses. This year there were more requests for travel funding earlier in the year so that funds available to support for travel to additional professional meetings were exhausted in the Fall semester. We have increased the budget for faculty travel for the 2004-05 year to help provide this valuable support.

Some faculty travel support was allocated to the Instructional Support Committee to award based upon needs to support curricular or pedagogical development and projects.

The following travel awards were made: 108 faculty members for a total of \$127,765.64 for ‘first’ trips, and 37 faculty members for a total of \$21,464.38 for additional trips, a grand total of \$149,230.02. A graph of the amount of funding for faculty travel follows below.

