

Report of the Committee for Support of Faculty Scholarship

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Members of the Committee on Support of Faculty Scholarship (CSFS) for 2007-08 were: Marc Chamberland, Susan Ireland, Scott Cook, Jean Ketter, 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, Mellon Faculty Career Enhancement leaves, and Mellon New Directions Fellowships.

Full-Year Leaves: Fifteen faculty members were granted full year leaves for 2008-09. Of those, seven are two-semester sabbaticals, three are a combination of a one-semester sabbatical and a one-semester study leave, three are a combination of a one-semester research leave and an unpaid semester, and two are Harris Fellowship leaves. Eight Harris Leave proposals were reviewed by CSFS, which sent its recommendations to the Dean, who after consultation with the Personnel Committee made a final recommendation; year-long Harris Fellowship Leaves were awarded to:

Karla Erickson, Department of Sociology for her project, "Laboring at the End of Life", and to Sujeev Wickramasekara, Department of Physics for his project, "Relativistic Dynamics of Quasistable States: Representations of the *CPT*-Extended Causal Poincaré Semigroup".

The guidelines for sabbatical leaves are available at <http://www.grinnell.edu/dean/Forms/Sabbatical-gdln.html>, and for Harris Leaves at http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/dean/supfac/oncampusopportunities/fac_leaves/harris_guides/.

One-Semester Leaves: One-semester leaves were granted to twenty-one faculty members: twelve are one-semester sabbaticals; two are one-semester study leaves; four are one-semester research leaves; one is using MAP credits, and two are one-semester unpaid leaves.

Study leave guidelines may be found at:

http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/dean/supfac/oncampusopportunities/fac_leaves/study_lv_guides/jnl/

One-semester Study Leaves were awarded to:

Vicki Bentley-Condit, Associate Professor of Anthropology;

Susan Ireland, Professor of French;

Johanna Meehan, Professor of Philosophy;

Ralph Savarese, Associate Professor of English;

Erik Simpson, Associate Professor of English.

Research leave guidelines are available at

http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/dean/supfac/oncampusopportunities/fac_leaves/jrresearch_guides/.

Research Leaves were recommended by the Committee for assistant professors Keith Brouhle, Assistant Professor of Economics; Jennifer Brown, Assistant Professor of Music; Monessa

Cummins, Assistant Professor of Classics; Tammy Nyden, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, and Shawn Womack, Assistant Professor of Theatre.

Harris applications included five from women and three from men. Study Leave applications were submitted by four women and three men. We are encouraged to see these greater numbers of applicants.

Grants to Support Scholarly Projects

The Committee for Support of Faculty Scholarship awarded 38 grants to 38 faculty members during the academic year and 39 grants to 39 faculty members for summer projects. Funding for these grants totaled \$172,500 from the base budget. The Committee also made recommendations on grants for summer research involving 97 students, including Mentored Advanced Projects (MAPs) and Directed Summer Research to be conducted by students and faculty in the summer of 2008. Total funds awarded for support of summer student-faculty research amounted to \$375,000 of which \$297,000 was from institutional funds and \$78,000 provided by grants from the Howard Hughes Medical Institution and Mellon/Oberlin. These funds were supplemented by some external grants that provided support for individual projects. In addition, we expended a total of \$75,000 for scholarship support and other faculty travel for named chairs.

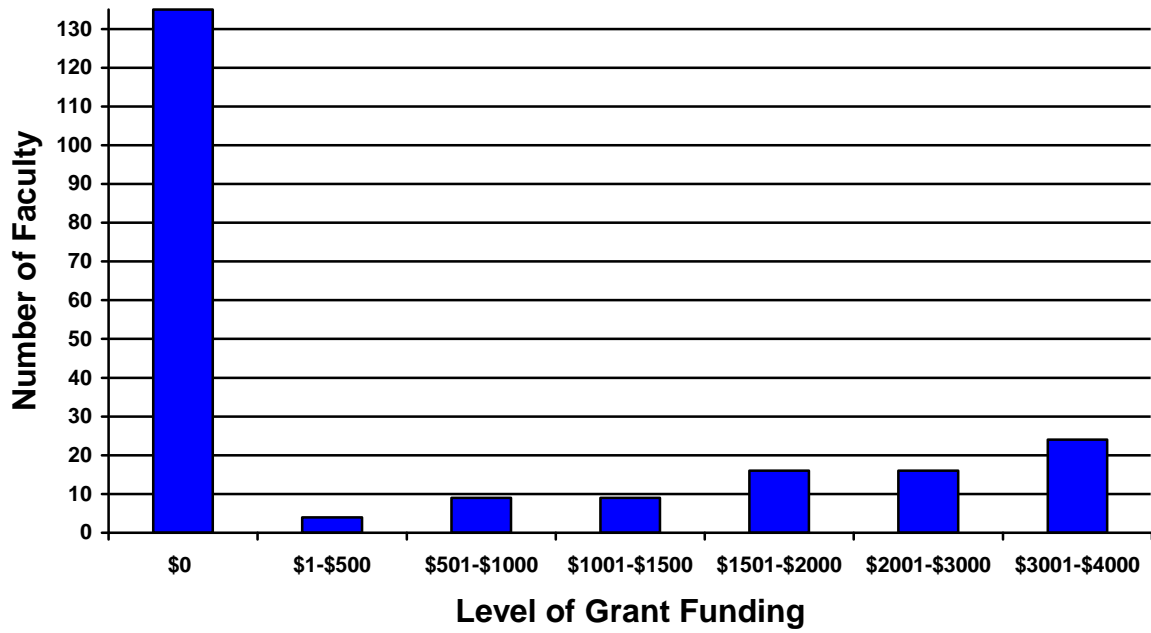
Based upon a very positive experience at Reed College, our current collaborative Mellon Faculty Career enhancement grant has funding, as an experiment for funding of several post-baccalaureate fellows to assist faculty members with scholarly projects. CSFS reviewed applications and recommended awarding fellowships to the following faculty members:
Ann Ellis, Associate Professor of Psychology;
Karla Erickson, Assistant Professor of Sociology;
Elaine Marzluff, Associate Professor of Chemistry;
Samuel Rebelsky, Associate Professor of Computer Science.

There will be funding for one more round of additional post-baccalaureate fellowships under the current grant. If these prove successful we will need to decide whether they should be made a priority for incorporating into the regular budget of the College.

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.

The Dean's Office requested a substantial increase in the budget for grants to support faculty scholarship for the 2008-09 year. The CSFS discussed the best way to allocate these resources and recommended that the per diem for travel to do scholarly work be increased from \$70 to \$100 per day. That change is reflected in the revised grant guidelines.

CSFS Grant Support



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 to maximize the funds that were left to support additional meetings. CSFS also decided, in making awards for second meetings, to favor providing funding to more faculty members at a somewhat lower level of support rather than funding to fewer faculty members at full support. Thus most faculty members receiving funding for additional meetings have some out-of-pocket expenses. There were more requests for travel to additional meetings than funds available to support for travel to additional professional meetings so that some requests were denied. Generally preference was given to tenure-track faculty members and to second (over third) meeting requests. The expectation that travel reimbursements are now filed within 30 days of completion of a trip has dramatically improved our ability to manage these funds. This resulted in much better information about actual expenses and the ability to fund a substantial number of additional meetings.

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: 136 faculty members for a total of \$218,000 for 'first trips', and 33 faculty members for additional trips with a total of \$22,000. A grand total of \$240,000 was awarded for travel to professional meetings. The chart below shows the amount of funding for faculty travel.

The Dean's Office requested a substantial increase in the budget for faculty travel to professional meetings for the 2008-09 year. The CSFS discussed the best way to allocate these resources and recommended that the maximum airfares, particularly for international travel, be increased and that funds are likely needed to cover higher airfares. Any additional funds will be used to support an increased number of trips beyond the 'first trip'. Those changes are reflected in the revised grant guidelines.

Faculty Travel Expenditures

