

Report of the Committee for Support of Faculty Scholarship

Jim Swartz

July, 2003

Members of the CSFS for 2002-03 were: Brad Bateman, David Campbell, Ed Gilday, Johanna Meehan, 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 (ten sabbatical and two Harris) were approved for twelve faculty, and semester-long leaves (including eleven sabbatical, six research, and five study leaves) were approved for 23 faculty in 2003-04. In the past three years, sabbatical proposals have been much better, following the development of guidelines for leave proposals by the CSFS. The guidelines are available at <http://www.grinnell.edu/dean/Forms/Sabbatical-gdln.html>.

Seven Harris proposals were reviewed by CSFS, which sent its recommendations to the Personnel Committee for final recommendation. Year-long Harris Fellowships for the 2003-04 academic year were awarded to Andy Mobley (Chemistry): “Synthesis of Transition Metal Organostannylene Complexes”, and Steve Andrews (English): “Looking for Samoset: Emerson, Yosemite and the Persistence of Memory.”

CSFS reviewed proposals of and recommended Research Leaves for the following assistant professors: Yvette Aparicio (Spanish), Christopher Connelly (Theatre), David Harrison (French), Peter Jacobson (Biology), Sarah Purcell (History), and Elizabeth Trimmer (Chemistry).

The Study Leave program has as its goal to allow faculty to improve their scholarly productivity. Five faculty members were awarded Study Leaves: Brad Bateman (Economics), David Campbell (Biology), Jonathan Chenette (Music), Charles Cunningham (Physics), and Tom Moore (Mathematics and Computer Science). The guidelines for Study Leaves are located at <http://www.grinnell.edu/dean/Forms/StdY-Lv-Gdlns.html>.

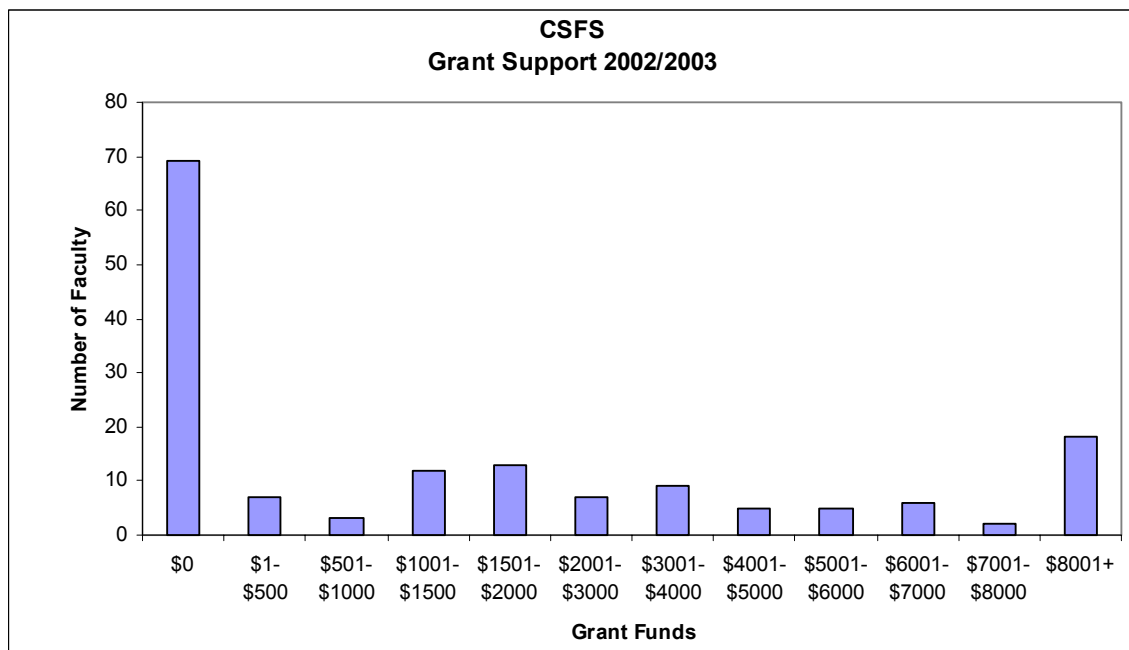
The Committee reviewed proposal for NEH Summer Stipends and selected the two that we were allowed to submit to NEH. This year, we had funding for two new programs supported by our eight-college Mellon Faculty Career Enhancement grant. Grinnell College nominates faculty for these awards and an external 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. Of these, Scott Cook was awarded a Mellon semester leave, and Charles Cunningham and Jin Feng were awarded summer stipends.

Members of the committee held the third 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 41 grants to 40 faculty members during the academic year and 76 grants to 72 faculty members for summer projects. Funding for these grants totaled \$119,090 from the base budget plus \$12,470 from the Shepard foreign travel fund. The Committee also made recommendations on grants for summer research with students, for a total of 73 Mentored Advanced Projects (MAPs) and Mentored Introductory Projects (MIPs) to be conducted by students and faculty in the summer of 2003. Total funds supporting student-faculty research amounted to \$310,000.

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.



Travel Support

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. The committee sent out a note to faculty

members inviting comments on the guidelines and found that there was widespread support for the current system, and the recommended no changes.

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: 106 faculty members for a total of \$132,916.55 for 'first' trips, and 44 faculty members for a total of \$29,672.09 additional trips, for a total of \$162,588.64. A graph of the amount of funding for faculty travel follows below.

