SU Impact Fund Grant Program
A program of the NDSU Development Foundation

Application Process and Timeline

The NDSU Development Foundation Board of Trustees established the SU Impact Fund to provide funding for projects that make a significant impact on excellence and the educational experience for students at North Dakota State University. Available funds are provided by annual contributions from alumni and friends of the University.

Requests for funding should meet the following preferred criteria:

- Applications should require funding in the range of $20,000 to $75,000. Successful proposals will receive funding only one time, however, actual expenditure of grant funds may take up to three years.

- Programs or project proposed should be discrete, i.e. not a portion of a larger program unless the grant is requesting matching funds.

- Successful grant requests should clearly recognize the Development Foundation SU Impact Fund as the source of funding for the program or project.

Applications are encouraged from the entire campus community and may be submitted from any faculty, staff or recognized student organization.

One copy of this application form (typed) must be received by the Development Foundation Office by 5:00 p.m. on August 2, 2010. Copies of this completed form may be submitted via e-mail to joann@ndsualumni.com.

Finalists will be notified by September 13, 2010 and will be invited to make a ten minute presentation in support of their application to the Development Foundation Grants and Awards Committee on September 30, 2010. Successful applicants will receive notification of their award by October 4, 2010.
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Application Form

Name Larry R. Peterson,
Charlene Myhre

Date Submitted 07/29/10

Position Title
Co-Chair Undergraduate
Curriculum Review Committee

College/Department or Student Group
Provost and Vice President for Academic
Affairs

Library Representative,
Undergraduate Curriculum
Review Committee,

Campus
Address
Putnam Hall 8
Library 218C

Telephone Number
8824
9746

1) Briefly describe the specific activity or project for which you are requesting funds. If applicable, please include the specific date(s) of the activity. (Please limit your description to three pages or less)

As members of the recently appointed Undergraduate Curriculum Review Committee (UCRC), we are requesting funds to assist us in our assignment to complete a comprehensive review of NDSU’s undergraduate curriculum with the goals of a) identifying the knowledge, skills, and abilities that our graduates should have when they leave NDSU, and b) undertaking the process of asking whether our curriculum ensures those outcomes. We are requesting funds for four specific activities.

First, hold a series of on-campus conversations (six buffet luncheons with faculty, staff, and student leaders and three buffet dinners with alums and college advisory board members) to explore what it means to be an educated person in the 21st century. Each conversation would begin with a brief panel presentation from two or three thoughtful people on what all college graduates should know about science, how the learning in classrooms with non-classroom learning should be connected, or other critical issues. These would be held during the upcoming academic year and members of the UCRC would be at each table to facilitate the conversation and take notes. We anticipate about 100 people would attend each of the six buffet luncheons for faculty, staff, and student leaders and about 30 alums and college advisory board members will attend each of the three buffet dinners. These conversations would help both to inform
the work of the UCRC and to stimulate campus and community conversations about what NDSU graduates should know and learn.

Second, send a team of ten from the UCRC to the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU) Conference, “General Education and Assessment 3.0: Next-Level Practices Now” in Chicago, March 3-5, 2011. AACU describes itself as “the leading national association concerned with the quality, vitality, and public standing of undergraduate liberal education.” NDSU is one of the 1200 member institutions and AACU’s annual general education conferences are essential for people engaged in this work. This particular conference will assist “campus leaders” to “continue to help students develop the kind of innovative, ‘big-picture’ thinking and creative problem-solving skills that excellent general education programs foster” by “focusing on innovative and purposeful approaches to designing and financing general education and assessment.” Although four members of the UCRC have attended previous AACU General Education Conferences, the majority of the fifteen UCRC members have not and this will help them learn much more about national general education trends and how to use that knowledge to improve the experiences of NDSU undergraduates.

Third, bring three national experts to campus in the next two academic years to increase campus knowledge about general education issues, to stimulate campus conversations, and to provide workshops. Considering the UCRC’s assignment the most logical presenters would be on topics such as assessing general education or linking learning outcomes between majors and general education.

Fourth, hold a two-day off-campus retreat of departmental representatives just before the beginning of classes in August 2012. During this retreat faculty would review the information generated during the first two years by the UCRC and would then prepare recommendations from the perspective of each department about how to integrate campus wide student learning outcomes with the student outcomes of each major. The retreat would be led by facilitators to help the faculty make their own decisions rather than pushing some outside agenda--that is, experts on facilitating change, rather than advocates for a particular model of undergraduate education. This retreat would be crucial in helping the UCRC process make the transition from seeking general campus and community input to actual buy-in from faculty and departments.

2) How will the proposed activity or project enhance the educational opportunities for students and the academic priorities of NDSU?

Quality undergraduate teaching and learning is one of our hallmarks at NDSU. The Undergraduate Curriculum Review Committee (UCRC) provides NDSU the opportunity to examine how we can build on that foundation to create a coherent undergraduate experience in which the entire undergraduate curriculum and co-curriculum work together to promote the learning outcomes our graduates need to be well-rounded global citizens and successful professionals.

The last General Education revision process started in 1991 and the University Senate approved the present General Education program in November 1992. Consequently, it has been almost twenty years since the campus has examined and discussed what we think every NDSU graduate should learn and be able to do. In those years NDSU has experienced a significant growth in student population combined with a demographically more diverse student population. In order to attract, retain, and prepare high quality students for the challenges of
the new century, our undergraduate curriculum should be up to date with our peer institutions and best practices at the national level.

At NDSU, the process of curriculum review is continuous but uncoordinated, with at least five different standing committees having responsibility for some aspect of the curriculum and student learning. The UCRC gives us an opportunity to focus on the entire undergraduate experience at NDSU. The UCRC can help the campus to build on our existing strong general and disciplinary education to enhance the quality of our graduates, developing students who have the flexibility to excel in their chosen occupations and as contributing citizens.

3) Please indicate below a program budget for the grant amount requested:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explanation</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three dinner buffet conversations with alums at $11/person</td>
<td>$1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six luncheon buffet conversations with faculty, staff, and student leaders at $10/person</td>
<td>$6000</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCRC Team to AACU General Education Conference (travel, hotel, registration, per diem)</td>
<td>$14,720</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three outside speakers (honorarium, travel, hotel, food)</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two day retreat at Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria, MN for 80 people (facilitators' fees and transportation, two lunches, one breakfast, one dinner, snacks, double occupancy, and bus transportation from NDSU)</td>
<td>$20,040</td>
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</tbody>
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Total Amount Requested $53,860