Community College of Philadelphia
The Path to Possibilities™

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Call for Proposals
Academic Affairs Micro Grant Competition

Background Information

Last Spring the College participated in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) for the first time. The survey uses five benchmarks that are associated with student success: active and collaborative learning; student effort; academic challenge; student faculty interaction; support for learners. Institutional Research Report #167 (which can be found on the IR website) provides a description of the benchmarks and information about College performance. Although the College outcomes in comparison with like colleges and with the CCSSE cohort as a whole are positive, the average scores for community colleges were low in many cases. We can benefit students even more if we improve.

The purpose of this micro grant competition is to provide funds to increase student success by funding projects that are linked to CCSSE indicators. The concept of micro grants is based on the work of the Nobel Prize winning economist, Muhammad Yunus. Yunus demonstrated the power of micro credit (small loans for small projects) directed at improving social conditions.

Goal: Support creation of small innovative projects that will address indicators on the Community College Survey of Student Engagement and have a positive impact on student outcomes.

Eligibility: All staff, faculty and administrators in Academic Affairs are eligible to apply. Students may be included as part of a group that is led by a staff member, faculty member or administrator.

Award Amount: These competitive grants will be for amounts up to $500. The funds may not be used for stipends.

Deadlines: December 15, 2007 for the application and June 15, 2008 to use funds.

Proposal: Submit proposals to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Proposals must include the following information.
1. Title of Project and names of applicants
2. Contact information for applicant (only the primary applicant is necessary if this is a group proposal)
3. Brief description of project (no more than one page is necessary)
4. Brief plan for determining impact of project
5. Itemized budget

Report: A report on program outcomes must be submitted to the Vice President for Academic Affairs by June 15, 2008.