

INNOVATION FUND GRANT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED - ROUND 1 February 17, 2014

- **Total amount of funding requested in Round 1: \$384,287**
- **Total amount of funding awarded in Round 1: \$198,070**
- **Estimated total impact on resources (total savings/revenue minus total cost): \$806,001**
- **Total number of proposals submitted: 16**
- **Total number of innovative ideas submitted (online): 7**
- **Total number of projects funded: 6**

Program Innovation Grant Proposals:

1. “Creating Connections for Incoming Science Students”

ABSTRACT: The proposed program will provide entering science students the opportunity to connect with faculty and current students prior to the beginning of the fall semester. Students will be invited to come to campus for a week of activities that will include participation in scientific investigation with faculty and current students, sessions on study skills, and field trips that could include introduction to local ecosystems, introduction to industrial applications of science, and/or visits to nearby government laboratories. Students will also be required to complete a review of basic chemistry knowledge using a web based application. These experiences will position students to succeed as they begin their college science experience. An issue that underlies the attrition of students from the sciences is a lack of success in their first semester courses. By providing students with the experiences described in this proposal we hope to prepare students for the transition to college science courses and connect them with valuable resources prior to the start of classes. Funds will be used to bring students to campus, support science related activities while on campus, take field trips and engage in social activities, and hire current students to help with the science experiences and engagement of the participants in activities that will create lasting connections and a support system for these students.

Amount awarded: \$10,820

2. “IWU Young Scientists Day Camp for Middle Schoolers”

ABSTRACT: IWU Young Scholars is a program to connect IWU students, alumni, and faculty to the larger Bloomington-Normal Community. The initial offering, *Young Scientists Day Camp* is a unique program for the area that provides both depth and breadth to summer enrichment activities in the sciences for middle school students. IWU Young Scholars strengthens Illinois

Wesleyan University particularly in the areas of recruitment and revenue while also providing valuable cross-campus connections for programs and departments.

Recruitment – The Young Scholars Program increases the visibility of Illinois Wesleyan University through outreach to area schools and families. Moreover, the University’s reputation as an institution of educational excellence is further enhanced by the program’s structure: using educator designed curriculum and licensed IWU alumni teachers for classroom instruction, and IWU faculty augmenting camp activities.

Revenue – While the Young Scholars summer camps for youth will be self-sustaining over the long-term; this goal is achieved by relying on gifts as well as tuition payments. Important program features include competitive pricing and offering need-based scholarships for participants. Increased visibility of for IWU is also realized with the connections to outside support for the program through individuals, local businesses and organizations, as well as national and international companies and societies.

Amount awarded: \$45,000

3. **“Recruitment of Top Psychology Prospects during the John Wesley Powell Conference”**

ABSTRACT: The John Wesley Powell (JWP) Conference is one of the best examples of our commitment to undergraduate research, but is underutilized as a potential recruitment tool for prospective students. Bringing 10 top prospective Psychology majors to our campus during this weekend will provide an excellent opportunity to show prospective students what our university is about and give them first-hand experience of what they can expect if they enroll at IWU. Financially, this is a low cost proposal that could have significant financial gain. If just one of the 10 invited students ends up enrolling at IWU, the program will have more than paid for itself. The proposed program is intended as a pilot program. If this proposed model is successful, it can serve as a template in future years for other departments to use as a potential recruitment tool for top students.

Amount awarded: \$1,250

4. **“Summer Conference Marketing and Recruitment”**

ABSTRACT: The goal of this initiative is to aggressively market our facilities for external use and to recruit summer camps or professional development workshops to Illinois Wesleyan. Our current staffing model is focused on implementation and service delivery, and time does not exist in the current staffing to effectively market and recruit. There are three primary emphases

for this proposal: consultation, staffing and staff development, and marketing.

Amount awarded: \$55,000

Infrastructure Innovation Grant Proposals [title & abstracts were cut and pasted]:

5. “Shirk Center High Bay Lighting Replacement Project”

ABSTRACT: Currently, the predominant lighting fixture in the Shirk Center Performance Gym, Activity Center and Practice Gym is the metal halide, high bay fixture. This fixture was commonly used to light large, open areas with high ceilings. The advantage of having a single fixture point source is outweighed by the high-energy consumption of approximately 465 watts per fixture, the extremely long warm up period and the rapid lumen degradation of the metal halide. A metal halide will emit only 65% of its initial lumens by the time of its Mean lamp life. Warm up times can be as long as 15 to 30 minutes. This often presents difficulties when fixtures are turned off during operating hours and leads to long run times to avoid the warm up periods.

Lighting technology has changed dramatically in the last 10 years. New high efficiency T5 fixtures are available which will reduce energy consumption dramatically. In our conservative estimate, we project an annual energy savings of approximately \$6,800.

Amount awarded: \$46,000

6. “Electric Sub Metering”

ABSTRACT: Sub-metering is the measurement of energy use of buildings, systems, or equipment, down stream of the utility master meter. Energy consumption data from sub-metering is typically used to help identify equipment or systems with poor energy performance and allow for targeted performance improvement measures. Good metering underpins the energy monitoring and targeting process, which is an essential part of energy management.

Easily accessible feedback on resource use increases both awareness and motivation to act in ways that change attitudes, minimize resource use and save money. Universities that have implemented a process to measure and record their energy consumption, monitor their consumption against targets, and take action to address variances from the targets can reduce their energy costs by 5 to 25% through implementing low-cost or no-cost operational changes.

Amount awarded: \$40,000

To find more information on each funded project go to,
www.iwu.edu/innovation.