Integration of Information Literacy & Writing in the Disciplines
An Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant

Departmental Grants for Writing in the Disciplines or Information Literacy
Call for Proposals
Spring 2012

The IWU Writing Program and the Ames Library invite departments and interdisciplinary programs or groups of faculty teaching in those units to attend a one and a half day workshop on June 7-8. Up to 5 departments or programs will be supported with grants. Refreshments and lunch will be provided to participants.

Description of this grant opportunity

The Mellon Foundation grant awarded in January of 2012 supports academic units’ efforts to integrate writing and information literacy into their student learning outcomes and into their curricula. In keeping with one of these initiatives, this workshop has the following goals:

- help faculty articulate departmental learning goals for writing in their disciplines or for information literacy, wherever their starting point
- help faculty analyze their students' writing as a basis for creating, testing, or revising these goals
- help faculty develop ideas about how to integrate these goals into their department’s curriculum

As faculty compose student learning outcomes for writing or information literacy with the help of these grants, we hope that their colleagues come to appreciate the wealth of approaches to teaching writing and be inspired to adopt or develop their own pedagogical techniques or tools, curricula, and assignments.

The workshop will be structured to accommodate the needs of individual departments/programs. Each department/program group will read a limited sample of student writing in the major, and based on those readings develop a rubric for evaluating that writing, or revise and test an existing rubric, or generate a rough draft of qualitative map or statement of learning outcomes. Grants are available for participation in this workshop, for subsequent drafting and revising work on learning outcomes statements, and for presenting this work to campus colleagues.

Eligibility, Amounts, and Priority
Eligibility
All academic programs are eligible to participate. Tenure-line faculty members, visiting faculty members and adjunct instructors with a well-established teaching record in the program are eligible to participate.

Amounts
The maximum grant award is calculated as follows:
Stipend for drafting or revising a writing rubric or learning outcomes statement: $250.00 (Up to three department/program members are eligible.)

Individually faculty stipend attending workshop: $250.00
Honorarium for drafting a summary of findings and presenting at a Non-Org: $100 (Up to two department/program members are eligible.)

Priority
In this round of funding, priority is assigned to those programs (a) that have developed learning outcomes or a rubric or have collected student work, and (b) that need to identify student learning outcomes.

Application Procedures and Timetable
Materials to submit:
1. Cover page (see attached)
2. A description or a copy of the rubric to be used during the reading/scoring effort (if available). If not, a statement explaining the need for one within the curriculum.
3. A narrative including
   a) A description of the proposed effort, discussing its:
      Role in the Department’s multi-year and/or ongoing curricular discussion.
      Degree of involvement by a significant fraction of faculty members in the department or program. It is up to the reviewers of the grant proposal to determine what a “significant” fraction represents.
      Description of the student work to serve as the basis for the workshop

   b) A description of the plan for drafting a summary of findings and sharing this summary, including
      Who will be in charge of drafting a draft summary of findings.
      When will this summary be circulated and discussed with other members of the program (e-mail communication over the summer is acceptable)
      How and when will this summary be shared with the Writing Committee and the rest of the IWU community
Submission deadline
Proposals are due in electronic form to Pat Neustel (pneustel@iwu.edu) by April 20, 2012

Evaluation timetable
Proposals will be evaluated by May 1, Wednesday, 2012.

Payment timetable
Awarded grant proposals will receive,
(1) Immediately after the workshop: 100 percent of (a) the honorarium for drafting the writing rubric, and 100 percent of (b) the total individual faculty stipend.
(2) Immediately after the actual date of delivery of the presentation at Faculty Non-Org or other campus venue: honorarium of $100.

Criteria for Evaluation of Proposals

Proposals are evaluated on their potential to accomplish stated goals and to guide future program planning. Specifically, proposals are be evaluated in the following dimensions:
- Quality of the rationale for the proposed or existing rubric or learning outcomes statement
- Degree of faculty involvement in the proposed effort.
- Feasibility and clarity of the department’s plan to integrate the results of this grant in curricular development
- Feasibility and clarity of the department’s plan to draft a final document and disseminate it within the department and on the IWU campus
- Clear assignment of responsibilities for drafting a summary of the findings and presenting them at a Faculty Non-Org.