

Call For Proposals

SCU Faculty Course Release Initiative Pilot Program (Year 2)

January 9, 2012

The Provost, in conjunction with the Research Committee, invites research-active *tenured faculty* to apply for a one-course reduction in teaching load to support research, scholarship and creative activity. (Law School faculty are not eligible.) Up to ten Faculty Course Release Initiative grants will be awarded on a competitive basis for use in AY 2012-2013. All proposals will be reviewed and ranked by the Research Committee in conjunction with the Associate Provost for Research and Faculty Affairs. Final approval of awards will rest with the Provost in consultation with the appropriate Deans.

Application Deadline: February 1, 2012

Guidelines for submitting a grant proposal and information about the proposal selection process, program restrictions and guidelines are given below. Application information can be found at: <http://www.scu.edu/provost/research/Funding.cfm>. Background information about the Faculty Course Release Initiative Pilot Program can be found at: <http://www.scu.edu/governance/committees/upload/FacCourseReleaseI-May-2010.doc>.

Eligibility and Details

- Eligible activities include any research, scholarship, or creative work that will lead to publication or performance in a high-quality venue. Such activities might include work related to major research grant proposals. Work related to preparation of a textbook would not be eligible unless significant new knowledge is being developed as part of the textbook.
- All tenured faculty (except in Law) are eligible to apply.
- This one-course reduction to support research, scholarship and creative activity shall *not* be applied during an academic year when a faculty member has a sabbatical leave of any length. If a faculty member has an approved sabbatical for 2012-13, then he or she should not apply for this program for the 2012-13 academic year.

Proposal Guidelines (Note: page limits must be followed for proposal to be considered.)

1. **Title and non-technical abstract.** The abstract should be understandable to faculty who may have a general knowledge of the field, but may not be specialists. (*1 page max*)
2. **Project description.** The main part of the proposal will be the narrative, including background, significance, goals, methodology, expected outcomes, and a dissemination plan. (*2 page max*)
3. **Justification and impact.** A case should be made for the necessity of the course reduction to move the project(s) forward. The applicant should also address the anticipated impact of the course reduction on the department and on the applicant's future teaching. (*1 page max*)
4. **Brief Curriculum Vita.** The vita should emphasize special qualifications, training, publications, awards, grants, and other data *related to the proposed project*. (*2 page max*)
5. **Chair's Letter.** The proposal should include a letter from the department chair describing the impact on the department, and any additional resources the department would need in order to continue to meet its teaching obligations if the award were granted.

Selection Process

The primary selection criterion will be the overall intellectual merit of the proposal. This will be determined using the following considerations:

- Clarity and significance of the project(s)
- Appropriateness of the methods
- Likelihood of substantial progress
- Potential for publication/performance/grants
- Dissemination plan
- Contribution to the proposer's scholarly development

Final Report

Faculty granted awards will submit a concise final report to the Provost that includes:

- Progress made on the project
- A discussion of how the course release helped, including an estimate of how much progress would have been made on the project without the course release.
- A comparison with the faculty member's scholarly productivity in a "typical year" without the course release.

Instructions for Proposal Submission:

Proposals must be received by Wednesday, February 1, 2012, to be considered.

Please email your proposal to grants@scu.edu with Faculty Course Release Initiative Proposal as the subject for the email message.

For questions, contact Anne Riconosciuto at 408-554-2746.