

Revised 9-21-06

TO: Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty

RE: NEH Summer Stipends and
Faculty Career Enhancement Opportunities

DATE: September 12, 2006

I am pleased to announce the following grant opportunities for faculty. The three programs are summarized below, with full descriptions following.

1. NEH Summer Stipend

Eligibility: Tenured and tenure-track faculty in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, including psychology
Award: \$5,000 stipend
Deadlines: **Extended to September 25, at 3:00 p.m** for preliminary proposal; October 2 for finalists to submit electronically

2. Mellon Workshop Grant

Eligibility: Tenured and tenure-track faculty
Award: up to \$25,000
Deadline: **Friday, October 6, 2006**

3. New Initiatives Grants

Eligibility: Mid-career and newly-tenured faculty pursuing new scholarly directions
Award: \$10,000 maximum grant
Two to three awarded this year
Deadline: **Friday, October 13, 2006**

1. NEH SUMMER 2007 STIPENDS

The National Endowment for the Humanities has announced its Summer Stipend Program for the summer of 2007. The competition is open to **faculty in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, including psychology**. The NEH will award \$5,000 to successful applicants to support "two uninterrupted months of full-time independent study and research." Recipients may not hold major fellowships or grants during the tenure of their NEH awards, and they must devote full time to their projects for the (full) two months." A description of the Summer Stipend program can be found at the NEH web site: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/stipends.html>

Wesleyan can nominate up to 2 faculty members this year; at least one of whom must be a junior faculty member.

Application Procedure

As in the past, we will conduct an internal competition to select the two nominees. If you think you are interested in competing for one of these two spots, please e-mail Paula Lawson or leave voice mail at x.2703. **We ask each faculty member to submit a brief description (two pages maximum) of the proposed project no later than noon on Wednesday, September 20.**

The Deans of Division I and II will select the two nominees. The nominees will be notified on September 21 and must submit their proposals electronically to the NEH no later than October 2, 2006.

Awards will be announced in the Spring of 2007.

2. Mellon Faculty Workshops

The Mellon Foundation grant to Amherst, Grinnell, Oberlin, Pomona, Reed, Smith, Wesleyan, and Williams provides funds to support workshops designed and organized by faculty members on scholarly and pedagogical topics. Tenured and tenure-track faculty members from these institutions may propose workshops to be held either during the summer or during the academic year. The workshops may be relatively small. For example, six Latin Americanists from Amherst, Pomona, Wesleyan and Williams might gather for three days to discuss the latest trends in that field and how those trends impact teaching about Latin America. The cost of the workshop might be \$5,000. A larger workshop on environmental science, for example, might include a number of speakers and participants from outside the Mellon consortium with an overall budget for the workshop of \$25,000.

We are now seeking proposals for workshops to be held during 2007-2008 (the summer of '07, academic year 07-08, or the summer of '08). The Provosts and VPAs of the Mellon consortium will review the proposals. Two or three workshops, depending on the overall budget, will be selected for full development and funding from among the proposals from the eight colleges.

Priorities:

Priority will be given to proposals that are planned jointly by several faculty from two or more of the above-mentioned Mellon institutions, to proposals that foster collaboration among the Mellon institutions, and to those that might lead to sustained interactions in scholarship or pedagogy among faculty at those institutions.

Applications:

The proposal should contain the following items:

- a description of the proposed workshop, its rationale and intended audience, its schedule and format, and its intended impact-- no more than 500 words
- a list of the faculty members who will be the workshop leaders and other faculty members who will assist in the detailed planning of the workshop
- a preliminary budget, which may support the following:
 - a modest stipend (\$1000) for the primary workshop organizer(s)
 - travel and accommodation expenses for faculty participants from the Mellon colleges
 - travel and accommodation expenses and a modest stipend for speakers from outside the Mellon consortium
 - accommodation expenses for participants from outside the Mellon consortium
 - modest staff support for organizing the logistics (hotel space, etc.) for the workshop
 - administrative expenses (mailing of notices, duplication of conference materials, etc.)

I recommend that you have a brief conversation with the dean of your division or with Paula Lawson about the proposed workshop before developing the proposal to assure that the workshop theme fits the framework of the Mellon grant.

Post-Award Requirement:

The workshop leaders are required to submit a report (250-500 words) summarizing the results of the workshop and its impact on faculty in the Mellon consortium. Two copies of this report are to be sent to the Office of Academic Affairs – one for the dean of the relevant division and the other for the VPAA -- within three months of the end of the workshop.

3. NEW INITIATIVES IN RESEARCH

This program, which is also part of the Faculty Career Enhancement project, targets faculty at transitional moments in their professional careers, chiefly mid-career faculty and newly tenured faculty, who may need re-training and time to develop and consider new directions. The fund provides mid-career faculty the support they may need to achieve future success. The fund may also support faculty who have recently received tenure, in order to provide them with the support they may need to take on a different, second project successfully. Funds are awarded competitively and may be used to

support visits to other educational institutions, to attend professional workshops or seminars, for the purchase of new equipment, research materials or supplies, and books or publications.

This program is designed specifically for Wesleyan faculty. We expect to award at least two grants of up to \$10,000 each in academic year 2006-07, to be used from academic year 2006-07 through the 2007-08 year. This program does not provide for a semester leave or a summer stipend, but for the cost of travel, training, and materials.

Priorities:

New Initiatives grants are designed to support faculty who are at a transitional moment in their professional career and are considering new scholarly directions.

Proposals:

Proposals should include the following elements:

- Summary of the Proposed Study (not to exceed 250 words): This summary describes the basic ideas, problems, works, or questions to be addressed. It should also give an overview of the planned approach, methodology, or perspective for the project. It must include a budget, outlining how funds will be spent.
- Context Statement (not to exceed 500 words): This statement reviews the relationship of the proposed work to the applicant's overall program of scholarship and teaching. It places the proposal in the context of past scholarly accomplishments and clarifies how this new direction contributes to the applicant's long-range goals as a teacher and scholar.
- Curriculum Vitae: Attach updated curriculum vitae.
- Departmental Approval: The proposal should include a statement from the department chair or program director indicating support for the proposal.

Post-Award Requirement:

All recipients of New Initiatives grants will be required to write a report (250 words) summarizing the work accomplished with the grant, including the impact on the scholarly program of the awardee. Two copies of this report are due to the VPAA, via the Academic Dean, the first week in October following the leave.