

Committee on Teaching and Faculty Development

Mission Statement

The Committee on Teaching and Faculty Development (COTFD) reports to the General Faculty Committee and supports the efforts of Siena faculty to achieve excellence in teaching and scholarship. The Committee oversees funding opportunities that support faculty development, sponsors presentations and luncheons covering topics relevant to teaching or faculty scholarship, coordinates mentoring opportunities for faculty, and publicizes the activities of the Committee and outcomes of the funding opportunities through its webpage.

Fellowships and Grants: General Information

Application packets are due February 1st by 4:00 PM. No late submissions will be accepted.

The Committee on Teaching offers three distinct faculty funding programs. One program provides support for faculty research through Summer Research Fellowships and Research Assistance Grants. The second program provides funding for pedagogical development through Summer Pedagogy Fellowships and Pedagogy Assistance Grants. The third program provides funding for international travel through an International Summer Faculty Fellowship. There are separate applications for each type of award, with the exception that one can apply for a Summer Research Fellowship and Grant with a single submission. A list of past awards shows the variety of work that has been funded in the past.

Faculty Research

Faculty may apply for either a Fellowship or a Grant or both. If applying for both, you need only fill out one application. However, a Faculty Research Grant requires additional budget information.

Summer Faculty Research Fellowships provide salary support for faculty conducting research or creative work during the summer months. Compensation for fellowships is equivalent to the summer stipend for a 3-credit non-teaching overload. If more than one fellowship is requested for a group project, separate applications must be submitted from each faculty member involved. This requirement is to ascertain that support for each faculty member can be separately justified. Fellowships are reported as income and are taxable.

Summer Faculty Research Grants are small grants that are awarded directly to faculty for assistance with research projects. Some examples of research-associated expenses which qualify for funding include, but are not limited to: special equipment not currently available to the researcher; project supplies; travel expenses for the researcher to related facilities or sites; computerized data sets or programs, and technical or clerical assistance.

The amount of the Summer Faculty Research Grant will vary in accordance with the needs documented in the application. There is no arbitrary minimum or maximum; however, the average award is approximately \$500.00. Requests for travel outside of the continental U.S. may only receive only partial funding due to the limited budget available for Faculty Research Grants.

Pedagogical Development

Faculty may apply for either a Fellowship or a Grant or both. If applying for both, you need to fill out separate applications because of the differences in criteria.

Summer Pedagogy Fellowships provide summer salary support for faculty to develop teaching strategies that bring innovation or new methodologies to the classroom. This may include but is not limited to: 1) the development of a new course or modification of an existing course that implements new teaching strategies or new methodologies (Note: Development of a new course without evidence of innovative pedagogy is not sufficient for receipt of this funding); 2) the participation in a time-consuming and/or cost-prohibitive experience related to teaching that would otherwise be impossible; 3) travel to access resources that will facilitate use of innovative pedagogical techniques, or 4) consultation that will enhance one's teaching.

Pedagogy Assistance Grants are small grants, normally under \$1000, that are awarded to faculty for assistance with acquisition of materials, resources, or development of skills to bring innovation or new methodologies to the teaching/learning situation in existing or new courses. There is no predetermined minimum or maximum amount for each individual grant. The funds awarded will vary according to the needs and the merits of the proposal. Some examples of expenses which may qualify for funding include, but are not limited to the following: (a) audiovisual and technological materials such as videotapes, CD-ROMs, DVDs, and instructional hardware/software; (b) technical/technological support for a new pedagogical technique or materials; (c) travel expenses and registration fees for conferences, workshops, or visits to other institutions with resource sharing for faculty or students in related courses; (d) class projects on campus or in the larger community; (e) development of specialized class materials; (f) speakers, residencies, and/or colloquia for class enrichment; (g) clerical assistance.

International Travel

The International Summer Faculty Fellowship provides funding up to \$5,000 to support international travel for the purpose of faculty development for full-time faculty members with the goal of enhancing the international perspective of curricular offerings at Siena College and integrating this perspective into campus life via the classroom. In addition to bringing new cultural knowledge to the curriculum, travel is intended to facilitate a faculty member's ability to increase his/her understanding of a culture very different from one's own and to allow a faculty member to share experiences unique to this culture with the Siena community both inside and outside of the classroom.

While abroad, faculty members are encouraged to build a collegial network that may lead to international institutional linkages and/or future research opportunities. International travel in its own right is not sufficient nor is simply attending or presenting at a conference or roundtable abroad. Appropriate faculty development activities while abroad may include but are not limited to: 1) participation in an international faculty development seminar (i.e., CIEE - <http://www.ciee.org>); 2) a formalized opportunity for cultural immersion organized through a fieldwork program, agency, or institution; or 3) a formalized program designed to facilitate cultural awareness and knowledge.

Preference will be given to an applicant who will diversify his/her teaching horizons as a result of spending a significant amount of time in a formal learning opportunity that takes place in a less represented, international destination. An applicant must demonstrate how this experience will be incorporated into a newly developed or preexisting course