John U. and Sharon L. Trefny  
Curriculum and Development Program  

Request for Proposals  

This is a request for proposals from the CSM community in support of our continuing efforts to improve our curriculum and advance our educational programs. This program is intended to further the strategic goal: "Continue to develop curricula in ways that support the versatility and relevance of engineering education, its societal context and its international scope, and in ways that are informed by leading research in science and engineering education."

We anticipate awarding several grants of $2,000 to $5,000 for individual or group efforts. Most of the proposed work is expected to be carried out during the summer following the award of the mini-grant.

Proposals may address the development or modification of any CSM undergraduate course. They may also address evaluation/assessment of one or more undergraduate courses, e.g., a minor.

Note: Applicants interested in projects related to energy should identify their project proposal as being in response to the Grandey Curriculum Mini-Grant Fund, which was established “so that students can understand the full lifecycle costs of electricity generation by different sources (e.g., coal, hydro, nuclear, wind), with a full recognition of internal and external costs.”

Proposals are limited to five pages and must contain:

- A clear statement of goals, objectives and their relationship to (1) supporting the versatility and relevance of engineering education or its societal impact and international scope and (2) how the change is informed by educational research or theory.
- A description of how the PI proposes to achieve broader impact beyond the course being developed or modified, e.g., adoption at other universities, dissemination at conferences or in papers, a proposal to an outside funding agency, a workshop.
- An itemized budget (with any cost-sharing noted). Mini-grant funds should be used primarily for summer salary and materials. Equipment purchase should constitute a minor portion of grant funds, if any. Fringe compensation must be included within the budget if the award is to be used for salary. There are no overhead charges.
- A timeline and deliverables.
- A component that addresses the assessment of the work and/or its effectiveness.
- A bibliography with references to relevant education and/or technical research.

A timeline for proposal submission, notification of decision, and final report is posted on the Trefny Institute website: [http://inside.mines.edu/TREF-Mini-grant-RFP](http://inside.mines.edu/TREF-Mini-grant-RFP). The final report should be approximately 3-5 pages including an executive summary, which will be posted on the Trefny Institute for Educational Innovation website. The PI may also be invited to present results at an upcoming seminar.

Three hardcopies and one electronic copy of the proposal must be received by the Trefny Institute, Green Center 232 by the date posted on the website. For questions please contact the Trefny Institute. Contact information located at [http://trefny.mines.edu/TREF-Staff](http://trefny.mines.edu/TREF-Staff). The Trefny Institute will convene a review panel to select the projects to be funded.