

April 2010
Vol 4/No. 2
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Office of Academic & Government Grants

Part Two...

The Feds ... and You

Public monies come out of our paychecks, and over the decades a series of certifications and assurances have been developed to ensure that these monies are put to best use. This month's issue covers the five certifications and assurances that you are most likely to encounter during your grantsmanship. As faculty pursue not only more grants but also more complex and larger grants, this Office is developing guidelines and forms to protect the College and to explain to faculty why compliance benefits their individual awards. Compliance can only enhance the reputation of all concerned. If you want more information than offered in the summaries below, please contact this Office.

1. *Intergovernmental Personnel Act.* The Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §4728-4763) prescribed standards for merit systems for federally-funded programs. Faculty winning awards that fund job positions need to complete written descriptions of those positions, make an open announcement of those positions, and complete a merit-based review of applicants.

2. *Disclosure of Financial Conflict.* Since October 1, 1995, federal agencies like the National Institutes for Health (NIH) and National Science Foundation (NSF) have required institutions applying for grants to assure these agencies that principal investigators do not have "significant" financial conflicts of interest that might compromise the objectivity of their research.

3. *Drug-free Workplace.* Applicants certify that, as a condition of the grant, they are aware of the College's Drug-free Workplace policy and will comply by not engaging in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant.

4. *Equal Opportunity.* Applicants certify that they will comply with McDaniel College's policy—as defined by law—to not discriminate in the recruitment, admission, and employment of students, faculty, and staff in the operation of any of its educational programs and activities, and so will administer any grant without directly or indirectly expressing any limitation, specification, or discrimination as to race, religion, color, or national origin, or to disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a disabled or Vietnam-era veteran.

5. *Time and Effort Report.* When the College donates the time and effort of a faculty member to a sponsored award, it is committing that portion of the faculty's salary toward the award. Federal regulations require annual certification for all College employees whose salaries are charged to federally sponsored programs. In order for the College to comply with this "time and effort reporting" requirement, each faculty member or professional staff employee working on a federal or state grant or contract needs to complete a "Time and Effort" report at the end of each semester.

Please note: All of these forms are available on the College's "Grant Resource" web site (www.mcdaniel.edu/grants.htm). Click on "Forms, Certs, and Assurances" from the left menu.

Next newsletter: The Feds, "Bang for the Buck," and You

Best Practices: Review Previous College Awards

Reviewing the awards that have come into McDaniel College can help grant applicants form sharper ideas about potential sponsors, not only who they are but also what types of projects the sponsors have invested in at McDaniel College. This Office provides two resources for applicants to study current and past awards to the College: (i) the “College Awards” web page, and (ii) the “Fulbright Awards” web page. Both can be located from the left menu of the Grants Resource web site (www.mcdaniel.edu/grants.htm).

The “College Awards” web page lists past awards by Department. Each award listing identifies the sponsor and briefly describes the grant’s purpose.

The “Fulbright Awards” web page lists past Fulbright awards, noting the countries and giving, if available, a description of the project activity. The page also has links to various Fulbright programs for faculty and students, plus links to “Guidelines” and “Tips for Applying.”

Please note: These pages are expanded and updated as grants come into the College or as awardees let us know about past or current grants. If you do not see your award listed and would like it posted, please send along the details: grants@mcdaniel.edu. *Thank you!*

Recent Awards....

Kudos to the individuals who have brought in new awards:

- **Armstrong, Robin.** Associate Professor, Music Department. National Endowment for the Humanities: Teaching Development Fellowship. Purpose: To research primary materials at the Center for Black Music Research at Columbia College in Chicago for the College’s African-American Music and Community course.
- **Bradley, Peter.** Assistant Professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies Department. National Endowment for the Humanities: Enduring Questions. Purpose: To develop and pilot a course that engages students in a critical inquiry of the value of higher education.
- **Regis, Pamela.** Professor, English Department. Romance Writers of America. Purpose: To aid in the research for her book, *The American Romance Novel, 1742 to the Present*.
- **Violanti, Karen.** Assistant Dean for First Year Students: AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteer in Service to America) Award. Purpose: To fund a VISTA member at the College for the 2010-2011 academic year.



Search for Funds:

New “International” Feature

An “*International Sponsors*” section has been added to the “Search for Funds” page of the “Grants Resource” website (www.mcdaniel.edu/grants.htm). Please note that the sponsors in this section are dedicated to international opportunities. However, many other sponsors, ranging from the National Endowment for the Humanities to the American Council of Learned Societies, that are dedicated to disciplinary opportunities also offer a few international opportunities within each discipline. Individuals need to conduct specific searches of such discipline-based sponsors to locate their international opportunities.

- American Councils for International Education
- CEA: Global Education
- Council for the International Exchange of Scholars, a.k.a. Fulbright Program
- U.S. Department of Education: International Education Programs
- U.S. Department of State: Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
- International Research & Exchanges Board
- National Science Foundation: International Science and Engineering

If you would like to suggest additional sponsors for inclusion, please contact grants@mcdaniel.edu.

