Program Transformation through Learner-Centered Pedagogies
Request for Proposals - 2013

Description
Boise State University’s strategic plan, “Focus on Effectiveness”, states as its first goal that we should “Create a signature, high-quality educational experience for all students”. One of the strategies to support this goal is to “Invest in faculty development, innovative pedagogies, and an engaging environment for learning”. To support this strategy, academic programs are invited to submit a proposal to transform their curriculum in support of student learning through substantive changes to course structures and/or pedagogy.

Timeline
- Letters of Intent must be submitted by 5pm on Monday, March 4. Submissions should be delivered to Jessica Witt in the SSPA Dean’s office (7th floor, Education, MS 1900) Jessicawitt@boisestate.edu
- The selection committee will respond to letters of intent by Wednesday, March 20, 2013.
- Full proposals are due April 5 to Jessica Witt (see above)
- The programs to participate will be selected, and applicants notified, by Monday, April 15, 2013.
- The successful programs will participate in a project kickoff meeting with the exact date and time established in consultation with program principals (lead faculty). All faculty involved in the project implementation will attend, along with appropriate staff and other key support personnel for the project.
- During late Spring and Summer 2013, the project team named in the application will work on redesigning appropriate aspects of the academic program and its courses to make intentional use of evidence-based best practice pedagogies in meeting the objectives laid out in the proposal.
- During the week of May 20-24, 2013, faculty involved in the project will participate in the CTL’s “Course Design Institute”. Each experience will engage participants in sessions designed to support the project proposal.
- Initial implementation of the redesigned program and course curricula will be in Fall 2013. Support for formative assessment and continued program improvement will occur through Spring 2015.

Benefits of Participation
• Teams may request up to $100K for the project, which can be used for summer stipends for planning and development, course reductions for lead faculty to coordinate efforts and conduct assessment, and other costs associated with the project.
• The team will receive support from the Center for Teaching and Learning and other relevant offices (e.g., Academic Technologies, Albertsons Library, OIT staff, and others as appropriate).

Expectations
• All faculty involved in project implementation will attend a project kickoff in late April, and the CTL Course Design Institute from May 20-24, 2013.
• Program lead faculty and other involved faculty will attend weekly meetings in May, 2013, as well as regular meetings throughout Summer 2013. The ultimate expectation is that an intentional plan for incorporating new pedagogies throughout the program curriculum will be ready for implementation at the beginning of Fall 2013. A program design document detailing the methods, tools, strategies, etc. planned for the redesigned program will be submitted by Aug. 9, 2013.
• All program personnel will submit regular reflections on their work on the project to be used as formative assessment of the project and to guide project work and inform the participation of support personnel.
• Program principals will submit annual reports which will be used to disseminate assessment/evaluation findings from the project to the campus community. These will be due in August 2014 and August 2015.
• Program personnel will share ideas, knowledge, and best practices regarding innovating teaching practice with their colleagues at Boise State by participating in workshops and other faculty development offerings.

Eligibility
• Eligible programs are those that award credit leading to a collegiate-level degree or certificate.
• A set of courses which cross departments or programs but are connected in a way such that students move through the courses in a particular way, as dictated by the curriculum, are also eligible.

To Apply
• Your application indicates you can meet the expectations described above.
• STEP 1: A letter of intent is due by 5 pm on Monday, March 4, 2013.
  ○ Letter can be submitted electronically to jessicawitt@boisestate.edu
  ○ The selection committee will respond to letters by March 20, 2013
• STEP 2: Full applications are due by 5 pm on Friday, April 5, 2013.
  ○ Application materials should be delivered to the SSPA Dean’s office
Selection will be made by staff and faculty from the “Leading Edge Pedagogy and Learning Environments Project” committee and announced via email by mid-April.

**Application Review Criteria**

- There is abundant evidence of plans for transformative practice across courses.
- Anticipated student learning outcomes are clearly stated, with a clear articulation of how new pedagogies, integrated across courses can be used to help achieve them.
- There is a viable process for assessing results.
- The proposal provides plans for coordination/support, in terms of resources and personnel qualifications.
- The probability that the pedagogical change, if effective, will be sustainable, and/or that it will generate replicable models that will be synergistic with University initiatives/goals, is high. While not required, documented contributions of department or program resources to the project in addition to those provided by the Provost’s Strategic Plan Project can help to give evidence for sustainability.
- Costs that students will be expected to bear are reasonable in light of the benefit to the student over the course of their academic experience.

**Sponsorship**

This program is funded by the Leading Edge Pedagogy and Learning Environments Project (one of the university Strategic Plan Implementation Projects).

**Questions?**

Questions can be directed to Melissa Lavitt (College of Social Science and Public Affairs): melissalavitt@boisestate.edu (6-3776) or Susan Shadle (Center for Teaching and Learning): sshadle@boisestate.edu (6-3153)