



Center for  
**COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**  
C H A N N E L  
I S L A N D S

## ENGAGED DEPARTMENT INITIATIVE

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The Center for Community Engagement (CCE) is pleased to offer the Engaged Department Initiative for academic departments interested in the department as a *unit of engagement and social change*. The purpose of this initiative is to encourage and support departments in the development of strategies to (1) include service-learning work in both their teaching, engaged scholarship and/or retention, tenure and promotion, (2) include service-learning courses as a standard expectation for majors, and (3) develop a level of unit coherence that will allow faculty to model successful civic engagement and progressive change on the departmental level.

An Engaged Department was described by Battistoni et al. (2003) as one in which the emphasis shifts from individual faculty, courses, and curricular redesign to collective faculty culture – changing the culture from one of ‘my work’ to one of ‘our work’. The department not only shares a common commitment to civic/community engagement and public scholarship, but supports each other in carrying out the best practices of these commitments.

Through this program the CCE hopes to contribute to building departments who endeavor to form a common set of community engagement values and a shared commitment to a comprehensive and strategically-planned curriculum that integrates engagement throughout the academic program.

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**Funding Amount:** Interested Program Chairs can apply for up to \$2500.

**Proposal Content:** Please provide a brief narrative, and budget (using Excel) detailing how the funds will be spent. The budget should list department matching funds, if any, that will support this initiative.

Please include in the narrative:

- description of the department’s interest in, and experience with, community engaged teaching and scholarship.
- identify a team consisting of the department chair, faculty members and at least one community partner who will participate in/lead all scheduled meetings and outside planning activities.
- identify a timeline and a set of broad goals to be addressed that will expand and/or improve departmental engagement and community-university partnerships. Particular attention should be paid to the areas of: 1) curricular sequence of service-learning course offerings; 2) the scholarship of engagement and; 3) retention, tenure and promotion guidelines.

- specify which goal(s) will be addressed by the funding and the activities that you will undertake to accomplish them.
- identify measurable/observable outcomes that will indicate that goals have been accomplished.

**Use of Funds:**

Suggestions for the use of funds include, but are not limited to:

- Honorarium for outside facilitator to assist in the development of an Engaged Department
- Honorariums to host monthly speakers to include topics such as: curricular sequence of service-learning courses, the scholarship of engagement, and Retention, tenure, and Promotion.
- Supporting faculty members for professional development, travel to service-learning conferences, purchase of subscriptions, acquisition of teaching materials related to service-learning, etc.
- Materials for a program retreat
- Preparation of curricular materials for service-learning courses
- Department retreats focused on service-learning and community engagement
- Training and technical assistance support, including disciplinary-focused speakers and workshops for members of the academic unit.

**Deliverables:**

- A mid-point and final a report will be submitted to document progress and celebrate accomplishments
- At least one faculty member from the leadership team and the community partner will attend and present a poster about the Engaged Department activities and progress throughout the academic year at the Celebration of Service in May.

**Preferences for Selection:**

All eligible applications will be considered. *Priority* will be given to proposals which:

- describe activities that endeavor to improve and enhance engagement across and throughout the academic unit, in the areas of curricular sequence of service-learning, the scholarship of engagement, and retention, tenure and promotion guidelines.
- articulate why this grant is important to accelerate efforts either to begin civic engagement activities or to further enhance existing efforts.
- demonstrate a departmental and team commitment to active participation in the Engaged Department process.