

HONORS COLLEGE

Faculty Mini-Grant Guidelines

In an attempt to promote the development of Honors College seminars and encourage faculty scholarship with Honors College students, the Honors College is initiating a faculty mini-grant award program. Awards consist of a \$500 stipend (with up to an additional \$500 for course materials), are limited in number, and will be awarded on a competitive basis. The Honors College invites faculty to apply for the grants for either the development of an Honors Seminar or Faculty Scholarship as described below:

- **Honors Seminars Development awards** are intended to encourage the development of seminars to be offered within the Honors College that incorporate critical thinking and communication skills as well as collaborative and experiential approaches to learning. These seminars should be one-semester courses (typically three units) and should be designed to enable students and faculty to examine areas that are not usually part of regular departmental offerings. Seminars in the Honors College should provide a robust and collegial discussion environment that is intellectually demanding. These seminars should support increasingly independent learning as well as application of disciplinary and interdisciplinary knowledge and methods to the larger academic, local, national, or global community. Faculty receiving Honors Seminar awards are expected to offer the new honors course within one year of having received the grant. Courses may be taught during the Fall, Spring, Minimester and/or Summer semesters. Only one grant per faculty member may be awarded within one academic year.

- **Faculty Scholarship awards** are aimed at supporting TU faculty who are interested in working with honors students on the development of an independent project, thesis or creative project leading to a collaborative authored project. In addition, faculty may submit a proposal for scholarship which focuses on honors education. The application should clearly address the purpose and potential value of the project and have a well delineated plan of action related to the described goals. Faculty receiving awards for scholarship will be required to either have the student present or individually present their research/creative activity in an agreed upon public venue. Travel funds for faculty and/or student to present scholarship at professional conferences will also be considered. During the academic year, grants may be requested to cover specified expenses, e.g. books or materials purchased, travel expenses to conduct scholarship, etc.

Electronic submission of materials is preferred. Please send applications with a copy to the Department Chair and Dean to the Honors College (honors@towson.edu).

HONORS COLLEGE
Faculty Mini-Grant Application Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Department: _____

Type of Application: _____ Honors Seminar Development _____ Faculty Scholarship

HONORS SEMINAR DEVELOPMENT: Tentative Title of Seminar, Level and Possible General
Education category or Department Elective: _____

Semester and Year Seminar will be taught: _____

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP: Tentative Scholarship Title: _____

Name of Student(s) (if known) _____

Semester and Year to be spent on project: _____

**ALL PROPOSALS ARE SUBJECT TO A REVIEW PROCESS BY THE HONORS COLLEGE
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE.**

If the application request is for Honors Seminar development award, please attach with this form a statement describing your tentative plans for the course. The statement should include: a brief description of the content and structure of the course with an explanation of what about this course makes it an honors seminar; how this course will integrate critical thinking, communication skills, collaborative and experiential learning and contribute to the Honors College curriculum; a preliminary syllabus that includes a clear statement of course objective(s)/goals; teaching strategies/pedagogies to be employed (e.g., discussion, groupwork, debate); essential readings, texts and course materials; course requirements and means of assessment/evaluation; an attendance policy; and an explanation of grading standards.

If the application is for Faculty scholarship award, please provide a narrative describing your proposed project, including how the honors student will be involved in the project, the learning objectives for the honors students and the tangible outcomes for the student. The application and proposal should be accompanied by a preliminary calendar for plan of action and any budget that may be necessary and appropriate to the project. A request for grant support to present scholarship at a conference must be accompanied by a Travel Authorization Form that details total cost in addition to the narrative describing the presentation.

Signature: _____

Department Chair Signature: _____

(Note: By signing this, you are agreeing to allow the faculty member to teach this course during the semester requested, provided it is approved.)

Signature of College Dean: _____

Please submit document electronically to: honors@towson.edu (include copy to chair and dean)