2006-2007 Mellon Innovation Funds

Mellon Innovation Funds for Undergraduate Research are available to support good practices or key innovations emerging from the Mellon Fellowship that assist the campus in addressing these objectives:

- Strengthening faculty commitment to developing undergraduate research experiences
- Engaging undergraduates in large enrollment courses through research-based learning
- Increasing students' use and appreciation of libraries and library collections through research
- Assessing the impact of research assignments on student learning and faculty teaching
- Enhancing collaboration between instructors and campus partners in support of teaching and learning

What types of projects will be selected?

Successful proposals will address one or more of the above objectives. Proposals offering approaches that will be sustained, are adaptable to other courses or departments, or that have a wider campus impact will be favored. Examples of possible projects include (but are not limited to):

- hosting a departmental or cross-departmental event to discuss ways to develop or expand undergraduate research skills and opportunities within the departmental curriculum
- piloting a solution to address your greatest challenge in teaching large enrollment classes (e.g., engaging students, assessing student learning, providing students with feedback)
- developing course materials, that could be used by other instructors, to enhance students' research effectiveness (e.g., developing a hypothesis, interviewing skills)

All recipients of Innovation Funds will submit a one-page executive summary once their project has been completed, developed, or executed; excerpts from these reports will be shared with the Mellon Foundation.

What funds are available?

A total of $30,000 is available for 2006-2007. Innovation Funds are competitive. Proposals received by December 1, 2006 will be given first consideration. If there are remaining funds, proposals received after that date would be considered on a rolling basis. Funds cannot be used for travel, alcoholic beverages, honoraria over $100, or salaries.

Who is eligible to apply?

Mellon Fellows from any year are eligible to apply. Applications may be co-sponsored by any number of Mellon Fellows, and must be submitted with at least one other co-applicant representing a Berkeley academic support unit (e.g. Library, Educational Technology).
Services, American Cultures Center, Office of Educational Development, Student Learning Center, or GSI Teaching and Resource Center). The application should include the names, departments, and email addresses for all collaborators.

How do I apply?

Proposals should be no more than two pages and must include:

A. Names, departments, and email addresses of co-applicants
B. Description of proposal including overview, purpose, audience, and projected impact
C. Timeline and/or implementation plan
D. Requested budget including itemized expenses

Proposals should be submitted to: Pat Maughan, 302 Moffitt #6000 or pmaughan@library.berkeley.edu

Proposals received by December 1 will be given first consideration; those awards will be made by January 2007.