SoTL

MOUNT ROYAL UNIVERSITY 1910

Institute for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

2020 TransCanada Collaborative Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grants (up to $10,000 for two years)

Through a generous donation from the TransCanada Corporation, the Institute for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning supports and facilitates collaborative research projects on program-level, discipline-level, and interdisciplinary topics.

Collaborative Inquiry Grants are designated for collaborative teaching and learning inquiry projects that go beyond an inquiry related to teaching and learning in a single class.

Some examples of collaborative inquiries include, but are not limited to, inquiries about teaching and learning that will:

- be investigated in multiple courses and/or sections in a department or program (e.g. studying student learning over a series of courses),
- be investigated in courses from different programs and faculties (e.g. studying undergraduate research skills development in courses from a variety of disciplines),
- be investigated in courses from multiple contexts (e.g. studying the effect of a certain pedagogy at institutions with varying class sizes),
- have a student as a co-investigator (a senior student collaborating to design/conduct a study in a lower-level class),
- require the expertise of a variety of co-investigators due to the size and scope of the project (e.g. a technical writing expert collaborating to study student writing skills development in science.

Collaborative scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) projects may apply for funding of up to $10,000 - $20,000 over a two-year period. A limited number of grants will be awarded in each funding cycle. Please refer to the following for additional information and criteria. If you are uncertain whether or not your proposed project meets the criteria, please contact Michelle Yeo, Academic Director, Institute for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning to explore possibilities.

CRITERIA for 2020 TransCanada Collaborative Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grants:

Applications for the 2020 TransCanada Collaborative Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Inquiry Grants are due **November 18, 2019**. To apply, Principal Investigators must use the Office of Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement web-based

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application through ROMEO (see https://mtroyal.ca/Research/romeo). The information required for the grant application is listed in the ROMEO system.

Designated for collaborative teaching and learning inquiry projects which go beyond an inquiry about teaching and learning in a single class these grants require a complete research proposal including literature review, research question, methodology, data collection, and dissemination plans. (If your proposed work does not align well with this structure, please include a clear statement of theory and methods that are aligned with the proposed project.)

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) is inclusive and unified by its potential to have impact in the classroom and to deepen our understanding of student learning, but diverse in discipline, theory, methodology, and method. Eligible projects must propose systematic, evidence-based study of teaching and learning and meet principles of good practice in SoTL (Felten, 2013), which means they are:

- focused on student learning in higher education,
- situated in the existing literature and grounded in a teaching-learning context,
- methodologically sound,
- conducted in partnership with students, and
- appropriately public.

Collaborative SoTL projects are expected to be in the range of $5,000-$10,000 for a single year and may be conducted over one or two years. Multi-year projects are subject to annual reporting and adequate progress in order to carry funds forward. For multi-institutional projects, a fulltime MRU faculty member must be the principal investigator on the project and paid research assistants must be MRU students (unless the project is co-funded). Note that support for smaller SoTL inquiry projects is available through the Essential SoTL Grants or the Internal Research Grant Fund.

For additional information please contact the Institute for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning through Anne Johnston at ajohnston@mtroyal.ca. These grants are funded in their entirety by the TransCanada Research Program for Learning Innovation and Collaborative Inquiry.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria:
Project proposals will be evaluated based on 3 main criteria:

- quality of the project;
- likelihood of impact beyond the research group; and expertise of the research group, as demonstrated by the submitted application and CVs.

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Project Quality (60% of overall evaluation):

- explicit focus on teaching and learning in post-secondary education,
- clear goals and rationale supported by literature review,
- quality and appropriateness of the methodology,
- suitability of proposed strategies and timelines,
- appropriateness and justification of proposed budget.

Likelihood of impact (30% of overall evaluation):

- potential for impact on teaching and learning, • potential to contribute to existing literature, • training, mentoring, and dissemination opportunities provided to students,
- dissemination plan, including venues for appropriate dissemination within and beyond Mount Royal.

Expertise (10% of overall evaluation):

- quality and significance of previous and current scholarship activity within the research group, particularly related to teaching and learning,
- suitability of the research team including evidence of methodological expertise and capability to undertake the project.

All proposals will be required to be rated "acceptable" by the Institute's Scholarship Review Committee on each of the 3 main criteria, in order to be funded.

If more applications are received than can be fully accommodated, then applications may be ranked according to the weighting scheme above and/or partial funding may be awarded.
If you are uncertain whether or not your proposed project meets the criteria, please contact Michelle Yeo, Academic Director, Institute for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning to explore possibilities.

Funding and Eligible Expenses:
The maximum allowable budget for each grant depends on the size of the project (number of co-investigators, number of classes being investigated, number of years of study, etc.). Multi-year projects can be supported but in these cases, proposed budgets must be broken down by fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Multi-year projects include not only studies where data is collected over multiple years, but also studies where so much data is collected in one year that another year would be required to complete the data analysis and/or disseminate findings.

All proposed budgets must fall within the following constraints:
Research expenses are limited to a maximum of $2,000 per section/course/context under investigation, per year. Acceptable expenses include research (data collection and analysis) undergraduate student research assistant compensation, transcription, photocopying, etc.

as well as travel between institutions for multi-institutional collaborations. Note that research expenses do NOT include the purchase or development of teaching resources or equipment e.g. classroom technology, which must be secured elsewhere.

Dissemination expenses to a maximum of $2,000 per investigator, per year. Collaborative dissemination plans which include undergraduate student RAs are strongly encouraged.

If applications exceed the budgeted amount for any given year or if the proposed budget is not adequately justified, partial funding may be awarded.

Note that while ethics clearance is not required before an application is approved, funds cannot be released until clearance has been given by the Mount Royal University Human Research Ethics Board. For multi-institutional studies, the PI is responsible to ensure that appropriate ethical clearance is also attained at all applicable institutions.

Reporting:
All successful grant applicants are required to complete an **annual report**, due on **May 15th** during the approved project term, which includes notification of all dissemination activities, a description of progress made in data collection, analysis, etc. with requests for any change to the proposed research or budget. An annual report also serves as a funding extension request for the following year if required. Annual Reporting Forms will be forwarded by the Institute for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

A **final report** is also required of all projects at the end of the proposed research timeline and is required to be completed in the ROMEO system.

Faculty will not be considered for subsequent research grants unless their reporting obligations to the Institute for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning and the Office of Research, Scholarship, and Community Engagement are up to date.