2008-09 Awards

Betanzos, Lourdes: Associate Professor, Socarrás, Gilda: Assistant Professor: Foreign Languages and Literatures: Computer Adaptive Placement Test Adoption and Application

Abstract: We are submitting this application in order to acquire the Computer Adaptive Placement Exam (CAPE) tool and ancillary Long Survey necessary to implement a Spanish Language Placement Test in the Department of Foreign Language & Literatures. Currently, we do not have a tool available at Auburn University to access student skills prior to their enrollment in Spanish courses. Therefore, we would like to standardize our placement policy as a pilot beginning during Summer 2008 through Spring 2009. We are confident that the CAPE tool will enable our department’s First and Second Year Spanish Coordinators, Undergraduate Director, and Spanish faculty to become better and more informed teachers, advisors as well as mentors to students that are enrolling in Spanish classes. In addition, it will aid Auburn University Academic Advisors in the selection of appropriate course level for Spanish.

Forsythe, Sandra: Professor, Kwon, Wi-Suk: Assistant Professor, Byun, Sang-Eun: Assistant Professor: Consumer Affairs: Attend ‘Market Week’ in New York City with Dillard’s Retail Buyers

Abstract: Travel expenses are requested for three Apparel Merchandising faculty members to attend Market Week for retail buyers in New York City as part of a collaborative learning project with the buyers and divisional merchandise managers of Dillard’s stores. This travel grant will allow faculty to experience the retail planning and buying process first hand and develop teaching applications to enhance teaching and student learning in their retail-related classes for the 360 students in the Appeal Merchandising Design and Production Management curriculum.

Jung, Changhoon: Associate Professor: Political Science: Service Delivery in American Cities and Countries

Abstract: The object of this proposed project is to improve students understanding on the patterns and determinants of service delivery and service cooperation behavior in American cities and countries by using detailed datasets of Alternative Service Delivery in American Cities and Counties and County and City Government Forms which are regularly published by International City/Country Management Association (ICMA). The use of the detailed ICMA dataset in the classroom demonstration will greatly improve students’ understanding on the changing patterns of service delivery and service cooperation in American local governments. Furthermore, research project that analyze patterns, causes, determines, and effects will greatly improve academics and practitioners understanding on the numerous aspects of local government service delivery and service cooperation.

Kluck, Annette: Assistant Professor: Counselor Education, Counseling Psychology and School Psychology: Introduction to the MMPI-2-RF Workshop

Abstract: Psychological assessment is central to effective counseling. Thus, COUN department emphasizes coursework in administration, scoring, and interpretation of assessment. The department places special emphasis on the ability to use personality assessments, requiring all doctoral students
take a course called Adult Appraisal (COUN 7210). This course is typically the students’ first introduction to personality assessments. Recently, Pearson Assessment released a new form of the MMPI-2 called the MMPI-2-Restructured Form. Students will benefit from experience in using this new measure. Since the measure is new, funds are needed to provide the course instructor with necessary training and to purchase the measure.

McMillan, Libba: Assistant Professor: Nursing: Travel Grant Request: 6th National Nursing Education Congress

Abstract: The proposed project is to broaden the exchange, discussion, and evaluation of information through interface with nursing educators at an International Nursing Education Congress. The proposed project will enhance student learning by providing the pre-tenured faculty member with practical and effectively-employed teaching strategies. These strategies tools can provide international exposure and can enhance teaching and facilitation of student learning at the Auburn University School of Nursing. This opportunity will also serve to strengthen Auburn University as a whole and the AU School of Nursing’s international engagement. Caring for diverse populations is vital to nursing student curricula by nurse educator leadership because it serves to provide current and credible dialogue and fosters experiences which prepare new graduates to enter the worldwide workforce.

Presley, Ann Beth: Associate Professor: Consumer Affairs: Creativity Workshop

Abstract: The purpose of this proposal is to partially fund the applicant’s participation in a Creativity Workshop in New York City. While it is true that some people have more creativity than others, there is a growing body of knowledge that suggests that creativity can be greatly expanded with instruction. After years of teaching, writing grants and publications, and providing professional service, one’s creativity can be stifled. By rejuvenating this process, the applicant will be better able to stimulate/fuel creativity in teaching, research, and outreach, thus benefiting students, future collaborators, and coworkers, as well as the applicant and the University.

Ruth, Linda Cain: Associate Professor, Heck, Ross: Professor, Dupree Bruce: Communications Specialist/Art Director: Building Science and Industrial Design and Alabama Cooperative Extension Service System: Ending at the Beginning. Beginning at the End: Development of a Textbook for BSCI 1100 History and Introduction to Construction

Abstract: This grant will support the production of this first edition of a professionally-designed and illustrated textbook that focuses on the history of construction by synthesizing world and architectural history, business and project management, and structural and civil engineering. Such a publication does not currently exist. Its primary purpose will be its use in the School of Building Science’s History and Introduction to Construction Course. Outstanding construction education seniors, selected to participate in a Special Study Abroad (undergraduate) Thesis, will serve as contributing authors. Their projects will be compiled and edited to create a publication that teaches the history of construction by using contemporary construction management tools and analyses. The project includes many facets that are valued by the University including inter-departmental collaboration, undergraduate research, student writing, and international travel.
Sefton, JoEllen: Assistant Professor: Kinesiology: Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Certification Course

Abstract: Auburn University currently has limited offerings for students wishing to learn about human neuroscience. This project would begin to improve our neuroscience resources for students through the training of a faculty member in the techniques of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS). TMS is a powerful tool for studying neuroplasticity, pathology, and rehabilitation. TMS offers a non-invasive assessment of how current rehabilitation methods affect brain functioning allowing clinicians and researchers to develop improved treatments for a wide variety of pathologies. Access to these knowledge/techniques will give students with future careers in PT, AT, OT and the medical fields a competitive advantage.

Squillacote, Michael: Associate Professor, Ortiz, J. Vincent: Chair, Acevedo, Orlando: Professor, Gorden, Anne: Assistant Professor, etal: Chemistry: Improvement of Organic Chemistry Laboratory Courses 2071 and 2081

Abstract: We are requesting funds to hire two consultants to advise us on possible approaches and specific experiments than can be adopted to better meet the objectives of organic chemistry laboratory courses, CHEM 2071 and 2081. Roughly 10% of the entire student body takes one or both of these courses, but their content has suffered because over the last twenty years these labs have been in facilities of substandard quality. Our move into the new Science Center laboratories now allows us to redesign these courses. The first step in this process will be to hire Chemistry consultants who are experts on what type of approaches and experiments have been used and work well in these types of courses in other parts of the country. The next step would be to adopt/modify these suggestions and create modern undergraduate Organic lab courses that will teach the methods and modes of thought so many Auburn University students require for their eventual careers.

Wagner, Elizabeth: Assistant Professor: Animal Science: Supplemental Teaching Materials for the Equine Science Option in the Department of Animal Sciences

Abstract: The Equine Science Option in the Department of Animal Sciences integrates various disciplines related to the management and welfare of horses, including those used in athletic events. Eight courses make up the current equine-specific curriculum. Anatomy and lameness units in various courses would benefits from the additional of good quality, preserved leg specimens and teaching quality anatomy images. A library of horse sport and performance evaluation videos has many potential applications throughout the curriculum as students learn about the diversity of equestrian sports, qualities of a good performance, and the stresses subjected by equine athletes in training and competition.