

The Teagle Foundation

REQUEST FOR PROPSALS

**COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS
IN VALUE ADDED ASSESSMENT
OF STUDENT LEARNING**

November 2004

Goals:

1. To enhance student learning in private undergraduate colleges through the use of value added assessment.
2. To increase knowledge of how value added assessment can enhance student learning in private undergraduate colleges
3. To encourage sharing of ideas and resources among institutions of similar mission sharing an interest in value added assessment.
4. To assist faculty in taking the lead in the development and implementation of value added assessment.

Means:

Several colleges (typically 4 – 10) agree to collaborate by establishing a joint working group composed of concerned faculty and administrators. This group meets with some frequency, electronically and face to face, surveys what is already being achieved on the campuses, and what might be achieved through additional efforts, including the study of existing data, the collecting of new information, the administration of appropriate instruments of assessment, shared visits by specialists in the field, and the development and evaluation of new courses and curricula etc.

While its plans are developing, the collaborative may wish to consult with the American Association of Colleges and Universities, which may have resources available for work with collaboratives once they are funded. The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) is also willing to serve as a resource for institutions with an interest in the Collegiate Learning Assessment project (CLA).

Guidelines:

A relatively brief narrative (three or four pages) along with a budget and supporting material is sufficient. Supporting material should include:

- 1) A cover sheet that gives:
 - a) The name of the primary contact person for the collaborative, his or her mailing address, e-mail address and phone number;
 - b) The project title and a one-paragraph project summary that we can post on our website if the project is funded;
 - c) The project's start and end dates;
 - d) The project's total cost (see budget guidelines below)
- 2) President's letters:
 - a) A cover letter from the president of the campus administering the grant, endorsing the project and speaking to his or her willingness to see the grant housed on campus.
 - b) Letters of endorsement from the presidents of all other colleges participating in the collaborative are also required.
- 3) A. c.v. and statement from the principal investigator on the campus that is administering the grant indicating the activities that are anticipated as the project begins.
- 4)
 - a) A list of a few faculty members from each of the participating colleges who are committing themselves to work on this project;
 - b) A c.v. and brief letter of commitment from each of those faculty members.
- 5) A one-paragraph description of the collaborative and its members, which we will post on our website should the collaborative work be funded.

Budget:

- The maximum grant is \$300,000 payable over three years.
- Appropriate for inclusion are all direct expenses associated with the project, including travel, meals and accommodation expenses associated with meetings of the participants, the costs of consultants or advisers with special expertise in value added assessment, released time or summer stipends for the

development of courses and curricular using value added assessment, the costs of acquiring, administering and evaluating existing instruments of assessment, or designing new ways of assessing student learning, preparation and dissemination of reports on results achieved, etc.

- The budget should show the total cost of the project (excluding indirect costs) and contributions from each participating institution (for example, travel costs of its participants, costs of hosting meetings, etc.), as well as a column for funds requested from the Teagle Foundation.
- All project activities should be complete by 30 June 2008 and a final report submitted by 1 September 2008.

Reports: Brief narrative and financial reports are required by the first of September after each year's activities. Funds for the next year will not be released until these reports are received.

A final report is due by 1 September after the last year of the grant (typically 2008). This should include a final accounting of all funds received and a narrative designed to be useful to other colleges when posted on the Foundation's web site.

Timeline:

31 March 2005: Applications due
Late May 2005: Notification of awards
1 September 2006: First year's report due
1 September 2007: Second year's report due
1 September 2008: Final report due

Please send the proposal to:

The Teagle Foundation
10 Rockefeller Plaza, Room 920
New York NY 10020 -1903