Graduate Division
UCIRVINE

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DECADE: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

DECADE Mentor Graduate Diversity Awards

DEADLINE TO APPLY: Monday, March 11, 2013

Growth and support of a diverse graduate population continues to be a top strategic priority for UC Irvine. In order to meet this goal, we seek to provide appropriate support to students from groups that have been historically underrepresented in graduate education so that they feel welcome and thrive in their studies at UC Irvine.   To achieve this, the Graduate Division will provide $150,000-per-year in funding to support graduate program diversity efforts. One year grants of up to $30,000 each will be available to support activities that improve recruitment, climate, academic progress and career success for a diverse student population in Ph.D. or M.F.A. programs.

Eligibility

This program is open to faculty members in any doctoral or M.F.A. program. The principal investigator must be a faculty member who has been designated as one of the DECADE mentors. A current list of DECADE Faculty Mentors is available at **http://advance.uci.edu/equityadvisors.html**. The proposal must describe a set of activities to encourage diversity in one or more UC Irvine doctoral or M.F.A. degree programs. We will look favorably on shared initiatives that cross two or more programs where that is appropriate.

Permitted Use of Funds

Awards may be used only for graduate student support. Staff salaries, operations or other expenses, if needed, must be provided by another source. We encourage plans that incorporate student perspectives/ input in evaluating the current environment for diversity in the program(s) and in developing innovative approaches for improvement. Activities may also include needs assessments, climate related activities, and/or outreach to Hispanic serving institutions or HBCUs. Stipends can be requested in the range of $5,000 for summer support through $30,000 for an academic year. Conference travel support for participating graduate students will also be considered. Funds will be available for use from July 2013 - June 2014 and a report is required at the end of the year evaluating the success of the program.

Application and Review Process

This is a competitive funding program that accepts proposals from either a single academic unit or from interdepartmental collaborations. Proposals will be evaluated by a faculty awards committee. The proposal should consist of no more than 5 pages total and must include the following elements:

Narrative (e.g. 2-3 pages)
- Summary of the current status of diversity within the degree program(s)
- How the proposed activities address specific challenges in order to strengthen diversity
- Evidence of faculty commitment to the goals of the proposal
- Provisions for administrative support of the proposed activities

Budget (e.g. ½ page)
The proposal should also include a short budget that shows the plan for spending. Funding is available for one year, but may be renewed when appropriate. The budget should indicate whether the proposer has received commitments of financial support from other sources. Preference will be given to proposals that show some form of cost-sharing or other efforts to seek funding for the proposed activities.

Implementation Plan and Timeline (e.g. 1 page)
An implementation plan and timeline must be included. Additionally, a plan to evaluate outcomes of the DECADE award must be included and incorporated into the timeline.

Letter of Support (e.g. 1 page)
A letter of support must be included from the department chair, director or associate dean with responsibility for the graduate program.

Please submit the applications as an electronic attachment (either as a PDF or Word document) to
Tonii Lawrence, executive assistant to the Graduate Dean, at tlawrenc@uci.edu by 5PM on March 11, 2013.

Review Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Fit between program needs and proposed interventions
- Likelihood that the proposed interventions will make a significant and lasting difference to students in the program and in improving recruitment, climate, and academic progress and career success for a diverse student population in Ph.D. and M.F.A. programs.
- Appropriateness of requested student support
- Demonstrated commitment from program faculty and departmental leadership, including willingness to create structures that will ensure continued success beyond the funding period.
- Effectiveness of the evaluation plan