

Judge Julian Beck
Learning-Centered Instructional Projects [“Beck Grants”] 2009-10
Proposal Due Date: Friday, March 6, 2009, 4:00 p.m.
Information and Application

Information**1. Purpose and Awards**

A committee of faculty, under the authority of the University Corporation's Executive Committee, will consider proposals for the 2009-2010 Judge Julian Beck Learning-Centered Instructional Projects [“Beck Grants”] that are specifically designed to promote learning-centered instructional projects at California State University, Northridge (CSUN). Projects may be funded up to \$6,000¹ per project. Individual stipends may not exceed \$3,000. The number of projects awarded depends upon the funds available through the Judge Julian Beck Endowment, which was established by The University Corporation in 1976.

2. Types of Projects Requested

As a Learning-Centered University, CSUN seeks to provide students with opportunities to actively engage in and ultimately become responsible for their own learning. With this goal in mind, learning-centered instructional projects must implement specific tactics and strategies designed to improve student learning at CSUN. Suggested projects include, but are not limited to, the following:

- course redesign to improve student learning
- active and experiential learning practices, such as debate, problem-based learning, and simulations
- formative student assessment techniques that guide teaching and learning, such as Classroom Assessment Techniques (CATs)
- student engagement for deep understanding and learning strategies, mastery-learning strategies and student-learning teams
- applications of Web-based technology to improve student learning, including self-paced courses
- integration of non-traditional activities such as community service-learning into course or program curriculum
- E-portfolio utilization²
- “Share the Space” initiatives: Please note that proposals for “Share the Space” must include demonstration of E-Learning literacy and approval for scheduling coordination so as to effectively “share the space.”

3. Types of Projects and Purchases that will NOT be funded

Projects and purchases that will not be funded include one-time events, dissertation research, technical skills training, travel, and equipment. Examples of projects which would **NOT** be appropriate for funding through the Beck Grant include but are not limited to the following:

- Course preparation for an existing course
- Purchase of a laptop computer to allow for teaching an online course
- Travel to a conference
- Registration in a training course to increase applicant's computer skills

4. Principles and Considerations

- a. Projects must be completed in one academic year.
- b. All faculty and staff are eligible to submit projects, either individually or as a group.

¹ All funds used for payroll (not reassigned time) are subject to a fringe-benefits charge of approximately 13% [includes FICA, State Disability Insurance (SDI), Unemployment Insurance, and Workers' Compensation]. This 13% charge must be included in the total amount requested per project.

² E-Portfolio utilization is focused on using LiveText as a learner-centered, outcomes-based, constructivist/collaboration instructional community builder that will offer evidence of student learning achievement.

- c. Projects should be sustainable without future Beck funding.
- d. Projects should result in continuing improvement in student learning.
- e. Projects that have long-range benefits and/or broad applicability across disciplines are encouraged.
- f. Projects that target rigorous and demanding required courses are encouraged.
- g. Departmental teams of faculty proposing to address a common student learning problem are encouraged.
- h. Fall and spring semester implementation is encouraged, with spring modifications based upon fall semester student learning results.

5. Requirements for Funded Projects

- a. You are required to disseminate the results of your project in an interactive, face-to-face setting with your department and/or college. For example, you may hold a workshop in which you share your findings and model their implementation for your departmental colleagues.

Include the following in this dissemination:

- 1. Project title
- 2. Project objective(s)
- 3. Project description
- 4. Project results (student learning outcomes)
- 5. What you learned about student learning from this project
- 6. What you plan to implement in the future as a result of this project
- 7. Written feedback from session participants

- b. You also are required to submit a final written report of your project by Friday, June 25, 2010.

Please include the following in the final report:

- 1. Project title
- 2. Project objective(s)
- 3. Project description
- 4. Evidence of project implementation highlighted in yellow on documents (e.g., course syllabus or program description)
- 5. Description of procedures used for measuring project objectives (include your assessment tools)
- 6. Project results (for example, data on student attendance, engagement, achievement, and attitudes)
- 7. What you learned about student learning from this project
- 8. What you plan to implement in the future as a result of this project

Note: Part of your final responsibility is to post your results online to *IdeaShare* at www.csun.edu/facdev/resources_ideashare.htm.

6. Timeline

March 6, 2009	Original proposal <u>and</u> 12 copies are due to Faculty Development by 4 p.m. (Sierra Hall 438/Mail Code: 8370)
May 15, 2009	Awards announced (approximate date)
June 25, 2010	Written report due to Faculty Development (Sierra Hall 438/Mail Code: 8370)
Fall 2010	Dissemination to department and/or college Dissemination through <i>IdeaShare</i> (www.csun.edu/facdev/resources_ideashare.htm)

7. Review and Award Announcement

- a. The Beck Grant Selection Committee, consisting of CSUN faculty from each of the eight colleges and the University Library, recommends projects for funding to the University Corporation's Executive Committee according to the established guidelines and available funds.
- b. The University Corporation's Executive Committee has final authority in the approval of projects for funding.
- c. 2009-2010 Beck Grant awards will be announced by the end of May 2009.

8. Funding

- a. Projects are funded up to \$6,000 per project.
- b. Funds are typically allocated in one of two ways:
 1. Reassigned time (up to 3 units) = \$4,969
 2. Stipends (not to exceed \$3,000 per person or \$6,000 per project)
- c. Other funding requests, such as for materials, will be considered based on stated justification in the submitted Budget Request (page 5).
- d. All unallocated funds and/or unused funds revert to the Judge Julian Beck Endowment for reallocation in subsequent competitions.

Application Requirements: A Checklist

A complete application meeting all the requirements listed below is required for consideration by the Beck Grant Selection Committee. Late applications will not be considered for funding.

1. Cover Page
Please complete and submit the enclosed cover page (page 4).
2. Department Chair and College Dean Signatures
The signatures of both the applicant's Department Chair and College Dean are required on the cover page.
3. Proposal Narrative Format
The narrative must be double-spaced using an easily-read 12-point font, and must be no more than four pages (four sides) in length. The narrative must respond to each section of the Narrative Requirements listed below by number, letter and subtitle. Narratives failing to offer a response to each section will receive a lower ranking from the Beck Grant Selection Committee. Please note that the Beck Grant Selection Committee members will not read beyond four pages (four sides) in reviewing your proposal narrative.
4. Proposal Narrative Requirements
All proposals must respond to each of the following sections:
 - a. Describe the student learning problem/issue your project will address.
 - b. Explain why Beck Grant funds are needed to implement your project.
 - c. Describe your project objective(s).
 - d. Describe your project activities.
 - e. What are the student learning outcomes for this project?
 - f. How will your project impact these student learning outcomes?
 - g. Describe your methods and tools for assessment.
 - h. Prepare a timeline showing the specific steps you will take to achieve your project objectives.
5. Additional Supporting Materials
 - a. A complete budget (see page 5)
 - b. Signatures from support services as appropriate (see page 5)
 - c. Your curriculum vitae
A curriculum vitae, **not to exceed two pages**, is required. Include terminal degree, current rank and position within the University, a summary of your professional experience and identification of any background information and/or publications most relevant to your proposed project.
6. Application Deadline
An **original and 12 copies** of your proposal must be received by Faculty Development (Sierra Hall 438/Mail Code: 8370) no later than **4 p.m., Friday, March 6, 2009**. Late applications will not be considered. Applications lacking the required signatures or copies, or exceeding the page limitations stated above will be rejected and not sent to the Beck Grant Selection Committee. However, applicants may be asked by Faculty Development to revise and resubmit their applications to meet these requirements. Such revised, completed applications must be received on or by the application deadline in order to be considered for funding. Late applications will not be considered for funding.

Judge Julian Beck
Learning-Centered Instructional Projects, 2009-10
Proposal Due Date: Friday, March 6, 2009, 4:00 p.m.
2009-2010 Funding

Project Director: _____
Name Title Department Mail Code

_____ E-mail Address Home Phone Office Phone

I, the Project Director, agree to the following requirements (please initial):

- _____ I will disseminate the results of my project to my department/college.
- _____ I will disseminate the results of my project online to the Student Learning Projects Consultant Directory.
- _____ I will submit a final written report of my project by June 25, 2010.
- _____ I understand that failure to complete any of the above requirements will result in forfeiture of grant funds.

Project Title: _____

Signature(s):

Project Director (and Participants): _____

Department Chair: _____ College Dean: _____

Proposal Abstract: (Please use only the space provided below.)

