Overview of UVic Grants Supporting Learning and Teaching

Division of Learning and Teaching Support and Innovation (LTSI)
University of Victoria

November 6, 2017

In February 2012, the University of Victoria approved its strategic plan, A Vision for the Future—Building on Excellence, aspiring to be the Canadian university that “best integrates outstanding scholarship, inspired teaching and real-life involvements . . . creating a diverse and dynamic learning community.” To realize this vision, “faculty and instructors are supported in the development and integration of sound pedagogical principles, effective instructional practice to promote reflective learning, and critical thinking.” These attributes are meaningfully captured in the EDGE, where dynamic learning and vital impact within an extraordinary academic environment are paramount.

To provide support for these goals, UVic is offering resources designed to encourage activities that will significantly improve academic engagement, achievement, and success of undergraduate and graduate students.

Grants administered through the Division of Learning and Teaching Support and Innovation

1. **Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Grants** — SoTL grants are designed to support empirical research on the impact of teaching practices on student learning. Proposals for a SoTL grant are competitively evaluated on the basis of the quality of the research question, the feasibility of the methodology to answer the research question, the potential contribution of the research to the improvement of pedagogy, and the potential impact on the learning of UVic students. Those who are proposing projects aimed primarily at researching the impact of a teaching innovation on student learning should apply for a SoTL grant. The **deadline for SoTL grant applications is April 15th of each year**. Connect to the [SoTL Grant Guidelines and the Application Form](#) for more information.

2. **Curriculum Renewal (CR) Grants** — CR grants support implementing curricular review recommendations that have been identified by units following a review of their curricula. Curriculum reviews may be conducted through a formal retreat facilitated by the LTSI, a LTSI Curricular Workshop, as part of an accreditation or academic review process, or by reviewing their curriculum against other departmental comparators. CR grants are designed to address such factors as curricular alignment, recruitment and retention curriculum strategies, and renewal of curricula. Those proposing projects aimed primarily at addressing recommendations that arise from a unit’s curriculum review should apply for a Curriculum Renewal (CR) grant. **CR grants have no application deadline.** Connect to the [CR Guidelines and the Application Form](#) for more information.
3. **Course Design/Redesign (CDR) Grants** – CDR grants support designing or redesigning and implementing a new or revised course. The CDR grants are course specific and are intended to encourage faculty to update and renew substantially existing courses as well as to develop new innovative course offerings. Applying principles of instructional design, grant recipients are expected to develop course intended learning outcomes, align learning activities and assessments with intended learning outcomes, incorporate active and/or participatory learning strategies, and adhere to principles of [universal instructional design](#). Those who are proposing projects aimed at improving a particular course should consider the Course Design/Redesign (CDR) grant. **The deadline for CDR grant applications is April 15th of each year.** Connect to the CDR Guidelines and Application Form for more information. Those who are proposing projects aimed at improving student learning in a particular course and empirically documenting the impact on student learning should also consider a SoTL grant (see above).

4. **Strategic Initiatives Indigenous (SI-I) Grants** – SI-I grants are intended to support faculty and staff to substantially revise programs, courses, curricula or learning resources that will help fulfill UVic’s commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. Colonialism has served to privilege certain voices over others within academic institutions as in the broader society. These grants are focused on improving or enhancing understanding of Indigenous ways of knowing and being, deconstructing colonialism and decentering unequal colonial knowledge structures, and promoting reconciliation of power relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Those who are proposing projects aimed at supporting UVic’s commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples should consider an SI-I grant. **The deadline for the new SI-I grant applications is January 4, 2018.** Note that this deadline will change in subsequent years. Connect to the SI-I Guidelines and Application Form for more information.

5. **Strategic Initiatives Learning Without Borders (SI-LWB) Grants** – SI-LWB grants are intended to encourage members of the university community to substantially update and renew existing courses and programs to reflect principles of internationalization. Projects designed to improve or enhance student learning or to fill a gap in curriculum or to enrich and strengthen global mindedness in teaching are encouraged. Those who are proposing projects aimed at supporting UVic’s commitment to internationalization should consider an SI-LWB grant. **The deadline for the new SI-LWB grant applications is January 4, 2018.** Note that this deadline will change in subsequent years. Connect to the SI-LWB Guidelines and Application Form for more information.
Grant administered through the Office of Community-University Engagement

Please note that an additional teaching-and-learning-related grant is administered through the Office of Community-University Engagement. Community-Engaged Learning (CEL) grants support the development and redesign of undergraduate and graduate courses and/or program components that incorporate a community-engaged learning approach. Those who are proposing projects designed primarily to focus on community-engaged learning should apply for a CEL grant. Proposals are encouraged from any UVic department/school or faculty member. **Complete proposals must be submitted electronically to [ocuecoord@uvic.ca](mailto:ocuecoord@uvic.ca) by January 15, 2018.** Further details about the grant and required documents can be found under [Community-Engaged Learning Grant](#).