



**Professional Development**

**SUNY BROOME**

**Planting the Seeds for Tomorrow's Success**

### **BCC Foundation Sunshine Fund**

The BCC Foundation Sunshine Fund for Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration Grant is designed to stimulate and encourage faculty (full- and part-time) from different academic areas to work together to develop new ways to teach their courses. A cross-disciplinary approach to teaching is one which employs the teaching of one discipline through the lens of another discipline (e.g., how physicists explore music, sociological perspectives on the purpose of religion, etc.). The award is in memory of Harold Sunshine, who served as a former professor at SUNY Broome for 30 years and was instrumental in the college's hockey program.

Ideal project proposals will incorporate faculty from different academic areas working together to develop new and innovative ways to teach their courses. Collaboration could also include faculty working with community agencies and organizations in which service learning and non-traditional forms of teaching are explored and implemented. Eligible expenses for this grant may include, but are not limited to, faculty professional development to aid in the implementation of the project and materials and supplies.

The Professional Development Steering Committee (PDSC) will issue a "Request for Proposals". Proposals will be collected and reviewed by the PDSC using the Sunshine Fund Grant rubric. Awards of up to \$2,000 are made for funding projects during the current academic year. Award funding must be spent by the last day of June (of the year the application is approved) and the required work associated with the funded project must be completed by the last day of August (of the year the application is approved).

When making decisions concerning the allocation of funds, the Professional Development Steering Committee (PDSC) takes numerous factors into consideration, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Projects that support academic and [strategic initiatives](#).

- Promotes a level of interdisciplinary and/or community agency/organization collaboration.
- Brings innovation new to campus or to area/division; and/or, results in innovative teaching methods.
- Promotes a cross-disciplinary approach to teaching.
- The number of SUNY Broome students and/or faculty impacted (or potentially impacted) by project.
- The project's impact on the learning experience of SUNY Broome students.
- Projects that will have impact(s) extending beyond the project timeline/grant cycle.
- Projects that are easily transferred or expanded beyond the pilot to other students, classrooms and/or areas of campus.
- Projects where the budget clearly corresponds to the project concept form.
- Projects not typically funded through PDAP or departmental operational funds.
- Projects considered to be above and beyond the course development and/or other responsibilities expected as part of the faculty role.
- Projects that have measurable outcomes that address specific Institutional and Course Learning Outcomes (ILOs and CLOs).
- Projects where technology requests are supported within the current IT support structure or have approval of the IT department.
- Projects that do not have continuing costs, or have continuing costs supported by other sources.
- Completed applications received by the announced deadline will receive full consideration

Full and part-time teaching and non-classroom faculty who have a project that influences teaching and learning will receive equal consideration for the Sunshine Grant funding.

The PDSC may choose to use the following strategies when allocating limited funds:

- Reduce the maximum awarded to a project.
- Fund selected initiatives based on the above and other considerations.  
This implies that not all initiatives may be funded.

### **Sunshine Fund Application Process**

1. Complete a Sunshine Fund Project Concept Form.
  - a) Identify and document the problem/question/situation your idea addresses.
  - b) Propose a solution and implementation process.
2. Complete a Project Expense Sheet.
3. Submit a project end report detailing the project outcomes no later than by August

31, 2020.

4. Submit the completed Project Concept Form and Project Expense Sheet, including all necessary signatures and documentation, in an envelope, to the Teaching Resource Center (LI 101 or mail stop #56) by Friday, March 6, 2020 by 3:00 p.m.

All current and required forms are located on the Professional Development Website: [www.sunybroomed.edu/profdev](http://www.sunybroomed.edu/profdev). For questions on how to complete the forms, please contact the TRC at 778- 5611.