**Governors State**
U N I V E R S I T Y

1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60484
708.534.5000
www.govst.edu

*Committing to Equity and Inclusive Excellence: Campus-based Strategies for Student Success*
**Mini-Grant Proposal**

Governors State University has been honored to be selected as one of 13 institutions by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) http://www.aacu.org/press/press-releases/usafunds to receive grant funding to develop replicable, equity-focused and campus-based strategies for student success.

Our campus project focuses on promoting student success in the junior year of college consistent with the four project goals outlined by AAC&U:
- Goal 1: Improve persistence and retention rates of African-American junior students;
- Goal 2: Increase access and participation in High-Impact Practices in the junior year of college;
- Goal 3: Enhance students' social responsibility as defined on our general education outcomes; and
- Goal 4: Increase understanding and access to internships and workforce preparation.

As outlined by President Maimon "participation in this project strengthens our work creating the Center for the Junior Year, a vibrant intellectual hub designed to transition students into signature work in major fields and ultimately to graduation with high-quality degrees."

## Funding and Duration:
Grant awards can range from $300-$750. There are **3** funding options that include $300 for grants that focus on 1 or 2 of the project goals listed above; $500 for grants that focus on 3 or 4 of the project goals, and $250 additional for grants that specifically include a focus on student success of African American Juniors (Goal 1). Funding is designed to support inclusive student success learning encounters in your classroom and/or your advising practices. Funding is awarded for the Fall 2017 semester.

## Application Procedures and Deadline:
Please make your proposal succinct. Include a title page with Name, Title, Department, Campus e-mail, and the Title of your Project. The narrative should be no longer than 3 to 4 pages. The narrative should include:
- Which AAC&U goals you intend to address;
  - Goal 1: Improve persistence and retention rates of African-American junior students.
  - Goal 2: Increase access and participation in High-Impact Practices in the junior year of college;
  - Goal 3: Enhancing students' social responsibility as defined on our general education outcomes; and
  - Goal 4: Increasing understanding and access to internships and workforce preparation.
- How your project will address the issues of equity on campus;
- The learning activities / assignments you intend to use;
- How these learning activities/assignments address a primary and a secondary learning outcome of the goals you have chosen (see Appendix A);
- How you will assess those outcomes and share the results with the others (See Appendix B); and
- A completed budget form (See Appendix C).

Grant proposals should be submitted electronically to avalente@govst.edu by May 12, 2017.

## Proposal Reviewers:
The grant applications will be reviewed by the GSU Campus Planning Team.

## Review criteria:
Grants will be reviewed by the following criteria:
- How the project addresses the AAC&U goals you identify;
- Student learning activities / assignments that can be replicated in other classes and/or advising strategies that can be replicated in your department;
- Clearly defined student learning outcomes that can be readily assessed;
- The extent to which learning activities / assignments or advising strategies might be readily adopted in your department;
- Potential to support on-going equity in student learning both curricular and co-curricular; and
- Has a defined strategy for assessment of the project and for sharing this proactive approach to equity with members of her/his department.

The GSU Campus Action Plan Team will use a rubric to review all applications (included in packet).

## Announcement of Awards:
Decisions on grant applications will be announce by December 11, 2017 if applications are received by December 4, 2017.

## Final Report:
The purpose of the final report is to share with campus the results of your work. The report need be no longer than 4 pages. It should outline the purpose of your project, describe the learning strategies used, how the impact of your action was assessed, and the outcomes that resulted. If materials specific to learning strategies were developed, please include these in an appendix.

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# Appendix A: AAC&U Goals and GSU Equity and Student Success Outcomes

**Goal 1: Improving retention of African-American transfer students from junior year to senior year**.

- Students will be able to clearly explain their personal goals for their undergraduate major;
- Students will be able to identify their personal "work/life" balance strategies need to complete their education;
- Students will be able to clearly outline their planning for degree completion.

**Goal 2: Use Guided-Pathway strategies and increase access to High-Impact Practices in Junior Year:**

- Guided Pathways:
    - Faculty/Advisors will demonstrate how to incorporate equity-based perspectives into course / advising syllabi;
    - Advisors will be able to demonstrate how equity-based approaches improve student-advisor interaction;
    - Faculty / Advisors will demonstrate general education learning outcomes in course / advising syllabi;
    - Faculty / Advisors will demonstrate use of high-touch, high-tech advising and teaching approaches in course / advising syllabi by explicitly stating and using tools such as early-alert software (Starfish), mid-term grades, and degree audit;
- High-Impact Practices:
    - Faculty will utilize WAC resources to ensure Junior Seminar meets / exceeds Writing Intensive requirements and use Writing Center to ensure students are supported with high writing communication expectations.
    - Faculty and advisors will utilize developmentally and circularly appropriate high-impact practices that meet "best practice" criteria as outlined by Kuh, et al (2008).

**Goal 3: Enhancing students' social responsibility:**

- Students will demonstrate intercultural knowledge;
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the personal and social; obligations necessary to work successful in a diverse/global society;
- Students demonstrate a disposition toward civic engagement;
- Students demonstrate an ability to think ethically about social issues;
- Students demonstrate an appreciation of the need for life-long learning.

**Goal 4: Increasing students understanding of guided pathway to internships and workforce preparation:**

- Student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the role of career development in their academic planning;
- Student will have a completed resume;
- Students will have attended an internship and career fair;
- Students will have attended relevant Career Service Workshops;
- Students will have participated in an informational interview, job shadowing, or secured an internship.

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# Appendix B: Assessment leading to Project Dissemination

Ideally, a successful project will be replicable. Also, if planned carefully, you will be able to publish the results of your effort. As replicability and *publish-ability* are also aims of this mini-grant project, steps to follow as you plan your project narrative include identifying:

- **Project objectives:** What do I expect to happen as a result of this project?
- **Strategies:** What kinds of activities will reinforce my project objectives and will be replicable for others across campus or within my job classification
- **Target Audience:** Every project should include a description of the population of interest, and an explanation of the process used to select study subjects or participants in your project.
- **Assessments:** What kinds of tasks will reveal whether this project has achieved the objectives I have identified? Be sure to identify what you want to measure and the method for measuring it prior to the implementation of your project.
- **Data Collection and Analysis:** Definitions of key variables and concepts, descriptive statistics for main variables, and a description of the analytic techniques you plan to use to analyze the impact of your project.

**Assessment Strategies for the Project:**

- Pre/Post Assessment
    - Use when you have an "entry" and an "exit" point
    - Can be standardized or locally developed
    - Pre typically used as a *formative assessment*
    - Post typically used as *summative assessment*
    - Useful to determine if "value" was added as a result of your intervention
    - Caution against natural maturation or true value added, or teaching to the post-test
- Formative/Summative
    - Typically in form a pre/post assessment
    - Can be small assessments of phases of the intervention leading to culminating or summative project.
- Survey
    - Be sure to test it out on someone that will give you reliable feedback.
    - Be sure it is a reliable one – when possible use one with known reliability and validity.
    - Work with Institutional Research to use GSU Survey Monkey Software for distribution

## Appendix C: Cover Page, Budget Proposal, and Approval Form

| |
|---|
| **Project Title:** |
| **Project Leader Contact Information:**<br><br>    **Name:**<br><br>    **Division/Department:**<br><br>    **E-mail:**<br><br>    **Phone:** |
| **Award Amount:**<br><br>  [  ] $300     [  ] $500     [  ] $750 |
| **Names, Divisions/Departments, and E-Mail Addresses of Other Project Participants:** |

**FUNDED BY:**

# Governors State
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# Committing to Equity and Inclusive Excellence
## PROPOSAL BUDGET

*Add or delete rows as needed to complete this form.  Provide brief, but specific descriptions.*

| Supplies, Resource Materials, Printing, Postage | |
|---|---|
| *Item Description* | *$ Amount Requested* |
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| 3. | |
| 4. | |
| **Subtotal:** | |

| Student Assistance (if students are involved) | |
|---|---|
| *Description (e.g., book credit to GSU bookstore, 1 hour tuition credit )* | *$ Amount Requested* |
| 1. | |

| Travel Reimbursement – (If out of state, a travel request is also needed.) | |
|---|---|
| *Description (e.g., who, where, mileage, meals)* | *$ Amount Requested* |
| 1. | |
| **Subtotal:** | |

| Speaker / Consultation Expenses | |
|---|---|
| *Item Description* | *$ Amount Requested* |
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| **Subtotal:** | |

| Other Direct Costs | |
|---|---|
| *Item Description* | *$ Amount Requested* |
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| **Subtotal:** | |
| **Total Amount Requested:** | |

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Campus-based Strategies for Student Success**

**Mini-Grant Proposal Approval Form**

Name: _____

Position: _____

Office Phone: _____  e-mail: _____

Title of Grant: _____

_____

College/Division/Unit: _____

Dept./Program: _____

I approve this submission to the GSU Committing to Equity and Inclusive Excellence Project:

_____          _____
Division Chair/Supervisor                                          Date

_____          _____
Collaborator's Dean                                                    Date