Mini-grants available for Writing-to-Learn

NMSU is offering mini-grants for faculty who participate in the new Writing-to-Learn program. In this program faculty will learn to incorporate informal writing as a tool to enhance undergraduate student knowledge about and understanding of course content. Up to 6 mini-grants will be awarded in the amount of $3,000 each.

The goals of the program are to 1) use writing to increase student learning in the discipline, 2) increase the amount of short, informal writing students do, and 3) improve student writing in the disciplines.

The Writing-to-Learn program and provision of mini-grants are provided in support of NMSU’s Quality Initiative focus on student writing. The Quality Initiative is part of our institutional participation in the Higher Learning Commission’s Open Pathways for reaccreditation.

Applications

- Will be accepted from full- and part-time faculty teaching undergraduate courses at the NMSU-Las Cruces and/or Grants campuses (NMSU Las Cruces campus and Grants campus are accredited as one entity; other NMSU campuses are independently accredited).
- Can be downloaded here.
- Are due Friday, May 29, 2015.
- Should be submitted to the Teaching Academy Advisory Board as pdf attachments at teaching@nmsu.edu

Mini-Grant Awardees Will Receive

- Mentoring from writing experts over the course of the 2015-2016 academic year
- 3 payments of $1,000 each for achieving certain benchmarks

Mini-Grant Awardees Will Be Required to

- Participate in 2 individual and 6 monthly group meetings with writing mentors; complete assigned activities to develop a plan to incorporate writing-to-learn into the proposed designated course, and to assess impact of changes on student learning – Grant recipients who are able to attend both individual meetings and 5/6 group meetings will receive the 1st payment of $1,000. Note: The group meetings will occur from 11-1pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the months of Sept., Oct., Nov., Feb., Mar., Apr. (2015-16) in Clara Belle Williams Hall Rm 138 (inside the English Department office).
- Incorporate informal writing into the designated course (2016-17), and report on implementation and impact to receive your 2nd payment of $1,000
- Present your work at the New Mexico Higher Education Assessment & Retention (NMHEAR) annual conference (Feb. 2017 or 2018; expenses paid) AND at the NMSU Teaching Academy to receive your 3rd payment of $1,000