

Committee Name: Faculty Grants Committee (FGC)

Committee Chair: Mollie Freier **Committee**

Secretary: Jennifer Howard **First Reading:**

04/21/2020

Final Report: 2019-2020

1. Work Summary

a. Membership: The committee has 9 members and 2 alternates – concurrent

with our operating procedures. **NAME Department** Mollie Freier (Chair 2019/20)

LIS Taimur Cleary A&D April Lindala NAS Bethney Bergh ED Yan Cuipak AN

Maria Guadalupe Arenillas LLIS Jennifer Howard EN Teresa Delpier NU Erich

Ottem BI Daniel Rowe - Alternate Math and Comp Sci. Brandon Gerig -

Alternate BI **b. Election of Leadership:** Jennifer Howard was selected as Secretary at our first

meeting on 19 September
2019.

c. Work Summary

i. 9/19/2019: Review of Applications for RTA for Winter 2020. ii.

11/15/2019: Review of Faculty Research Grants. iii.

11/17/2019-Review of Spooner Grants via e-mail (we had been

informed that there would be no Spooner Grants, and, when they were

reinstated, the committee received no notification, so a face-to-face

meeting could not be scheduled in a timely manner). iv. 2/7/2020:

Review of Applications for RTA for Fall 2020.

v. 3/20/2020: Review of Peter White Applications via Zoom vi. 4/10/2020:

Review of Curriculum Development and Instructional

Improvement grants via

Zoom.

d. Recommendation Summary: During the 2019/20 academic year, the Faculty

Grants Committee made the following
recommendations.

RTAs for Winter 2019

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Applicant Department Title

Arenillas, Maria Languages “Indigenous Peoples of Southern Patagonia in Documentary Film: Toward a Dialectical Archive” Broadway, Michael EEGS “Spaces for Consumption: The Changing Geography of Haute Cuisine Restaurants in Chicago” Caroline Krzakowski English “Paperwork: Treaties and Cold War Literature” Kupper, Nell Languages “French National Standards Revision and Presentation at AATF” Prather, Russell English “Three Visual Art Exhibitions” Robyns, Marcus LIS “Ithaka S-R Research Project: Teaching with Primary Sources” Singh, Jaspal English “Competing Empires in South Africa and Burma: Alienation, Displacement, and Interconnections in Colonial and Postcolonial Literature” Stock, Ryan EEGS “Sustaining inequality: Examining gendered labor configurations and female (dis)empowerment by solar power”

Faculty Research Grants:

Applicant Department Title

Antony Aumann Philosophy “The Art Museum Audio Guide: Essential Tool or Needless Distraction?” Matthew Frank English “Painting an Expressionless Boy: A Hybrid Book of Poetry and Micro Lyric Essays” Matthew Kilgas HHP “Upper-body Physical Conditioning Following Arm-Cycling with Blood Flow Restriction” Diana Lafferty Biology “Managing mammals and their microbes: the new imperative of 21st Century conservation” Jill Leonard Biology “Developmental biology and behavioral ecology of larval and early-juvenile burbot (*Lota lota*)” Yu Liu Chemistry “Magic Box: Development of New Nanocages for C60 Separation and Catalytic Reaction” Maggy Moore HHP “Reliability and Validity of a Novel Sideline Concussion Test in Neurocognitive Normal 13-40 Year Olds” Erich Ottem Biology “Assessing Differential Gene Expression as a Potential Compensatory Response in a Mouse Model of Neuromuscular Disease” David Wood English “Debility, Disability, and Ethnicity in Fletcher and Massinger’s *A*

Very Woman”

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Spooner Grants for Winter 2020:

Applicant Department Title

Zoe Folsom Sociology and Anthropology “The Effects of Academic Motivations on College Students’ Psychological Well-being” Sierra Gillman Biology “Characterization of the gut microbiome within American black

bear: a simplistic carnivorous gastrointestinal tract with a complex omnivorous diet" Emily Griffith Biology
"Expanding the Ornithology Collection at the Northern Museum
of Zoology"

RTAs for Fall 2020:

Applicant Department Title

Antony Aumann Philosophy "Personal Ideals, Transformations, and the Power of Art" Yan Ciupak
Sociology/Anthro-
pology

"Social Mobility and Global Migration: A Longitudinal Study of the Chinese Transnationals" Tara Foster
Languages,

Literatures, and International Studies

"Designing and Implementing an Innovative Elementary French Curriculum"

Brent Graves Biology "Effects of Faculty Strikes on University Functions" Steven Hughes Art & Design

"Plein Air Painting for a Changing Time" Tom Isaacson Business "Four Decades of Public Relations with
Major League Baseball's

Longest Tenured Owner - Jerry Reinsdorf and the Chicago White Sox" Madelyn Pawlowski English

"Locating and Supporting the Developing Pedagogical Language

Knowledge of College Writing Instructors"

Russell Prather English "Two Solo Visual Art Exhibitions, Three Group Exhibitions and a

Conference Paper" Robert Whalen English "Correcting the Textual Record: New Herbert Manuscripts"

The Peter White Scholar Award for 2020/21

Applicant Department Title Russell Prather English "Three Solo Exhibitions, Three Group
Exhibitions, a Scholarly Paper and a Funded Residency."

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The 2020 Curriculum Development Award

Applicant Department Title

James Marquardson Business "Establishment of Center of Academic Excellence in
Cyber Defense Governance Model and
Initial Curriculum Modifications"

The 2019 Instructional Improvement Award

Applicant Department Title Kristen Smith Nursing "Expanding Simulation in
the Women's &

Children's Nursing
Courses"

2. FGC

Review:

a. **Committee Charge:** *Is the charge of this committee still relevant at NMU*

today? Should it be modified? Does it duplicate part of the work of other committees on campus, or should it be modified to serve other purposes?

The FGC Operating Procedure indicates the committee charge as “The committee will meet on a regular basis throughout the academic year to discuss and recommend funding for proposals submitted to the various grant programs. Other business may require the Committee to meet outside of the normal grant cycle”. The committee serves this purpose efficiently and effectively with coordination from the Grants Office. The committee does not duplicate the work of other committees, and serves a clear and necessary purpose to the university.

b. **Committee Membership:** *Is the membership of this committee meaningful for*

the task at hand? Would the work of the committee be more valuable with more or fewer participants, and from what sorts of constituencies?

The FGC consists of nine voting members and two alternate members. The alternates shall serve when one or more Committee members have submitted proposals for a grant program. In addition, they may be asked to serve if a full member cannot attend a scheduled meeting to review proposals for a grant program. All FGC members are elected through a Senate Committee interest survey and assignment by CEC. The current FGC membership is appropriate to the task of FGC. Despite many occasions where members of the committee have applied for awards, we have never had an issue with garnering enough members for votes. We do require that members all be from different departments. This year, we had a

meant that we couldn't ask the alternate to serve when the representative was in the meeting. This concern has been communicated to the Chair of the CEC.

c. Committee Operating Procedures: *How does the committee handle conflicts*

of interest? How is the leadership elected or selected? Are there historical practices that are not codified in operating procedures? Are there ways to make their operations more efficient and effective?

FGC policies about conflicts of interest: (1) If a member decides to submit a grant proposal for one of the grant programs administered by the FGC, this member shall inform the chair two weeks before the proposal deadline. The Chair will then assign an alternate member to serve in place of this member. Members submitting grant proposals will not participate in the activities associated with those particular grant programs. (2) The FGC members will not rank proposal(s) from his/her department. (3) The FGC member should not be the lead reviewer on any proposal authored by past or current collaborator(s) even they are not in the same department. (4) When any other issues of conflicts of interest arises, the FGC member should notify the Chair and use his/her best judgment to provide objective comments during the reviewing process. Our meeting minutes are posted by the secretary in the FGC Google Drive folder.

This year, the FGC began coordination with the Coordinator of Graduate Studies and Research. We have thus changed procedures for giving feedback to applicants. This year, the FGC chair provided feedback to applicants.

d. Committee Leadership:

The committee will continue to elect a secretary who will serve as Chair in the absence of the Chair. The secretary will continue to take minutes and notes for the Chair to use in writing feedback reports.

**e. Operational
Efficiency:**

Coordination with the Office of Graduate Studies and Research is essential to the functioning of the FGC. We rely on this office to enforce strict deadlines for acceptance of application materials, coordinate feedback to applicants, and enforce the guidelines and requirements for funding and eligibility. If there are changes in grants programs, this office should keep us informed.

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The Committee Chair should review the yearly report with members at the last meeting to make sure that the report reflects the understanding and concerns of the entire committee.

**3. Operating
Procedures:**

The FGC would like to revise the forms currently used to evaluate grant applications. The current forms have not been revised to reflect changes in the grant requirements, and place too much emphasis on the actual format of the grant application. If certain items are missing, an application should not be considered for funding, and the Office Of Graduate Education and Research should not pass the application along to the FGC. The FGC Chair hopes to make revisions to the evaluation forms this summer, and have them approved by the FGC before the first round of grants is announced for the 2020-2021 academic year.

This report is submitted by Mollie Freier, Faculty Grants Committee Chair
2019/20

Date originated: 04/16/20

Date

submitted:

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