Auburn University

Diversity Faculty Mentoring Program Research Grant Application

Purpose: The purpose of the Diversity Faculty Mentoring Research Grant Project is to promote retention of African American faculty by supporting well-designed research projects that lead to the authorship of scholarly publications, invited presentations, seminar presentations, submission of extramural funding proposals, or other creative academic works.

Objective: The program is designed to create a supportive environment that will encourage and promote the professional development of African American faculty to associate or full professor ranks. This environment is to be assisted by a one-on-one relationship of an African American faculty member (mentee) with an experienced and successful senior colleague (mentor).

Eligibility: The mentee must be an African American tenure track faculty seeking promotion to associate or full professor rank.

Awards: Awards up to $5,000 annually can be considered. Cost sharing is encouraged.

General Regulations:

1. During an academic year, a junior faculty member (mentee) will collaborate with a senior colleague (mentor) in this program.
   a. The mentor must be willing to serve and should be a successful researcher at higher rank than the mentee at Auburn University or from outside Auburn; however, preference will be given to mentors that are at Auburn University.
   b. The mentor and mentee must have compatible research areas (credentials of the mentor will be an important evaluation factor.)
2. Grants will customarily be made for one year; however, the end date may be extended if sufficient justification exists and there is satisfactory progress of the project. A request for an extension must be made in writing to the Provost.
3. Priority will be given to projects for which departmental and other funds are available.
4. Preference will be given to faculty members who have not previously received this support at the current rank.
5. No more than 5 projects will be awarded each year.
6. Diversity Faculty Mentoring Research Grant funds cannot be used:
   a. To support research activities or publication of research results which partially fulfill the requirements for a higher degree
   b. For work which is not carried out during the applicants’ appointment at Auburn University.
   c. To support a graduate students’ thesis or dissertation research; however, the employment of a graduate student on a mentee’s proposed research project is allowed.

Budget:

1. For the objectives enumerated in this application, up to $5,000 will be made available to each selected candidate; cost sharing by mentee’s department or through other university sources is encouraged.
2. These funds can be used to develop preliminary data, travel to a site having resources not available at Auburn, materials and supplies, release time, meeting with potential sponsors and/or agencies, etc.
3. Budget may also include faculty salary, product or proposal development costs and travel.
Procedure/Timeline:
1. The grant will be awarded for the period June 2014 – May 2015.
2. Proposals are due Monday, March 31, 2014 (5:00 pm) and awards will be announced by May 1, 2014.

Requirements:
1. A plan of work that describes the proposed project.
2. A progress report is due six months after the award of the proposal.
3. A research presentation at departmental or college seminar/colloquia
4. A final report is due within three months of completion of the project.

Proposal Development:
The Diversity Faculty Mentoring Program Proposal Cover Form and Project Budget Form are to be used for all proposal submissions. The forms and may be found at https://cws.auburn.edu/diversity/frr.aspx.

The proposal should contain the following sections:
1. Proposal Cover Form
2. Project Budget Form
3. Project Summary - not to exceed one page.
4. Project Description - not to exceed five pages and to contain the following:
   a. Proposed research area which includes anticipated objectives and methodology
   b. Proposed collaboration between mentor and mentee, this includes a statement of the proposal or product to be produced. Justify why the mentor was selected for this project (see number 5 & 6 below)
   c. Proposed source of outside funding. State any assistance you may need in identifying sources of funding and in making contacts
   d. Schedule for the plan of work. State specific milestones and their expected completion dates
5. Qualifications of the mentor and mentee
6. Letter of agreement from mentor
7. Letter of support from the dean and department head and any other university sponsor

Return all materials to:
Diversity Faculty Mentoring Program (DFMP)
Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs
103 M.W. Smith Hall
381 Mell Street
Auburn, Alabama 36849-5168

If you need additional information, please contact:
Phone: 334-844-4184
Fax: 334-844-4445
diversity@auburn.edu
www.auburn.edu/Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs