International Exchange Initiative

Through this initiative ESC will fund projects focused on the scholarly development of ESC faculty and staff. Each award will be up to $6,000. Domestic travel will not be supported through this initiative. Our goal is to develop the international stature of ESC faculty and staff.

**Deadline:**
Proposals will be accepted annually through April 15th, no more than two new proposals will be funded each fiscal year (July 1 – June 30).

**Eligibility:**
ESC faculty and staff who have not been awarded an International Exchange Initiative grant within the past 24 months.

**Project categories:**
Funded projects will be in one of these categories:

**I. International Scholars-in-Residence (ISIR) Program -**
These projects consist of: (i) an ESC member spending an appropriate amount of time visiting a foreign institution, and (ii) hosting a member of that institution at SFRES for a similar duration. The exchanges may take place simultaneously or sequentially. The primary aim of an exchange is the development of a specific collaborative project.
The benefits to the Michigan Tech/SFRES community could be manifest, for example, in departmental seminars delivered by the award recipient and the guest. Proposals may also include additional elements (e.g., 1-credit seminar course taught by the guest).

**II. The Symposium Initiative -**
These projects consist of an ESC member hosting three international scholars for several days. The primary aim of a Symposium Initiative is to develop a specific collaborative project to be led by the ESC member. To benefit the Michigan Tech/SFRES community, these projects should include sharing some portion of the visiting scholars’ time with other members of the Michigan Tech/SFRES community.

**III. International Travel -**
This project category consists of an ESC member traveling to a foreign institution to attend a professional meeting. The rationale should emphasize how travel will promote scholarly and career development of the award recipient. Nice trips to nice places are not the motivation for an International Travel Award; the goal is professional advancement. Applicants should be specific in detailing how an International Travel Award will advance their career.

**IV. Other -**
This category is intended to provide a means of facilitating creative ideas that are not captured by the above listed categories, but would be worthy of support.
Proposal guidelines & evaluation process:

- Proposals should be less than 5 pages in length. Each proposal should explain: (a) logistical feasibility of the project, (b) the scholarly benefit to the applicant, (c) the benefit to the ESC community, and (d) the budget and its rationale.

- Proposals will be evaluated by an ad hoc committee appointed by ESC members. Committee members cannot simultaneously be applicants for this award.

- Successful proposals will be characterized by:
  
  i) projects that challenge the applicant and impact long-term scholarly development;

  ii) tangible outcomes such as the production of a refereed paper in a top-tier journal, a special issue of an international journal, a new book or book chapter, a major proposal submission, or some other outcome that clearly advances the applicant’s career;

  iii) activities that benefit the ESC community, without compromising the project’s primary purpose (i.e., scholarly development of the applicant);

  iv) proposals with no other obvious avenue of support.

- An important purpose of the program is for ESC members to help and encourage one another to develop their scholarship in innovative and challenging ways. Those desiring to submit a proposal, but unsure of how to develop such a proposal are encouraged to seek the advice of ESC members.

Budget guidelines:

I. The core budget for an ISIR with a full reciprocal exchange is $6,000. This includes:
   A. Up to $1,000 for airfare for each of the two persons involved in the exchange.
   B. Up to $1,000 for housing for each of two persons named in the exchange.
   C. Up to $1,000 for additional expenses, which must follow standard Michigan Tech reimbursement guidelines.

   Budgets should clearly indicate the separate costs of the ESC member and the overseas person.

II. The core budget for a Symposium is $4,800, which is intended to reflect:
   A. Airfare for 3 guests ($1,000/person)
   B. Daily expenses of $125/day/person for each of four days

III. Budgets for International Travel award should be about half those of the ISIR awards.

IV. Proposals with a cost-share from individual faculty, School/Department, University, or other resources will have a higher probability of funding.