Introduction

The Academic Senate Sustainability Workgroup and the Chancellor’s Campus Sustainability Committee, in concert with Instructional Development, are pleased to announce the continued availability of a curriculum infusion grant program for faculty. Funding for these grants is provided by the Chancellor’s Campus Sustainability Committee. Proposal review is managed by the Academic Senate Sustainability Workgroup. The proposal process and grant administration is managed by Instructional Development.

Purpose

The New Leaf Grant Program seeks proposals from faculty who are interested in infusing concepts of sustainability into their courses. Sustainability is defined as:

...meeting the needs of present generations without jeopardizing the needs of future generations - a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come. It offers a vision of progress that integrates immediate and longer-term needs, local and global needs, and regards social, economic and environmental needs as inseparable and interdependent components of human progress.

UC Santa Barbara has made a number of public commitments dedicating our campus to train students to incorporate sustainability into their academic and/or professional careers. In the 1990s, then Chancellor Barbara Uehling signed the Talloires Declaration, which commits institutions of higher learning to be world leaders in developing, creating, supporting and maintaining sustainability efforts and training students to be leaders as well. The 2007-2025 Strategic Academic Plan names the Environment as an important interdisciplinary theme for research and teaching.

The goal of the New Leaf Grant Program is to catalyze the infusion of sustainability into courses across disciplines at UCSB. Those applying may consider integrating sustainability by asking students to:
• Explain the connections between their chosen course of study and sustainability.
• Identify one or more serious environmental problems and examine its underlying causes and possible consequences.
• Explore the conceptual foundations of our environmental attitudes, values and challenges from a variety of cultural perspectives.
• Examine humanity’s role as the planet’s ecologically dominant species and how that affects the continuing viability of habitats for life on Earth.
• Demonstrate the interconnectedness of environmental, economic, and social systems.
• Investigate how our relationship to the natural world has been shaped historically, politically, culturally, and/or economically.
• Examine the controversies surrounding questions of values and ethics as they relate to creating a sustainable future.
• Utilize tools to communicate effectively about sustainability issues.

Who May Apply?

Faculty and Lecturers in any department.

What Support is Available?

Grant award of up to $500.

Funding cannot be spent on the following items:
• Refreshments
• Permanent Equipment (including low value items such as laptops or printers)
• Ongoing departmental costs such as phone lines or photocopies

Some examples of items the funding can be spent on include:
• Software
• Faculty release time
• Graduate student support
• Production costs for graphics or video
• Headsets, recording devices or other inexpensive equipment required for the production of a course module
• Equipment for students to use in a course (e.g. energy meters)
• Videos

Please note that if a video is bought with funding from the New Leaf program, the video must be ordered through the Instructional Development Film and Video Library, and deposited in the Library at the end of the course to be made available for other faculty.
Grants for curriculum infusion are a one-time source of funding. The proposed projects must be designed to be self-sustaining without additional funding.

Grant recipients are recommended to apply to present the project outcomes at the CA Higher Education Sustainability Conference (http://chesc.org/).

How Do I Apply?

1. Fill out the online application form. The form is available at:

   https://goo.gl/forms/kyHJlCsRPOLLvsPE3

   The form asks for contact and course information, a brief description of the proposed project, and itemized budget request information.

2. Form submissions will close at 5 PM on April 30, 2018.

Your application will be reviewed by members of the Academic Senate Sustainability Work Group. Decisions will be made in May 2018 and funding made available in late June or early July 2018.

How Will Applications Be Evaluated?

The review committee will consider the following:

- Impact
- What aspects of the course are expected to change?
- Will this introduce a new learning experience into the course?

**Note:** If the applicant has previously received a New Leaf Grant, their final report on that project must be on file with Instructional Development prior to submitting a new proposal.

What Are the Reporting Requirements?

- Funds must be used by April 1st, 2019. All unspent funds must be returned.
- Grant recipients must submit the following by June 1st, 2019:
  - A 250-500 word description of the project which can be posted to the UCSB Sustainability Website to promote the program and to be shared with future grant applicants.
  - A brief evaluation of the project that addresses what went well, what you would change for next year, and ideas you have for continued improvement.
  - A post-project report on expenditures.

**Note:** Consistent with current practice of many funding agencies, proposals which are funded, along with supporting materials, become public documents.