

**Request for Proposals
Research Service Learning
Community Outreach Partnership Center and the University Honors College**

Overview of research service learning:

The University of Pittsburgh Community Outreach Partnership Center (COPC) and Honors College announce funding opportunities for faculty for Research Service Learning courses and applied research projects. Funding is available for courses/projects during Summer 2007 and Fall 2007 (AY07-1) terms with consideration for courses that would carry into the Spring term.

Research service learning (RSL), also called Community Applied Scholarship, brings students' research skills and knowledge to community-identified issues and problems through a faculty-directed experience. RSL combines scholarship with civic engagement.

RSL can take place in a classroom as segment in an existing class. It can be part of a "capstone" or major project course or group study. RSL can also be conducted under a faculty-supervised student project. A RSL course or project is grounded in disciplinary methodology and applications. Students engage in problem solving and analysis to create new knowledge for a community application. RSL involves both students and faculty in service to a community or important social issue through *applied research*. Projects or courses include core research components of analysis, synthesis and conclusions for the community. Each project must produce a tangible research product – a report, analysis, or other substantive product for the community partner and the students.

Funding:

- Undergraduate courses
- Faculty-supervised student projects
- Applied field studies.

Courses and projects must be conducted during the Summer 2007 and/or Fall 2007, with consideration for Spring 2008

Proposal limits:

\$3,000 - \$5,000 per course. Minimum two courses funded.

Funding priorities:

- Courses focused on COPC neighborhoods (Hazelwood, Central Oakland, South Oakland, West Oakland and Oak Hill)
- Environmental issues and community revitalization.
- Other areas and topics will be considered

Funds can be used for: Course development, student assistants, materials, travel, guest speakers, summer salary supplement. This could include summer term course development for courses to be taught in the fall term. Further information about the COPC is available at: www.pitt.edu/~copc.

Eligible faculty:

Full-time and part time tenure-stream, tenured, non tenure-stream, and emeritus faculty at the University of Pittsburgh from all Schools and Departments, Centers, Institutes are eligible to submit a proposal.

Examples of types of courses or student projects:

- Ethnographic analysis of “below the tracks” community in Hazelwood.
- Identifying environmental hazards in urban communities
- Reuse of LTV coke mill site and environmental issues
- Architectural styles and development in an old mill community
- Community histories or interactive writing and learning community projects
- Other Arts and Sciences courses that incorporate a community-based research product

Funded 2006 Research Service Learning Projects with Honors College included:

- English Writing: Readings in Contemporary Fiction (Fiona Choeng)
- Freshman Honors Engineering Seminar (Laura Lund)

Application:

1. Please complete the attached application form.
2. For *Student Projects and Field Studies*, please complete the additional information requested on the following form.
3. For *Honors College* courses, also complete the attached UHC Course Proposal Form and attach to the above information.

IRB:

If your project requires IRB approval, please submit appropriate forms or submission in progress.

Contact information: For more information, please contact:

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Applications are due at the University Honors College, 3600 Cathedral of Learning on March 26, 2007. Award announcements will be made shortly thereafter.

**Community Outreach Partnership Center
and University Honors College
University of Pittsburgh
Research Service Learning Program**

Application:

Faculty Name

Academic Rank

School/Department

University Address

Telephone and email

Title of Project or Course (*Course number if available*)

Term(s)

Community Partner (*Please let us know if you are looking for a community partner.*)

Proposal Narrative (*Please include a brief description of course or project and expected outcomes.*)

For student projects and field studies, please include name of project.

Budget