SUN VISIT HERE OR THERE GRANT

Skidmore College, as part of the Skidmore/Union Network and with support from the National Science Foundation's ADVANCE Program, invites *female tenure-track and tenured assistant and associate professors in STEM disciplines* to apply for grants funding either travel to work with colleagues on a scholarly project or travel of a colleague to meet the grant recipient for research collaboration. SUN Visit Here or There Grants are opportunities for women to pursue research collaborations that will enhance scholarly productivity and promotion to the ranks of associate and full professor, resulting in a more balanced gender ratio among faculty in the STEM disciplines. A variety of possibilities exist for collaborations: collaborators might work at one another's home institutions, meet to work together at a field site, or work together before or after a professional meeting. This flexible travel program, modeled after a similar program run by the Association for Women in Mathematics, may be of particular benefit to women with obligations or family responsibilities that restrict or preclude travel, enabling them to bring in a colleague for collaboration at their home institution.

ELIGIBILITY: We invite applications from female tenure-track assistant professors and tenured associate professors holding full-time or shared appointments in the fields of science (including social science), technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM). Skidmore College STEM disciplines are: Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, Environmental Studies, Health & Exercise Sciences, Geosciences, Government, Mathematics, Neuroscience, Physics, Psychology, and Sociology.

AWARDS: Funds will be awarded competitively to women whose scholarship will be enhanced by research collaboration. Proposals may request modest levels of support (less than $100) up to $7,500 for projects of exceptional merit requiring lengthier on-site collaborations.   Due to limited resources and the wish of the Committee to provide funds for the largest possible number of deserving proposals, we anticipate that awards will typically be capped at $2,500-$3,000, and no award will exceed $7,500. The decision to provide partial support of projects requiring more than $7,500 will be influenced by evidence that such support will indeed help launch the related projects and that faculty can and will find the additional funds needed to finance the work they propose.

SPRING 2012 APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR SKIDMORE APPLICANTS:
23 March 2012, for GRANT PERIOD: 15 April 2012 - 31 August 2012

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS/PROPOSALS:

In making awards, the SUN Faculty Development Committee will first consider the excellence of the faculty development proposals. The SUN Faculty Development Committee will award grants on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Proposed projects must be collaborative in nature.

2. A proposal will be evaluated relative to its potential to enhance the scholarship and productivity of the recipient as well as the contribution that any collaborative endeavor might make to its respective field. In certain instances, the committee may request the names of experts in the discipline to consult for advice on the proposal's merits.

3. All grant recipients must be faculty at Skidmore College. Only tenure-track women assistant professors and tenured women associate professors, in full-time or shared appointments, are eligible for **Visit Here or There Grants**; priority will be given to assistant professors and to tenured associate professors who have been in rank for seven or more years.

GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES:

1. Travel reimbursement may cover the cost of transportation, lodging, and food. PLEASE NOTE: Original, ITEMIZED receipts for all items $10 or over must be attached to expense reports. Your credit card bill and the receipt showing the total amount paid for restaurant charges are not considered adequate proof of purchase.

2. Projects resulting in production or publication shall carry no obligation for repayment. It is expected, however, that grantee(s) will acknowledge support of the Skidmore Union Network and the National Science Foundation ADVANCE program on exhibitions or publications.

3. Any equipment purchased under the approved research grant will remain the property of Skidmore College after the grant period is completed.

4. Proposals that involve the use of living organisms are subject to the following regulations and requirements:

    Proposals that involve human subjects or the use of human tissues are subject to the requirements of Skidmore College's Institutional Review Board (IRB Guidelines, FAQ's and Forms are available at: http://www.skidmore.edu/academics/CFG/irb/index.htm). Proposals that involve the use of vertebrate animals are subject to the requirements of the College's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC guidelines and forms are available by contacting the Office of Sponsored Research or the IACUC chairperson). IRB and IACUC approvals are not a prerequisite to submitting a SUN Faculty Development Grant, but are required prior to the commencement of the research.

5. The SUN Faculty Development Committee will advise recipients of awards via campus mail, and will announce awards by posting the list of recipients and their project titles on the SUN Network website.

6. Deliberations of the SUN Faculty Development Committee are strictly confidential. All inquiries regarding awards shall be addressed to the chairperson, Monica Raveret Richter, or to Catherine White Berheide, Skidmore PI for the SUN initiative.

7. All financial documentation and itemized receipts must be submitted by the end of the grant period. The final narrative report should be submitted within three months of the end of the grant period. Failure to do so may result in advances being treated as taxable income and will disqualify the recipient from consideration for all future grants awarded by the SUN Faculty Development Committee. Awardees must agree to participate in the assessment of this program; such participation might include responding to surveys or participation in an interview.