



PROGRAM TO CATALYZE AND SUPPORT FACULTY DIALOGUE

CALL FOR ‘CATALYSIS CONVERSATIONS’

Request Deadline: Rolling

Submit 1 copy of the proposal to the School of Science Office (SCP-105)

Program Purpose

This program is designed to promote and support dialogue among School of Science faculty members. In particular, the goal of this funding initiative is to catalyze academic conversations, new initiatives, and innovative ideas between and among faculty members from different departments and programs. *Modest funding* can be requested for a broad range of needs that would typically be considered outside of a single department’s ongoing work and activities. For example, three types of ‘catalysis conversations’ might include the following:

- *Interdisciplinary conversation* – A mathematician, a chemist, and a physicist would like to engage in a dialogue about a new interdisciplinary course or two. The course(s) would be cross-listed among the departments and perhaps lead to a cross-listed specialization and several interdisciplinary research projects. To help seed the conversations, the faculty members would like to participate a fee-based webinar sponsored by a professional organization and then make a road-trip to visit a comparator institution that has a related interdisciplinary program in order to talk with colleagues there to discuss what has worked, what hasn’t, and lessons-learned.
- *Curricular and/or pedagogical conversation* – A computer scientist, a biologist, and an engineer would like to initiate a series of conversations to share pedagogical best-practices related to the integration of computational approaches into individual courses and the programs’ curricula. The organizers want to open-up the conversations to the faculties of both schools and provide opportunities for ongoing conversations and sharing via a monthly lunch-time gathering where a light lunch is provided.
- *Scholarly conversation* – A biologist and a mathematician would like to begin a new research project and they need to purchase a couple of key books to frame their work and learn a new technique.

What to Submit

Applicants should **submit 1 copy** of her/his request to the School of Science Office. Requests are accepted on a rolling basis and will be reviewed by the Council of Chairs. Requests should include:

- 1) Applicant name(s) and departmental affiliation(s)
- 2) Project title or topic
- 3) Project description (up to one, single-spaced page)
- 4) Budget request and justification