



UNIVERSITY *of* NEW HAMPSHIRE

April 19, 2006

TO: UNH Tenure Track Faculty
FROM: Bruce L. Mallory, Provost and Executive Vice President
RE: Undesignated Gifts Fund Competition for AY2006-07

This memo announces a competition for support from the Undesignated Gifts Fund. UNH faculty members are eligible to apply for funds. The focus will be initiatives that enhance the assessment of student learning outcomes. Student outcomes are the levels of knowledge, skills, attitudes, and abilities that students have attained during their university experience. Student outcomes assessment entails the systematic measurement and analysis of student learning in order to improve teaching and learning.

For more information on student outcomes assessment, you may wish to review the material at the following website:
<http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/UPA/assmt/resource.htm>

We will review proposals that address any appropriate student outcomes assessment project. We are particularly interested in proposals that address ways in which student learning outcomes results may be incorporated into departments' academic program review self-study documents. Thus, those departments gearing up for an academic program review are in an excellent position to conceive, implement, and report on a student learning outcomes project (http://www.unh.edu/ir/UGProgram_Review_REV_ED.pdf). We are also interested in considering proposals to develop and implement a mechanism for conducting follow-up assessments of students after graduation (to obtain information on employment, post-graduate education, civic engagement, application of skills and knowledge acquired at UNH, etc.).

The total funding available this year is approximately \$50,000. Faculty seeking support from this fund should submit a brief proposal (3 - 4 pages) specifying the purpose of the project, the total budget needed, and other potential sources of support. All proposals should be sent to the appropriate school/college dean for endorsement. Your dean will forward your proposal to the Office of Academic Affairs.

Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

207 Thompson Hall 105 Main Street Durham, New Hampshire 03824-3547 (603) 862-3290 (603) 862-4741 fax

You may contact one or more members of the University Student Outcomes Assessment Committee prior to preparing a proposal. These individuals will give you guidance and advice. Their names are provided below.

A committee will review proposals and make funding recommendations. Proposals that are likely to receive support will meet one-time rather than continuing needs. The principal criterion for this competition will be the long-term impact on the assessment of student outcomes within an academic program. Proposals that offer a cost-share from departments or schools/colleges are encouraged.

Please submit four (4) copies of your proposal to your dean by May 15. We will try and convey decisions to applicants by June 15. Funds will be available immediately upon receipt of a grant. If you have any questions, please contact Associate Provost Leigh Anne Melanson (2-3290).

University Student Outcomes Assessment Committee

Michael Lee (Center for Teaching Excellence)

Robert Jerard (Mechanical Engineering)

Victor Benassi (Psychology)

Sally Ward (Sociology)

Peter Pekins (Natural Resources)

Joanne Curran-Celentano (Discovery Program, Nutritional Sciences)

Gavin Henning (Institutional Research and Assessment)

Steve Hardy (Kinesiology)

Andrew Colby (University Advising and Career Center)

Annie Donahue (UNHM Library and all UNH Libraries)

Gary Goldstein (Psychology)

Elliott Gruner (University Writing Programs)

Copy: Deans