GLOBAL COLLABORATIVE CLASSROOM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Deadline: January 15, 2016

The Office of Global Strategy and Center for Global Studies, in partnership with the Center for Faculty and Teaching Excellence, the Office of Distance Education, and Learning Support Services, is soliciting proposals from Mason faculty who are interested in organizing a Global Collaborative Classroom (GCC), for delivery in Fall 2016. This initiative aims to support collaborative learning between classrooms in Mason and in universities outside the United States by connecting courses (undergraduate and graduate), through the use of online interactive technologies, with a view to enhancing the global engagement and professional experience of the instructors, and the global engagement and learning outcomes for the students. Partnered courses can be interdisciplinary.

Within Mason, Global Collaborative Classrooms will build on existing courses, which the instructor will adapt in close cooperation with a Mason instructional designer, as well as the faculty member from the partner institution. Students will be enrolled in and receive grades from their respective institutions, and courses will be revenue neutral between institutions.

Because of differences in academic organization and course scheduling, a non-Mason course might not correspond neatly to a Mason semester-length course. More likely, Mason and non-Mason faculty would cooperate closely to ensure that their respective courses overlap to a high degree. Courses should include Mason’s three Global Learning Understanding Outcomes that may be achieved through multiple collaborative assignments over the better part of the semester (6+ weeks).

Examples of technology options that support global, collaborative, online interaction include: Learning Management Systems such as Blackboard Learn, web conferencing applications such as Skype, Google hangouts and Blackboard Collaborate, social media tools such as Facebook, blogs, or Google +, and videoconferencing.

Required components of a GCC course:

- Faculty driven courses (at least six weeks of a course but preferably more) that will be team taught by a Mason faculty member and a faculty member from a partner institution.
- Created from existing courses.
- Students are assigned at least one collaborative project where they are linked with one or more students from the partner institution.
- Courses must be revenue neutral between institutions.
- Students are enrolled and receive grades from their respective institutions.
- Courses must include Mason’s three Global Learning Understanding Outcomes tied to collaborative activities. Examples can be viewed at http://cgs.gmu.edu/gcc.
- A plan for student interactions is clearly laid out in application and syllabus.
• The faculty member must partner with a Mason instructional designer and attend training on creating successful Global Collaborative Classroom.
• Built from existing Mason partnerships. Faculty driven partnerships are often the most successful, but the Office of Global Strategy is available to help connect faculty to institutional partners.

**Amount of Award:** Up to $4,000, including:
• A $1,000 stipend for Mason faculty member; paid at the end of the course.
• Up to $2,500 in expenses. Examples of eligible expenses include technical advising or support, graduate teaching assistance, and travel to meet with the non-GMU partner.
• A $500 stipend for the partner instructor ONLY if the partner is from a Global Problem Solving partner institution (faculty from non-Global Problem Solving partner institutions are not be eligible for a stipend).\(^1\)

**Eligibility:** Mason faculty (tenor; tenor-track; term; administrative and adjunct), who have completed a faculty expertise profile in the Global Register.

**Timeline:**
- Deadline for Proposals: January 15, 2016
- Notification of Awards: February 1, 2016
- Preparation of GCC: Spring – Summer 2016
- Delivery of GCC: Fall Semester 2016
- Awards must be used by the end of December 2016

**Expectations:** The award recipient will be expected to:
• Deliver a Global Collaborative Classroom course in Fall 2016.
• Share their expertise with the broader Mason community, for instance by making a presentation at an Innovations in Teaching and Learning conference, or mentoring future participants
• Produce a report at the end of the course for publication on the Center for Global Studies website
• Once the collaborative course is designed, grantees will share the GCC components of the course with the Office of Global Strategy.

**Selection Criteria:** Proposals will be reviewed by a committee of faculty members and a representative of Learning Support Services, whose membership will reflect various dimensions of diversity, such as race and gender, academic discipline, local academic unit, and academic rank. The committee’s evaluation would include:
• Syllabi of joint or collaborative courses, including course assignments
• Compatibility of collaborative courses
• Ability to carry out the proposal
• Potential to engage students in globally networked learning
Potential for future delivery of the same course
Integration of collaborative experiences and global understanding learning outcomes
Potential of the project to further research and engagement with proposed and other partners

**Application Material:** Applications should submit:

1. All details specified on GCC Application Form, including a one paragraph project summary of no more than 250 words.
2. Description of the Global Collaborative Classroom (2,000 words maximum, double-spaced) for non-specialist readers, including:
   - A description of the existing course that will be adapted for the GCC;
   - The global understanding learning outcomes that will be integrated into the course assignments; including the cross-institution collaborative assignments;
   - A description of the partner faculty and their role in developing the course, and the connection with the partner university (how long you have they known each other; previous collaboration, etc.).
   - Plans to share the outcome(s) with Mason colleagues and the external community.
3. **Budget** (one page) of anticipated expenses (e.g. travel, accommodations, technical support). Note: the budget need not include faculty stipends, which are covered separately.
4. Applicant’s Curriculum Vitae (CV) and Partner’s CV (not to exceed three pages each).

**Submission:** Applications must be submitted electronically by email as a Microsoft Word attachment (no PDF’s will be accepted) to mglobal@gmu.edu.

**Inquiries:** Questions about the award or application process should be directed to the Center for Global Studies, mglobal@gmu.edu. 703-993-4064.

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1 The partner institutions are **University of Brasilia** (Brazil); **Tsinghua University** (China); **University of Delhi** (India); **Kenyatta University** (Kenya); Yonsei University (Korea); **Higher School of Economics** (Russia); **Istanbul Sehir University** (Turkey)