Program goals and eligibility

These grants are intended to enhance the learning environment in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science at both the undergraduate and graduate level. All instructors who teach courses in any of the 10 engineering programs are eligible. Priority will be given to proposals that impact large numbers of students. Team applications are also eligible.

Support levels

A. **Innovation Seeding** (up to $5000): This program is intended to allow an instructor(s) to find funding to implement a new innovation in their course(s). The application is 1-2 paragraph describing the innovation, including why it will likely improve student learning, with a requirement to summarize the outcome at the conclusion of the pilot.

B. **Course Redevelopment Project** (up to $50,000 + in-kind support from the FEAS Teaching & Learning Team): This program is for significant course redesign, or for significant program redevelopment. The application is up to five pages including description of the goal, evidence that it will likely lead to an improved student learning experience, and how the initiative will be assessed. The proposal must be supported by the department head.

Projects must be complete by December 2017. Applications should be sent to Karen Merrill (merrillk@queensu.ca) by April 30, and decisions are expected by the end of May.

Impact on annual performance review

Significant course redevelopment often leads to some decrease in student satisfaction in the short term. The dean will take this into account when conducting annual performance reviews for instructors involved in course redesign, and participation in this program will be recognized as evidence of curriculum development.
Instructions

A. Innovation Seeding Grants (Up to $5000)

The application should include:

- Applicant name(s), appointment, and department
- A 1-2 paragraph description of the innovation to be piloted including the course involved, goal, timeline, and how the funds will be used.
- Include a statement acknowledging that a 1-page summary of the outcomes of the project will be submitted at the conclusion of the project and disseminated to other potentially interested people.

B. Course Redevelopment Grants (up to $50,000 + in-kind support from FEAS Teaching & Learning Team)

The application should start with a meeting with the associate dean (teaching and learning) to discuss the project goals. Members of the FEAS Teaching & Learning Team may assist with some areas of the application, e.g. connecting project ideas to past research in engineering education, effective pedagogical approaches, and the impact assessment. The application is a document of up to five pages that includes the following items:

- Applicant name(s), appointment, and department, including the name of the primary contact if this is a group proposal
- Description of the project goal and evidence that the project will likely lead to an improved student learning experience, including increased accessibility. The redevelopment initiative must not result in a heavier workload for students, so new learning activities must be offset by other activities removed from the course/program. Describe the roles of any other personnel involved in the proposed project (e.g. librarians, TAs, post-docs, etc.)
- Description of how the initiative aligns with university and departmental teaching priorities, including National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) engagement indicators
- Describe the project timeline and detailed budget breakdown. Also describe any overlap with other funding sources and any in-kind support provided by the department, if applicable.
- Describe how the impact of the initiative will be assessed
- Include a support letter from the department head
- Include a statement acknowledging that a 2-5 page report of the outcomes of the project will be submitted at the conclusion of the project (this can also be developed with support from the Teaching and Learning Team). The report
should outline how the funds were spent, description of the revised learning activities, and impact of the initiative on the student learning experience. The applicant(s) will also identify how they will disseminate key outcomes of the project within Queen’s, and more broadly if appropriate.

Criteria

Applications will be evaluated on the basis of the points above. Some awards will be reserved for junior faculty.

This program is not intended to support purchase of IT equipment (tablets, laptops, smartphones), or laboratory equipment or consumables. If there are special needs for technology to support the project please discuss with the Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning).