

Guidelines for Action/Research Grants

Revised March 19, 2009

Overview: The UFF-FSU Chapter will award up to three Action/Research Grants to UFF members at FSU or Florida High (FSUS). Each grant will consist of a \$3000 award. This grant program is intended to support members proposing action, research, creative work, or similar activities that will build a stronger voice for faculty at FSU, FSUS, or in relation to state government. Submissions are limited to no more than two pages of 12-pitch font and should be submitted electronically as a PDF (e-mail: jtfiorito@comcast.net). To ensure consideration, proposals must be received by the UFF-FSU Chapter President no later than May 1st, 2009. Awards will be decided by the UFF-FSU Executive Council (EC) no later than May 15th, 2009. The UFF-FSU President and UFF members on Article 3 summer release time for 2009 are not eligible. UFF membership is determined as of the submission deadline. The award will be paid in two installments of \$1500 each. The first will be paid on June 1, 2009 and the second will be paid on completion of the proposed work and submission of a brief report (five pages maximum) to UFF-FSU Chapter officers.

Sample project ideas: This is a new program, but some very general ideas are suggested here to indicate the type of grant proposal that will be favorably received.

1. Research projects. "Where Does the FSU Money Go?" is the title of a report currently posted at the www.uff-fsu.org web site. This report is an example of a completed project for which a proposal would be favorably received. There is no particular desire to have this study replicated at this time, but it illustrates a project that the UFF-FSU EC supported.
2. Recruiting projects. A member might propose a specific plan to boost UFF-FSU membership. A series of personal visits to colleagues to discuss the benefits of membership and a stronger voice for faculty might be undertaken in specific departments, colleges, or locations. A recruiting video might be developed.
3. Building activism. A relatively small portion of our UFF-FSU membership provides the bulk of the volunteer effort that makes our chapter work. Proposals that offer ideas and action for broadening our activist base among current members could make a substantial contribution to our chapter.
4. Government relations. State government is undeniably an important influence on FSU faculty members' jobs. Our Tallahassee location provides opportunities for faculty members to meet with legislators and legislative staff members to explain faculty concerns. Few faculty members exploit this opportunity. Only a small fraction of UFF-FSU members contribute to the UFF PAC. Proposals leading to improvement on these dimensions are welcome.
5. Other. Please note that the above is intended to illustrate some possibilities, not to preclude other creative ideas or plans.

Note: UFF staff assistance and UFF-FSU officer assistance to help with some of these efforts may be available, but should not be assumed. We are not seeking proposals to create more work for UFF staff or UFF-FSU volunteers. If your proposal sounds like "Here's what you should do ...," don't bother.

Submission: Please submit proposals as a PDF attachment to jtfiorito@comcast.net by May 1, 2009. Late proposals will not be considered. The UFF-FSU Chapter reserves the right to award no Action/Research Grants if the judgment of the Executive Council is that no submissions are suitable.