

**GOLDFARB CENTER FOR
PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
AT COLBY COLLEGE**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT COURSE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement invites proposals for the development of new or revision of existing civic engagement courses. The goal of the Goldfarb Center is offering these funds to increase the number of civic engagement courses offered at the college, across a broad range of disciplines.

Funding The Goldfarb Center will provide funding for up to four (4) grants of up to \$2500 for each course. The program intentionally provides maximum flexibility; expenses may include a stipend for the time spent developing the course, costs of materials for development of the course, and other expenses likely to be incurred in delivering the course for the first time. The grantee is expected to keep track of all expenses and submit items for reimbursement in a timely fashion. A detailed expense summary must be submitted to the Goldfarb Center Assistant Director, Alice Elliott, within two weeks after the end of the course, and a brief report needs to be submitted following completion of the course summarizing the experience. In addition, we will ask for a brief, 300 +/- word article for the Goldfarb Center newsletter during the course.

Proposals: Proposals should include

- a brief narrative that identifies course goals and objectives, the proposed civic engagement component, and the likely community partner, and
- a detailed budget that includes anticipated expenses in support of the proposal goals.

Courses must meet the guidelines listed below. The deadline for applications is rolling; proposals may be submitted for spring courses for the academic year 2008-09, or for the academic year 09-10. We hope that any civic engagement courses resulting from this departmental work will be identified as such in the course catalogue.

For assistance in developing a proposal, please contact Alice Elliott, the Goldfarb Center's Assistant Director of Community Outreach and Programming. Resources available include: individual coaching, research on courses at like institutions, sample syllabi, readings and more. You can reach Alice at x5313 or via email at aelliott@colby.edu. **Submit proposals to Alice Elliott, Diamond 252, or via e-mail.**

Civic Engagement Course Guidelines.

Civic Engagement courses include a service component in which students engage the community in a valuable, significant, and necessary activity that has real consequences for the communities involved. Civic engagement courses are not developed in a vacuum but are shaped to respond to the self-identified needs of such communities. The needs of the community dictate the type of civic engagement in which the students are involved. Grant proposals will be judged according to the following:

1. Clear and well thought-out goals for students and community.
2. Academic rigor
3. An in-class experience—readings, discussions and presentations-- that will enable students to better understand the community component of their experience and connect it to course content.
4. A structured process of reflection and analysis on the community experience built into the course and linking the experience to course goals.
5. Presentation of the results to the community partner/public.
6. A plan for offering the course at least twice -- the strongest proposals will be for courses likely to become a regular part of the curriculum beyond the initial offerings.