

GOLDFARB CENTER FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

CALL FOR PROPOSALS -- STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

The Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement invites proposals from Colby students, regardless of major, for funding of original research projects (including collaborative research) on topics related to public affairs or civic engagement. A wide range of student research projects may qualify for funding under this program, however preference will be given to students working on honors projects or independent studies or on extended class-related papers for which no other adequate funding sources are available.

Funding: Grants will range from \$1000 - \$3000, with maximum funding allocated to those grants that are either collaborative or for those that require international travel. Funds may be allocated to cover any legitimate research expenses including, but not limited to: purchase of research materials, travel, food, and lodging expenses associated with data gathering. Students may not qualify for stipends under this program, except for unusual circumstances, which should be specifically documented at the time of the application. The Center hopes to fund two or three projects from this round of applications.

Proposals: Applicants should submit a proposal that clearly lays out the following information:

- ✓ the nature of the specific project
- ✓ the topic's connection to the mission of the Goldfarb Center
- ✓ a detailed research design to include:
 - the specific research questions to be examined
 - a literature review
 - a clear indication of how data will be gathered and how variables will be defined
 - evidence that you have the skills necessary to gather the information in this way
 - a proposed timeline for data-gathering and writing
- ✓ a proposed budget with details of projected expenses
- ✓ the intended product
- ✓ a letter of endorsement from the faculty member who will be sponsoring your research, indicating that he or she has read your proposal and feels that you have the ability to carry it through to completion
- ✓ an unofficial transcript of your Colby courses

If the project involves human subjects, the proposal should be submitted to Colby's Institutional Review Board simultaneously with submission to the Goldfarb Center.

No application will be reviewed unless all of the items listed above are included and no deadline extensions will be granted.

Product: The proposal should specify the intended end product for the project and at least preliminary thoughts on means of dissemination. The end project will be included in the Goldfarb Center's web-based Working Paper Series. Students receiving funding under this program will be expected to make presentations as part of the Colby Undergraduate Research Symposium.

December 2008

Goldfarb Center Student Fellows: Students receiving research grants will be named as Goldfarb Center Fellows for the academic year in which their work is completed and should include that designation on all work that results from this grant. Goldfarb Center Student Fellows are expected to attend Goldfarb Center events throughout the year on a regular basis.

Deadline: Applications for the next round of funding are due by Friday, February 13, 2009. Proposals will be evaluated by the Center's Faculty Steering Committee, which will make a recommendation to the Goldfarb Center Director. Decisions will be announced by February 27, 2009.

For further information, contact Goldfarb Center Assistant Director, Susanna Thompson, smthomps@colby.edu.