President's Commission on Diversity and Inclusion

Programming and Support Fund

The Murray State University President's Commission on Diversity and Inclusion (PCDI) seeks to provide **financial support to programming efforts** aimed at strengthening and promoting diversity. The institution defines "diversity, as a concept, that describes an inclusive community of people with varied human characteristics, ideas, and world views related, but not limited, to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, religion, color, creed, national origin, age, disabilities, socio-economic status, life experiences, geographical region, or ancestry. Diversity in concept expects the creation by institutions of a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment that honors and respects those differences." (*Diversity Plan*, 2011)

Proposals may be submitted three (3) times per fiscal year. Submission deadlines are the second Monday of September, November, and February. Fund submissions shall be promptly reviewed by a subcommittee of the PCDI.

Proposals will be reviewed on the following criteria:

- Relation of activity to issues addressed in the *Diversity Plan,*
- Extent to which the activity benefits the target population and/or community, and
- Financial need and access to other funding sources.

Funds are one-time only and should not be expected to fund ongoing projects. Proposal for projects previously awarded funds will not be accepted. Departments, programs, and student organizations may be approved for multiple projects. **While entities may collaborate on proposals, each proposal shall not exceed $1000** and priority will be placed on applicants who have received no PCDI funding in the current fiscal year. Funds approved may not cross from one fiscal year to the next. Any funds approved and not expended during the current fiscal year shall be forfeited. Student organization applicants must be registered organizations in good standing with the Division of Student Affairs.

Examples of proposal/project concepts:

- Diversity training opportunities for student organization leaders and/or members
- Diversity "train-the-trainer" programs for administrators
- Innovative solutions for incorporating diversity concepts into the classroom setting

Salaries of employees and students, as well as awards, may not be covered by the fund. Regular Murray State spending regulations are applicable.

Proposals should be written in memo format, submitted in MS Word or PDF format, and include the following:

- A brief summary of the department, program, or student organization, including its mission statement, name and contact information for primary contact person for the department, program or student organization and the project being proposed, if different *(not to exceed ½ page)*
- A description of the of the proposed project and a brief assessment plan outline to gauge impact of project on target audience and/or university community *(not to exceed 3 pages)*
- The funding amount being requested, total project budget, annual department, program, or student organization budget and any other committed and/or anticipated funding sources for the project *(not to exceed 1 page)*

Proposals should include information about how the proposed project will be impacted if funding is not awarded through the PCDI Programming and Support Fund.

Proposals should be submitted to msu.pcdi@murraystate.edu.

Applicants approved to receive funding will be expected to submit a final report within 30 days of the project taking place. The report should outline items learned in assessing the project's impact and any plans to continue the project in the future. *(not to exceed 1 page unless additional information is requested by the PCDI)*

By providing financial support to turn ideas into reality, Murray State is **leveraging the innovation** of our departments, programs, and student organizations **to improve the campus climate for diversity.**

Revised: October 2013