



Request For Proposals **Innovative Approaches Using Technology** **to Enhance the Student Experience at URI**

The Office of the Provost is pleased to accept applications to fund innovative approaches that utilize technology to enhance the student experience at URI.

Description of the Program

This initiative will support staff, students, a student organization, a URI department, or faculty-led technology initiatives that would enhance the student experience at URI. The funds may be utilized to improve the academic or co-curricular experience and/or success of students, advance student engagement and learning, or improve any aspect of student life through the use of technology. The program supports innovative pedagogical approaches and/or creative initiatives that involve implementation of new approaches utilizing technological or software applications, equipment, and/or consultative services. Projects that reinforce the goals of the Academic Plan and/or the President's vision are especially encouraged.

These funds shall only be used for "one time" expenditures (not for base personnel expenses), although additional funding to expand or support the initiative could be applied for in subsequent years. Updates to general purpose classrooms and classroom technology are not included in this initiative as funds have been allocated to the Joint Classroom Steering Committee for these uses.

Criteria

A total of \$300,000 has been allocated for initiatives to be implemented during the spring, summer, and/or fall semester of 2012. While no specific funding cap is imposed at this time, support will likely be provided for approximately 15 projects. However, only innovative and meritorious projects will be supported. As such, if the full allocation is not utilized, funds will be carried forward for future use. Any unused funds on any project will also be returned to the Provost's Office.

Specifically, consideration will be given to initiatives that:

- Demonstrate a substantial positive impact on the overall student experience, student learning, or the student co-curricular experience at URI, especially with regard to student performance in "gateway" courses;
- Have the potential to be transformative and have a broad impact;
- Utilize technology and maximize innovative approaches;
- Involve multiple departments, colleges, or other administrative units.

A review panel consisting of faculty, staff, and students and chaired by Vice Provost Laura Beauvais will be convened to consider proposals and make recommendations for funding.

The portfolio of proposals selected for funding will offer a balance of initiatives, which address multiple goals and different outcomes and have the highest potential for meaningful impact on the student experience relative to use of technology in a creative and innovative manner.

Application Process

At this time, we are requesting proposals for 2012. Successful proposals from faculty/staff/students would be submitted on the enclosed application.

Complete the following application and submit to the Office of the Provost (officeofprovost@etal.uri.edu) by **November 1, 2011**. Decisions will be made by December 2011. Please contact Vice Provost Laura Beauvais if you have any questions (Beauvais@uri.edu or 874-4341).

APPLICATION for 2012 Innovative Approaches Using Technology to Advance the Student Experience

Complete the following application. Email to the Provost Office (officeofprovost@etal.uri.edu) no later than **November 1, 2011** by scanning the signed paper application and proposal into pdf format. A confirmation email will be sent when the proposal has been received. Decisions will be made by December 2011.

List Names, Affiliation, and Status (i.e., Faculty, Staff, Student) of those involved in the proposal:

Main Contact Person (name, voicemail, and email address)

Beginning Date for the Proposed Program (within 2012) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

In **1- 3** pages, please provide a narrative that addresses the following criteria, which will be used in evaluating proposals:

1. Summary of the Proposed Initiative: Indicate the goals and provide a description of the initiative; describe how it is intended or designed to impact the student experience (learning, co-curricular, or nonacademic). Highlight the innovative aspects of the proposed initiative.
2. Indicate specifically how the initiative will be assessed or evaluated in terms of meeting its goals and determining actual outcomes of impact on the student experience. How will goals and outcomes be measured?
3. Provide a budget breakdown for specifically how the funds would be utilized to support the initiative goals and the timeframe for how the initiative will proceed, including a clear termination date.