

Faculty Development Partnership Grant Application
Expanding our Central Illinois Social Studies Educators Network & Building Bridges with Teaching Alumni

[REDACTED]
Department [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

1. Provide a title and concise description of the project. Please include how the proposed project would contribute to the development of interdisciplinary teaching and research projects and/or partnerships beyond the university.

Project Title:

Expanding our Central Illinois Social Studies Educators Network & Building Bridges with Teaching Alumni

Project Description:

This project, if funded, would enable bringing a core group of EIU alumni who teach and plan to teach in central Illinois to campus to engage them in a day of reflection upon teaching practice and the proper preparation of future social studies teachers. Teachers would be provided with a small honorarium, teaching materials, and lunch in exchange for coming to campus to engage in discussion of teaching practice and to provide samples of work they are doing with middle-level and secondary students in the high school social studies classroom.

I would also include a showcase of *Facing History and Ourselves* resources that I use in my methods courses and which I would like to partner with them to make use of in their own classrooms (and ultimately, create collaborative relationships where we can reflect upon the use of the materials and engage in ongoing professional development). Facing History and Ourselves (<https://www.facinghistory.org/>) is a nonprofit that does educational outreach, but their reach to downstate Illinois has been very limited. I am working with one of their Associates to develop ties between the Chicago-based office and our program. Collaborating with area teachers in making use of the program would enhance the work I do with methods students on campus and increase our engagement with shaping the teaching of social studies in central Illinois.

I envision this grant as allowing for just a beginning step. In its aftermath, I would work to build a collaborative relationship of reciprocity with each of them. The time on campus this June would be followed by consistent work with these teachers throughout the next school year: placing clinical experience students in their classrooms, gathering further feedback on developing methods syllabi and curriculum, providing resources, discussing incorporation of Facing History and Ourselves materials, and spending a day at each school observing and bringing back valuable experience to incorporate into my methods courses. The need for the last is very clear, and it also sends a powerful message from EIU that we view teachers as partners, not just as recipients of our information and students. Finally, the College of Education (CEPS) has begun an initiative to foster our relationships with younger alumni who are teaching, as they are the ones in a great position to recruit future teachers and send them to EIU. Recruitment payoff would be a side benefit of further developing my network of central Illinois teachers.

2. Provide a clear statement of the objectives of the project. Please include how the proposed project will accomplish the goals of the Partnership Grants.

The goals of this project are as follows:

1. To foster collegiality and collaboration between the Social Science Teaching program at EIU and central Illinois teachers
2. To provide central Illinois teachers with resources for fostering historical literacy; incorporating social justice pedagogy into classrooms; and teaching social studies content
3. To strengthen EIU's ability to work with preservice teachers in SOS 2400 (Introduction to Teaching Social Studies) and SOS 3400 (Middle and Secondary Social Studies Teaching Methods) by obtaining feedback, student work samples, lesson plans, and more from practicing teachers and incorporating the diversity of their viewpoints into my curriculum development
4. To better integrate the History Department's training of social studies teachers with the work being done, and the challenges being faced, by central Illinois teachers
5. To build potential recruitment of high school students to come to EIU in general and specifically to become teachers by building stronger relationships with recent alumni who are teaching

Each of these goals aligns in some fashion with the goals of the Partnership Grants, specifically in the creation of strong partnership, collaboration, and relationships of mutual exchange with teachers in the broader community. The project will "foster collegiality" and the exchange of ideas among EIU faculty and middle-level and secondary teachers, and will assist in the development of innovative pedagogy both on campus and beyond campus in central Illinois social studies classrooms. The teaching produced must be interdisciplinary in that teachers engage in—and I must engage in training preservice teachers to engage in—teaching in and among the multiple social studies disciplines, including history, geography, government, psychology, sociology, and economics. The Facing History and Ourselves materials to be shared and implemented on and off-campus are designed to "promote ... the incorporation of diverse ... cultural perspectives" into curriculum here and elsewhere.

3. If the grant involves more than one applicant, provide a brief description of the role of each applicant in the proposed project. (Only one applicant needs to complete the application, but list all applicants/partners.)

I am applying as a sole applicant and would serve as facilitator of the project. The teacher partners who would be invited in represent a variety of schools in central Illinois:

- [REDACTED], 2013 graduate, Lawrenceville Sr. High School
- [REDACTED], 2013 graduate and 2016 MA graduate, Westville Sr. High School
- [REDACTED], 2014 graduate, Casey-Westfield Jr/Sr High School
- [REDACTED], 2015 graduate, Pawnee Jr/Sr High School
- [REDACTED], 2015 graduate, Mattoon High School
- [REDACTED], 2015 graduate, Cerro Gordo High School
- [REDACTED], fall 2016 graduate, on job market in central Illinois
- [REDACTED], 2017 MA graduate, Urbana High School
- [REDACTED], spring 2017 graduate, on job market in central Illinois
- [REDACTED], spring 2017 PB graduate, on job market in central Illinois

4. Provide an itemized cost estimate for the proposed activity and include any other monies you may be expecting towards this project.

- Food Cost, \$110.00
- Copies of Resource Packet, including *Facing History and Ourselves* materials, \$140.00
- \$50 stipends for participating teachers, \$500
- TOTAL: \$750.00

Facing History and Ourselves is willing to provide some materials and professional development in future years though not during the time of this grant. At present we are coordinating their involvement in the EIU Annual History and Social Studies Teachers conference. Ideally, they would come and work with this teacher network during that event (to be held November 3, 2017). They are a potential source ongoing professional development in years to come.

5. Provide a working schedule for completion.

April 2017: Working with teacher network to select a day in mid-June on which most/all can come to campus.

May 2017: Planning for meeting, coordinating with Facing History to get materials for teachers, creating packets and summary documents of methods coursework

June 2017: One-day meeting on campus

June 2017: Follow-ups after meeting: thank yous, plan for moving forward, schedule for fall visits to classrooms, etc.

**EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY DEVELOPMENT
PARTNERSHIP GRANTS – ADDENDUM TO APPLICATION**

By submitting this application, we agree that if awarded a Faculty Partnership Grant, the funds will be used to support the project specified.

We agree that if awarded a Faculty Partnership Grant, the funds will be transferred to _____ (Operating Account Name & Number) according to University policy.

We agree to provide a summative report (at least 250 words) that explains ways in which we integrated the subject matter of skills that we gained into our teaching, research, and/or service, which we will permit to be posted on the Faculty Development website.

We also understand that any monies awarded for Partnership Grants must be spent or encumbered by the end of the current fiscal year (June 30, 2017) according to University policy.

Applicant

Applicant

Important: Only completed applications submitted by the due date will be considered by the Faculty Development Grant Subcommittee. In order to ensure that your application is processed, please make sure that you enter the correct information.

Delivery: One copy of the proposal is to be delivered to the Faculty Development Office, 1116 Booth Library by **4:00pm on Friday, March 24, 2017.** Alternatively, this proposal can be emailed to Faculty Development at facdev@eiu.edu no later than **4:00pm on Friday, March 24, 2017.**