# **Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence**

At Grand Valley State University, research, scholarship, and creative activity are essential components of the university's mission as an institution of higher learning. Excellence in teaching at the university level depends upon active scholarship by faculty members. Through basic and applied research, artistic expression and performance, and other forms of scholarship, GVSU faculty members contribute to the development and application of knowledge, create a dynamic environment for learning, and contribute to the economic progress of the region that it serves.

### Mission

The Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence (CSCE) promotes a culture of active, engaged and ethical scholarship through supporting innovative faculty and student research and collaborative partnerships in the broader community.

#### **Values**

We believe that:

- Scholarship is an essential component of the university's mission as an institution of higher learning and community service.
- Excellence at the university level depends upon active student and faculty scholarship.
- Innovation and excellence in scholarship are integral to teaching, learning, service, and leadership.
- Basic and applied research, artistic expression and performance, and other forms of scholarship contribute to the development and application of knowledge, and create a dynamic environment for learning.
- The responsible conduct of research includes scientific rigor and merit aimed at the advancement of knowledge, understanding and improved social welfare.

### **Organizational Structure**

The Center coordinates the efforts of the following units within the University:

The **Office of Sponsored Programs** serves as the University's central office that supports faculty and staff in the identification, development, submission, and administration of externally sponsored agreements for scholarly research and creative activity.

The **Office of Research Compliance and Integrity** oversees compliance awareness and accountability within the research culture of the university through assistance, education, and communication. The office is responsible for activities involving human subjects, animal welfare, biohazards, and chemical safety.

The **Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship** offers a variety of opportunities for undergraduates to pursue research and scholarship in various disciplines under the direction of a faculty mentor.

The **Technology Commercialization Office** is the university's intellectual property administration center, serving GVSU's researchers and inventors with licensing, patent, and technology commercialization issues and acting as an active liaison to parties interested in leveraging GVSU research or materials for academic or corporate endeavors.

# **Upcoming Events/Deadlines**

Aug.1	Application Window Opens	Graduate Student Academic Conference Fund (Travel 10/1 to 12/31)
Aug. 15	Application Window Opens	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Faculty Dissemination Applications (10/1 to 12/31 Conference dates)
Aug. 19	Event	New Faculty Research Orientation
Sep. 1	Application Window Opens	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Academic Conference Fund (Student Travel) (10/1 to 12/31)
Oct. 1	Application Deadline	CSCE Internal awards for faculty research and creativity
Oct. 4	Event	Undergraduate Research Fair (5-7p.m., 2250 Kirkhof Center)
Oct.15	Proposal Deadline	Presidential Graduate Student Research Grant for Winter Semester Research
Nov.1	Application Deadline	CSCE Awards Nomination Packages Due
Nov. 15	Application Window Opens	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Faculty Dissemination Applications (1/1 to 3/31 Conference dates)
Dec. 1	Application Window Opens	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Academic Conference Fund (Student Travel) (1/1 to 3/31)
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Many other opportunities are available throughout the year please contact the CSCE for a complete listing

# **Assistance on Proposal Preparation**

Quality Circles program provides opportunities for you to improve your proposal by receiving feedback from past recipients and selection-committee members, in a manner designed to mirror the actual review your submission will undergo.

The reviewers in *Circles for Success* look at your entire submission (title, abstract, main body, and any appendices) and review the different components, helping to ensure that your material is conveyed in the best possible manner. Care is given to explore the initial impression of your application and in providing feedback to assist with making a strong first impression.

## Circles for Success offers:

- Peer review and feedback on a variety of writing projects
- Insight from recipients and former selection-committee members
- Fullbright, NSF, foundational, governmental and internal grant submission feedback and assistance
- Improvement of success rates
- Aid in increasing your portfolio and research

### **Setting A Course For Your Research**

Planning a dynamic research program involves both identifying the research question(s) you want to pursue, and deciding what you want to accomplish in your pursuit of those questions. This multi-week working seminar series is designed to help you focus on the latter – specific, measurable outcomes of your research program, and the timetable you will follow to achieve those outcomes.

# **Discussion Topics**

- Creating a Strategic Plan for Your Research
- Finding Time for Your Research
- Developing a Circle of Advisors
- Writing a Lay Summary of Your Research
- To Collaborate or Not To Collaborate
- Securing Resources for Your Work
- Publishing and Handling the Possibility of Rejection
- Maximizing Your Summers

### **Transferring On-going Research**

Any on-going research that you are currently doing that was previously approved by your former institution's IRB (human or animal) must be re-reviewed and re-approved by the appropriate GV Research Protections Committee before you can continue working on it here.

If you are a Principal Investigator on an active sponsored research project you may be able to transfer your funding to Grand Valley State University. Please contact the Office of Sponsored Programs (Christine Chamberlain) to seek help in initiating the process.

When in doubt – please reach out – we are here to support your research!