

## **The Claremont Colleges Sustainability Initiative Request for Proposals – Spring 2008**

### **Summer Research Groups to implement projects that advance the environmental sustainability of the Claremont campuses.**

*The Claremont Colleges Council of Presidents is prepared to award up to \$50,000 in total to faculty/ student/staff research teams to develop projects for advancing the environmental sustainability of the Claremont campuses.*

#### Background

In 2007, the Council of Presidents established a fund to provide an opportunity for concerned members of the community to use their skills to advance the cause of sustainability during a pilot phase of three years, primarily during the summer sessions. Accordingly, it provided funding to create a structure for developing, implementing, and evaluating proposals to limit the adverse environmental impacts of the colleges' operations. In the first year, the Council funded three projects to provide environmental impact assessments (Summer 2007) ending with suggestions for action where possible. These assessments can be found at: <http://sustainability.claremont.edu/>

#### Structure and Process

The current RFP will be developed for implementation design and analysis, which may include the need for some other and/or further assessment work. Following the 2008 reports, the various units of The Claremont Colleges will consider the suggestions. In any case, 2009 will see the third RFP, this time for evaluating the results of the implementations (if any) or for designing evaluation measures if the particular implementation is not yet in place.

All reports will go first to an oversight committee that will assess the quality of work, request additional information if needed, etc. Then each report will come to the Council for its decision on how to disseminate the results, etc.

#### Phase II: Summer 2008

*Eligibility:* Research team members must include at least one currently enrolled student, and at least one faculty and staff member currently employed by The Claremont Colleges. Preference will be given to teams that have participants from two or more members of the Claremont consortium.

*Application Deadline:* March 27, 2008

*Duration of Project:* Summer 2008

*Scope of Project:* In general, the projects should focus on mitigating the environmental impact of the colleges' operations. This may include, but is not limited to, improving recycling efforts,

decreasing water and energy consumption and green house gas emissions, increasing the efficiency of utilities, and reducing the use and disposal of paper goods and food products, etc. All institutional members of The Claremont Colleges may be included in the scope of the assessment. It is expected that at a project's completion, implementation will have been carried out where feasible. *Project teams are also encouraged to coordinate with external environmental agencies such as the City of Claremont Sustainability Committee or the regional Green Valley Initiative (GVI: <http://www.greenvalleynow.org>)*

*Funding:* Up to \$25,000 will be provided to carry out each selected project, depending on the team size, project scope, and proposed budget. Funds may be used for any reasonable appropriate expenses, such as stipends, consumable materials, measuring devices, operating costs, etc.

*Oversight Committee:* A qualified team of faculty and staff will review the proposals and make funding recommendations.

*Total Budget:* \$150,000, \$50,000 for summer 2008

*Proposal Format:*

Names and status of team members (e.g. faculty, student, and staff), and email of designated team leader or coordinator

Short Description of project being implemented (maximum 25 words)

Background information (maximum 150 words)

Proposed project for Summer 2008 (maximum 200 words)

Proposed itemized budget for Summer 2008 project

*Proposal Submission:*

Send proposals via email, indicating "Council of Presidents RFP proposal" in subject line, to Michael Ballagh, Assistant Dean of Faculty, Pitzer College, michael\_ballagh@pitzer.edu. For more information: x73450