Ann Arbor International Connections Grant

The University of Michigan values its culturally diverse campus and is committed to fostering a welcoming and inclusive community for all students and scholars. In addition to all 50 United States, students from 130 other countries study here, and 65 languages are taught here. This unique combination of intellectual, cultural and geographic diversity presents great opportunities for learning on our Ann Arbor campus. Our domestic students come from across the country to study, exchange ideas, conduct research and learn from one another. International students and scholars share the same educational goals with the added components of learning a new culture and developing the skills that come from navigating a new academic system.

This funding program is open to teams of U-M Ann Arbor faculty, staff and students who have new and creative ideas for connecting international students and scholars with the broader U-M community. Preference will be given to proposals that build ties among domestic and international students and/or international scholars. The goals of this competitive program include:

1. Creating structured opportunities for students and scholars to share their goals and challenges and to learn from these shared experiences.
2. Developing peer support networks to facilitate the academic, cultural and social success of all students.
3. Providing opportunities for all students to increase intercultural awareness and understanding.

Proposals may be for continuing activities or one-time events of significant impact. These events or activities may be curricular or co-curricular. Each proposal must have stated learning objectives that align with the goals outlined above. Each proposal must have a core focus on leveraging the presence of international students and scholars on the U-M Ann Arbor campus as a learning opportunity for both international and domestic students.

Proposals should be limited to 3 pages and must include a:

- Clear articulation of learning objectives for the program, aligned with the 3 goals above.
- Specific description of how students will benefit in alignment with these goals.
- Description of the event or activity, clearly articulating how the elements and structure of the event or activity support the learning goals.
- A description of how success for the program should be assessed.
- The number of students (domestic and international) to be reached by the program.
- Budget. Provost support will be limited to $15,000 per year over two years maximum. More efficient programs will be given preference. Proposals from student groups would be expected to include smaller budgets.
- Statement of support from a dean, department chair, or similar academic officer (for curricular programs only). This statement does not count within the three page limit.

We expect to support no more than 6 programs with an average cost of $10k per program.

Deadline for proposals: November 14, 2013

Send proposals as PDF files to VPGEE-connections@umich.edu