MEMORANDUM DCD #37, 2021-22

To: Chairs, University of Toronto Scarborough
Cc: Chairs’ Assistants, Undergraduate Coordinators & Departmental Assistants
Departmental Business Officers
Susan Shi, Finance Manager, Office of the Vice-Principal Academic & Dean
From: Professor Katherine R. Larson, Vice-Dean Teaching, Learning & Undergraduate Programming
Date: 11 April 2022
Re: Pedagogies of Inclusive Excellence (PIE) Fund - Call for Proposals 2022-23
Note: For broad distribution

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the call for 2022-23 projects for the application-based portion of the Pedagogies of Inclusive Excellence (PIE) Fund at the U of T Scarborough.

PIE is one of three pillars contributing to transformative teaching and learning at U of T Scarborough in response to the Strategic Plan, Inspiring Inclusive Excellence, alongside enhanced and expanded funding for experiential learning and teaching enhancement grants coordinated by the Centre for Teaching & Learning.

The framework of the PIE fund at U of T Scarborough provides support for the implementation of the goals of the curriculum review, advancing equity-based, holistic, accessible, anti-racist, and anti-colonial pedagogies and curricular development, with particular attention to Indigenous knowledges and knowledge systems, Black knowledges, racialized perspectives, and international and intercultural perspectives. Complementing the direct funding provided to academic departments to support unit-level curricular and pedagogical work, applications are now invited for initiatives to be undertaken in 2022-23 that spark collaborations across academic departments and with units supporting curriculum and pedagogy and/or that work to build relationships between U of T Scarborough and the broader community.

In the 2022-23 cycle, two levels of funding will be available: $10,000-$20,000 (PIE Circle 1) and $20,000-$50,000 (PIE Circle 2). Proposals may be either stand-alone projects or constitute seed funding to explore a longer-term initiative. Awards in the $10-$20K threshold are eligible for consideration for renewal for up to 3 years. Awards in the $20-$50K threshold are non-renewable.

Eligibility:
Proposals are invited from all appointed faculty members, with applications from teaching-stream faculty particularly encouraged. Librarians and staff working on aspects of curriculum and pedagogy are eligible to apply as partners.

Proposals must extend beyond a single unit. Cross-campus partnerships with the Library, the Centre for Teaching & Learning, the Doris McCarthy Gallery, AccessAbility Services, the Health & Wellness Centre, the Community Partnerships & Engagement Office, the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Office, the Office of Indigenous Initiatives, Student Life Programs in Indigenous Outreach and Black Student Engagement, the International Student Centre, and other units engaging with and supporting curricular and pedagogical work responding to the goals of the curriculum review are encouraged.

Alternatively, or in addition, proposals may work to bridge the campus and the broader community. Applicants who are new to community-engaged learning are encouraged to seek guidance from the
Community Partnerships & Engagement Office and the Office of Indigenous Initiatives prior to engaging with community partners.

Criteria:
Proposals must extend beyond the boundaries of a single unit and advance the goals of the curriculum review at a campus level. Projects should focus on one or more aspects of equity-based, holistic, accessible, anti-racist, and anti-colonial pedagogies and curricular development. The curriculum review has focused on Indigenous knowledges and knowledge systems, Black knowledges, racialized perspectives, and international and intercultural perspectives, while also foregrounding the importance of intersectionality, including gender, sexuality, and disability, as well as mental health and well-being.

While teaching and learning take place both inside and outside the classroom, proposals focused primarily on a co-curricular project should articulate a clear connection to inclusive curriculum and pedagogical development at U of T Scarborough.

Proposals should show evidence of engaging students as partners. Proposals should also speak to the question of how the project’s approach, process, and methodologies, including related learning and professional development, will inform the outcomes of the proposal. If working with community partners, proposals should reflect U of T Scarborough’s values-based and reciprocal approach to community engagement and knowledge exchange.

The curriculum review has placed intentional emphasis on creative process. Imaginative engagement with the transformative possibilities of the PIE fund for curriculum, teaching, and learning that advance inclusive excellence at U of T Scarborough are welcome and encouraged. Examples of initiatives include, but are not limited to: speaker series and symposia; visiting artists, community members, and scholars; land- and community-based learning opportunities; cross-disciplinary learning and mentorship initiatives focused on curriculum and pedagogy; projects leveraging learnings from the pandemic; and initiatives that connect curricular and pedagogical development to student access, support, and well-being.

Eligible Expenses:
Eligible expenses should follow university guidelines. They may include compensation or honoraria for visitors and guest speakers, recognizing the value of knowledges contributed by community members; short-term staffing costs; hospitality and related logistical costs for events; support for student contributions (e.g., research or teaching assistantships, on-campus co-op or work study positions); and supplies and materials. If teaching release is being requested as a part of the proposal, the pedagogical rationale for this must be clearly detailed and supported by the relevant Department Chair(s); this cost must also be factored into the budget. All funds must be used by 30 April 2023.

How to Apply?
Applicants should send a complete proposal combined into a single PDF file and submitted as an email attachment to the Office of the Vice-Principal Academic & Dean: ovpd.utsc@utoronto.ca. The application deadline for 2022-23 is 16 May 2022.

Applications should encompass the following:
1. Project outline:
   a. Summary of project (max 2 pages single-spaced), including:
      i. Full name, departmental affiliation(s), and email contact information for project lead(s) and project partner(s)

Arts & Administration Building, 1265 Military Trail, Toronto, ON, M1C 1A4 Canada
Tel: +1 416 287 7027 · www.utsc.utoronto.ca/vpdean
ii. 150-word summary of project scope and anticipated outcomes

iii. Account of how the project will advance the goals of the curriculum review and inclusive teaching and learning practices at U of T Scarborough

iv. Account of how these goals are reflected in the approach and methodology of the project

v. Proposed timelines

b. Overview of proposed budget, including all known sources of support (max 1 page)

2. Signed statement(s) of support from the Department Chair(s) of the project lead(s) (max 1 page for each)

3. Confirmation of support from all named partnering units and/or community partners (consolidated copies of email confirmations acceptable)

Adjudication and Reporting:

Proposals will be adjudicated by a committee chaired by the Vice-Dean Teaching, Learning & Undergraduate Programs with representatives from the Campus Curriculum Review Working Circle.

PIE fund recipients will be expected to submit a report of outcomes and learnings of their initiatives to the Office of the Vice-Principal Academic & Dean upon completion of the funding cycle. Project updates in a variety of forms, including narrative-based or creative formats, visual, story-based, or artistic elements, are welcome. Projects undertaken through PIE funding will be shared annually to help facilitate cross-campus mentorship and learning as we track work related to the curriculum review.

The preliminary PIE funding structure will be reviewed on a tri-annual basis, and unused funds will be pulled back at the end of each fiscal year.

The deadline for submitting proposals for the 2022-23 cycle is 16 May 2022.

Questions about the Pedagogies of Inclusive Excellence Fund and eligible projects or initiatives can be directed to vdundergrad.utsc@utoronto.ca.

Kind regards,

Katherine R. Larson
Vice-Dean Teaching, Learning & Undergraduate Programs
Office of the Vice-Principal Academic & Dean