

National, State and Local Support Helps Grow MMU Chemistry Program

For more than 20 years, the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust has helped MMU improve our facilities, expand our programs, and build our scholarship fund. We are fortunate to count ourselves among the many public and private colleges and universities in Iowa that have received such generous support from the Carver Trust.

In January, they continued this partnership with a grant for \$137,500 in support of MMU's Chemistry program. In addition to a grant of \$75,000 from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation and another \$200,000 from private donations, this grant will help us renovate two lab spaces in Donnelly Hall, effectively increasing lab space by 50%. One space will be a completely new Advanced Chemistry Lab for student research and the other will be a newly renovated Organic Lab.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry Dr. Joseph Nguyen will serve as project director for the proposed lab renovations. Professor Nguyen also coordinates the Science Fun Nights and the popular "CheMMUsical" show for local elementary schools. Special thanks goes to Alliant Energy for sponsoring these outreach programs in 2015.

NetVUE: Finding Our Strengths

In December 2014, MMU received a \$49,590 grant from the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education or NetVUE. NetVUE is a national network that aims to "enrich the intellectual and theological exploration of vocation among undergraduate students" and is administered through the Council for Independent Colleges.

The grant will provide training in Strengths-based education for 45 MMU faculty and staff. Beginning in May 2015 and running through May 2017, trained faculty and staff will use their training to help students understand their own strengths assessments. Over the course of the two-year funding period, all students will receive this assistance and be able to use what they've learned to make better educational and career choices.

MMU's Cheryl Tabarella-Redd, Director of Career Services and J. Heim, Director of Leadership and Learning Communities, will administer the grant and oversee the program.

Please feel free to contact them if you'd like to know more about it.

NEW GRANTS WEBSITE GOES ONLINE

A new website for all things grants has been created for MMU faculty, staff and students.

The website is a resource for anyone who has an idea or project but lacks funding to make it a reality.

The website features planning and writing toolkits, links to funders and other resources, and policies and procedures. Check it out here:

<https://www.mtmercy.edu/grants-administration>

FUNDING SPOTLIGHT

Humanities Iowa grants support programs for the out-of-school adult public that "stimulate meaningful community dialogue, attract diverse audiences, are participatory and engaging, and invite discovery of the humanities in interesting and exciting ways. Collaborative projects involving multiple community organizations that serve a broad constituency are given preference."

Examples of eligible projects include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Scholar-led walking tours and accompanying interpretive brochures.
- Seminars, symposia and workshops led by a scholar.
- Literary reading/discussion or lecture/discussion programs led by at least one scholar.
- Discussion/interpretation programs focused on the showing of films, performances, videotapes/DVDs, and exhibits.

Mini grants up to \$3,000 do not have a due date.

Major grants from \$3,001 to \$10,000 have spring and fall dues dates.

Contact Walter Chien at ext. 1362 if you are interested. Please visit their website for more details: <http://www.iowaartscouncil.org/funding/overview.shtml>