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## Stocker Endowment Fund Guidelines and Procedures for 2008/09

The department or research institute/center should prioritize all requested expenditures to identify those which are most important in achieving its goals and objectives. This should also represent the requested order of funding. All research center proposals must clearly indicate how the proposed activities and expenditures will directly benefit the academic programs with which they are affiliated.

**All research institute/center proposals are to be submitted through an affiliated department(s) for evaluation, comment and endorsement.**

Research support for all faculty members will be considered on the basis of potential for research productivity and on plans to develop research areas supportive of the College's academic direction and goals. Established faculty will be assessed according to their past record of externally funded research, past utilization of Stocker Endowment support, and scholarly publications, while junior faculty will be assessed for their potential to secure outside funding and for scholarly activities. A limited amount of Stocker Fund awards are reserved for incoming faculty expected to initiate research efforts.

Before incoming faculty expend Stocker fund monies, they must submit a brief proposal to their departmental chairperson outlining their plans for utilizing the funds and indicating how it will enhance their scholarly activities and professional development over the next five years. A copy of the approved plan will be forwarded to the Dean by the chairperson with comments. At the end of each period of support, faculty will prepare a written report of their activities and accomplishments and forward them to their Chairperson. The Chairperson will review and assess the reports and forward them to the Dean.

Once the proposals are submitted to the Dean, the Stocker Fund Planning and Advisory Committee will review them and make recommendations on funding to most effectively utilize the Stocker Endowment Fund. **In their deliberations, the Advisory committee will pay close attention to how well the proposal follows these guidelines and how thorough is the response to the questions, and these will figure heavily in the final ranking of the proposals.** If the committee needs additional information on specific requests, the faculty member(s) making the request may be asked to meet with the committee to discuss those items requiring additional information. The Committee will then advise the Dean on its judgment of funding priorities.

After the Dean has reviewed all proposals and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, he will submit his recommendations for fiscal year expenditures from the Fund to the Vice President for Research, the Provost, and to the President. When the Dean receives authorization from the President, a fiscal year budget will be constructed for each department for the approved expenditures.

The list below suggests ways in which the Stocker Endowment Fund may be used to enhance research and graduate education in the College. However, the list is not intended to be all-inclusive nor is it in order of priority.

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- (1) Proposals to use Stocker Endowment Funds as matching monies for externally funded projects are encouraged. **A high priority will be placed on proposals requesting money to match an external source where that external source *requires* matching funds.** It is important, however, to remember that funds must be matched directly from some other source to be considered “matching” funds in this context. [For example, if a proposal asks to buy a \$2,000 data-meter to be used in a project funded at, e.g., \$50,000, the proposal should not request all \$2,000 from Stocker claiming the \$50,000 as matching. Instead, part of the \$50,000 (e.g., \$1,000) should be specifically used as matching and the remaining \$1,000 requested from the Stocker Fund.] In evaluation of the matching fund requests, close attention will be paid to adherence to these guidelines. Consistency with departmental, research center and college goals is also essential. (Note: Stocker money cannot be used as matching money for Stocker money.)
- (2) Requests for funds to purchase specialized research equipment for research which promises future external funding and which includes matching funds from other sources will receive high priority. Proposals without matching monies will be considered, but obviously will not have the same priority.
- (3) Support to ensure continuity of research efforts for faculty members involved in externally funded research will be given priority. This could include the time between grant periods where at least one sponsored research proposal has been submitted and a funding decision is pending. Such support should not replace externally funded support nor continue for extended periods.
- (4) Stocker Faculty Research Fellowship requests will be considered for summer support to encourage faculty efforts to develop new directions in their research and scholarship. The stipend will be \$5,000 per month and will be limited to two months (except for new faculty whose support is outlined in the letter of offer) and normally will not provide support for more than two summers. Summer support requests for research in conjunction with National Research Laboratories at facilities outside Ohio University are encouraged.
- (5) In general, requests for support to promote excellence in graduate education and research enhancement are encouraged. This might include requests for additional graduate student support or requests for other means to promote quality in the graduate education/research areas of the College.
- (6) Equipment requests for interdisciplinary research through existing approved research centers are encouraged and will be given special consideration.
- (7) Funding for special seminars or symposia to attract outstanding researchers to the College and/or to focus attention on particular research areas will be considered. Stocker funds awarded for these purposes may not be used for meals, lodging, or alcohol.

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- (8) The following areas of general College support will be considered for funding in order to enhance the research and graduate education in the College:
- (a) A seminar series that will enable the College to bring leading engineers and researchers to campus;
  - (b) Supplemental funds for travel directly related to graduate education and research. This may include funds for visiting funding agencies, recruitment of graduate students and new faculty and faculty attendance at conferences related directly to their research efforts. When these funds are available, they will be considered as supplemental to departmental and externally-funded research funds and not as primary funds for travel support;
  - (c) Support of advanced level computing in the College;
  - (d) Support of research or graduate academic program publicity;
  - (e) Visiting Research Fellow support that will encourage researchers who are on leave from their home institutions to visit and spend an extended time working with graduate faculty and graduate students on research efforts. The stipend for this support is \$6,000 for one quarter.

In addition to the above categories, the following represents areas where Stocker Endowment funds are committed. However, it is still within the purview of the Stocker Planning and Advisory committee to review and comment on these categories and to advise the Dean accordingly.

- (1) Early support for new College faculty members expected to contribute to the graduate and research efforts in the College will be given a high priority. This may include summer support for one or two years, purchase of research equipment, and travel funds that will facilitate development of a high level of research activity. A new faculty member must submit a brief proposal to his/her departmental chair outlining plans for utilizing the funds and the ways in which their scholarly activities and professional development will be enhanced over the next five years. A copy of the approved plan will be forwarded to the Dean by the chairperson with comments. (See page 1.)
- (2) Early hiring of new faculty in authorized new positions or early hiring of replacement faculty will be given high priority. This approach may also be applied, as appropriate, to the technical and secretarial staff supporting research efforts in the College.
- (3) Graduate Fellowships and Research Associateships for prospective U.S. graduate students will be supported at a competitive level. To qualify for a Stocker Fellowship, a student must

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be a U.S. citizen and must have a GPA of 3.5 or better. A Stocker Research Associateship candidate must be a U.S. citizen with a GPA of 3.0 or better. The fellowship stipends will be \$12,000 to \$15,000 for the academic year, and the associateships (nominally 20 hours research work per week for academic year including December) will be \$8,000 to \$10,000, with \$4,000 to \$5,000 for three months (nominally 40 hours research per week) during the summer. In addition, tuition waivers will be provided to accompany each fellowship and associateship.

- (4) Library and computer enhancement and similar University-funded areas will be considered for support once safeguards are developed to insure no loss of future College funding. For example, enhancement funds of this sort will be considered only when it is clear that the funds are truly being used as enrichment funds to complement rather than replace University support.

An annual report of the uses and benefits of support from the Stocker Endowment Fund will be prepared by the Dean and distributed to the President, the Provost, and each ENT Department. Supported departments or centers will contribute to this report by summarizing the results and accomplishments of their Stocker Endowment expenditures during the previous fiscal year.