

Funding Announcement From the Society of Distinguished Teachers

Distinguished Teacher Awards for Medical Education

The Yale University School of Medicine's Society of Distinguished Teachers seeks to honor, preserve and enhance the legacy of medical education at Yale. The Society is soliciting proposals for educational initiatives and development grants to fund several faculty projects for up to \$10,000 each. Eligible faculty will include both full-time and community faculty members. Members of the Society of Distinguished Teachers are not eligible to apply, but may act in a mentorship role, as outlined below. Grants are limited to one year, but may be renewable for a second year for the specific project funded.

The stated purpose of these small grants is to fund the exploration of new concepts and programs in undergraduate medical education at Yale. The goals include producing sustainable clinical or basic science initiatives within already existing programs, the adaptation of successful projects at other institutions to Yale, or the institution of completely new programs in medical education. The funds are *not* meant to serve as salary support, but are to be utilized by the faculty members who receive them for the purposes of investigating such new initiatives. For example, these funds might be used for travel, particularly to visit institutions where there may be faculty with similar interests.

Collaboration is considered a vital part of these proposed projects. The Society of Distinguished Teachers requests that faculty interested in applying for these grants also seek out and identify one mentor, who is a current member of this Society, to consult with as an ongoing part of their project. It is anticipated that the Society membership likely includes several potential Yale faculty who could serve in this role for any given project. The reasoning behind this stipulation is to encourage collaborations that provide continuity of purpose and enhance our teaching legacy through direct professional links with experienced faculty within the Society. Our hope is that the legacy of medical education might continue through such projects, while forging new relationships between an emerging generation of teaching faculty and those who are experienced and successful in this field.

A selection committee and review board will be composed of several members of the Society of Distinguished Teachers. They will review each application and select recipients. Applications will be made available on line as of June, 2005. The deadline for receipt of applications will be July 20th with the intention of having projects commence by September, 2005.

Budget items might include reproductions, research materials, computers, soft ware programmer time, workbooks, travel to other institutions, meetings or travel funds for relevant faculty to visit Yale related to the proposed project. Following completion of the project, a one-page summary of the work will be submitted to the selection committee. Awardees should be prepared to potentially present their projects as part of Yale medical alumni weekend activities in June each year. Our Society receives funds from medical alumni to support the legacy of teaching at Yale, and it is our intention to keep our alumni informed about the uses of such funds and the outcome of these projects.

We anticipate that recipients of these funds may wish to present their work in the form of proposals for curriculum changes or additions. Projects which, when completed, merit consideration or potential inclusion within the Yale Medical School curriculum can be reviewed by the Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee (EPCC), most likely through recommendation to the EPCC by the appropriate subcommittee of that group.

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Director
Society of Distinguished Teachers
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