



Exceptional Faculty Grant Committee
Spring 2026 Meeting
May 13, 2026

Attending: Merry Bond, Sheila Burgin, Hoa Le, Kali Brandt, Amber Lemiere, Corry Kile
Recorder: Nicole Buffham

The committee met to review applications for the 2026-2027 academic year.

The committee received a total of \$145,361.30 in requests. Exceptional Faculty funds for 2026/2027 are \$68,000, and Petters Nursing Exceptional Faculty funds are \$20,000. After reviewing and discussing the applications, prioritized by the Instructional Leadership team, the following awards were approved by consensus:

Exceptional Faculty Funds

Faculty:	Application for:	Amount:
Natasha Allen	Welding Access Initiative	\$ 2,200.00
Merry Bond	AN-DTA/MRP Curriculum Redesign (<i>\$12,000 total</i>)	\$ 6,000.00
Hiedi Bauer	Curriculum Planning Retreat	\$ 3,800.00
Lindsay Keevy	Library Collection Development	\$ 4,000.00
Sarah Willoughby	Short-term, Faculty-led Study Abroad Scouting Trip	\$ 2,600.00
Josie Zbaeren	Outreach, Recruitment, & Training	\$ 3,200.00
Dana Cummings	COIL Expansion (<i>partial funding</i>)	\$ 3,542.00
	Total Exceptional Faculty Awarded:	\$ 25,342.00

Petters Fund

Faculty:	Application for:	Amount:
Merry Bond	AN-DTA/MRP Curriculum Redesign	\$ 6,000.00
	Total Petters Awarded:	\$ 6,000.00

Summary

Total Exceptional Faculty Funds:	\$68,000.00
Total Petters Fund:	\$20,000.00
Total Requests Awarded:	\$ 31,342.00
Balance to VPI:	\$ 42,658.00
Balance Petters Funds to Nursing Program Director:	\$14,000.00

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.