

Learning and Teaching Excellence Mini-Grant Program

LTE Grants enhance and accelerate student success

In an effort to provide resources to faculty and staff to support student success, the Tri-C Foundation has established the *Learning and Teaching Excellence Mini-Grant Program*. The goal is to provide funding for immediate need, one-time requests that contribute to increasing and enhancing classroom success and workplace preparedness. The LTE Committee includes representatives from multiple departments and has approved the following mini-grants to date:

Fiscal Year 2024

- Sarah Carey, Dance/Creative Arts, Metropolitan Campus: Support for tickets to enable dance students to attend live performances for course completion.
- Jeannie Davis, Medical Lab Technology, Metropolitan Campus: Photographic equipment to enhance the Medical Lab Technology microbiology classroom labs and online courses. The photographs used will be similar to what students will encounter on the job.
- Jacqueline Dynda, Mathematics, Metropolitan Campus: Support for software licenses to provide open educational resources for Math and IT courses that pulls together multiple learning resources into one cohesive platform.
- Jessica Krowka, Nursing, Western Campus: Support for nursing students to participate in a study abroad clinical experience in Panama during Summer 2024.
- Kelly Moranz, Captioning and Court Reporting, Western Campus: Registration fees for students to attend Ohio Court Reports Association annual conference.
- Michelle Nicopolis, Psychology, Western Campus: Support for transportation and admission to the National Museum of Psychology in Akron for Fall and Spring semesters.
- Eric Olson, Social Sciences and Liberal Arts, Western Campus: Support for updated hand-drawn illustrations for the Human Evolution online course.
- Desiree Sanders, Nursing, Eastern Campus: Support for the purchase Auditory Hallucination Simulation equipment to be used during NURS 1210 (Community and Behavioral Health) to help students better understand the experience of auditory hallucinations in patients.
- Candice Storey, Paralegal Studies, Western Campus: Paralegal Bootcamp workshops for students in Paralegal capstone courses that focuses on soft skills required for employment.

Fiscal Year 2023

- Elizabeth Guidone, Radiography, Western Campus: Support for the purchase of an S-ray/radiation measurement system for the Radiography and Veterinary Technology labs in order to learn how to minimize radiation dose for patients.
- Karen Goulandris, Early Childhood Education, Western Campus: Support for students to attend the Ohio Early Childhood Conference to learn about current practices and trends in the field and for networking.
- Lois Hansen-Polcar, Chemistry, Western Campus: Support for replacing broken and outdated pipettes in all general chemistry labs.

Fiscal Year 2022

- Jim Funai, Plant Science, Eastern Campus: Support to purchase rigging equipment for a new tree care operations certificate course. The equipment will help students learn a variety of rigging scenarios when working on tree maintenance.
- Erin Susick, Mathematics, Eastern Campus: Project uses baseball as the real-world setting for learning statistics. Students enrolled in statistics courses will have the opportunity to attend a Guardians game to see statistics in action. Funding supports tickets for students to attend the game. (Grant completed in FY2023)
- Rania Assily, Liberal Arts, Westshore Campus: Honorarium support for a Frederick Douglass reenactor presentation at the Cleveland Historical Society for Tri-C students, CMSD students, and the public.
- Monica Bode, Veterinary Tech, Western Campus: Support for the purchase of animal manikins to provide hands-on learning to care for dogs and cats. Students will receive realistic practice of veterinary care procedures to gain confidence and knowledge before performing on a live animal.
- Joy Whitbred, Biology, Metropolitan Campus: Support for an equipment upgrade to the physiology lab to increase hands-on learning. The equipment allows students to perform Electrocardiography and measure respiratory volumes and compare the data to apply physiological concepts to better understand how these processes work in the human body. This expands the number of students who have access to this equipment, similar to what is used in a hospital setting.
- Mary Ann Bradfield, Hospitality Management, HMC/Westshore Campus: Purchase of an arctic chiller for multiple kitchen lab courses that will quickly cool food and maintain food safety, while allowing students to complete the full preparation of dishes during lab time to expand their skillset.

Fiscal Year 2021

- Judith Kaplan, Dietetic Technology/Dietary Manager, Metropolitan Campus: Support for the purchase of updated curriculum for the Dietary Manager Certificate program. Updates include online access to course presentations, test banks and supplemental information.
- Michelle Davis, Earth Sciences, Western Campus: Support to purchase a document camera and hard drive storage to record “in the field” videos to enhance lectures. These videos will be used in both synchronous and asynchronous courses, and materials will be shared with adjunct faculty to enhance present and future courses.
- Gary Carrington, Counseling, Metropolitan Campus: Support for a monthly lecture series targeted toward African American male students to assist in mental health support, retention and program completion.
- James Gardner, Automotive Technology, Western Campus: Support for the purchase of a Vibration Analyzer to be used in multiple automotive technology courses for students to learn how to diagnose and repair causes of vibration.
- Christine Phillips, Sports & Exercise Science, Western Campus: Support for the purchase of stress reduction technology. Students will learn how to use the devices and create instructional videos to be used in a number of Health and Physical Education courses.
- Deborah Vinesky, Nursing, Westshore Campus: Funding to support the purchase of Keith RN

case studies as an enhancement to clinical settings. These online materials will help students to develop clinical judgement to better prepare new nurses and students for practice and licensure.

- Candace Storey, Paralegal Studies, Western Campus: Support for students to participate in the virtual National Association of Legal Assistants 2021 conference. Students also presented to the entire Paralegal Studies student body on the topics that they learned about during the conference.

Fiscal Year 2020

- Nancy Kraig, Interior Design, Eastern Campus: Support for the purchase of a printing station for the Interior Design studio to assist students in printing their portfolios.
- Sarah Morgenstern, Visual Communication & Design, Western Campus: Support for students to participate in the Cleveland World Usability Day Conference.
- Tanya Wright, Health Careers/Physical Therapist Assisting Program, Metropolitan Campus: Funding to host an on-campus Scorebuilders Review Course for 15 2020 PTA students to improve exam pass rates.
- Molly Drenen, Optical Technology, Metropolitan Campus: Materials to fabricate and repair eyeglasses in the Optical Dispensary to offer free eyewear to students and hands-on optician training to OT students.
- Joseph Minek, Visual Communication and Design, Western Campus: Funding to bring the *Too Tired* project to campus to bring students together with working professionals who have used photography as a way of dealing with mental illness.
- Jim Heidenreich, Electronic Engineering, Metropolitan Campus: Purchase equipment to expand the Electronic Engineering Technology Department course offerings to the Eastern Campus for a Spring Semester launch.
- Monica Starks, Sociology, Westshore Campus: Fund travel, admission tickets, and lunch expenses for 20 students to travel to Detroit for Black History Month Exposure Trip with visits to the African American History Museum and Motown Museum.

Fiscal Year 2019

- Karen Latterner, Health Careers, Western Campus: Funding to allow eight radiology students to attend the 2019 Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists (OSRT) Annual Meeting in Columbus Ohio
- Shelly Malberti, Nursing, Metropolitan Campus: Funding to support webinar subscription, and textbook to transition from a traditional to a concept-based curriculum
- Tyler Olson, Peace Studies, Western Campus: Funding to allow students to attend the 2019 International Conference on Conflict Resolution Education
- Punya Basnayaka, Engineering, Metropolitan Campus: Purchase materials for active learning models with 3-D Printing, CNC Machining and other engineering programs in synthesizing, designing and fabricating objects.
- Michael Kenney, Chemistry, Metropolitan Campus: Funding to expand the capability of the lightboard enabling integration of graphics and text overlays to enhance its effectiveness and expand its use among faculty.
- Joseph Arendt, Engineering, Metropolitan Campus: Purchase robotic equipment to teach fundamental engineering concepts and provide an experiential learning experience that will capture student interest and motivate them to succeed.

- Michael Piero, English, Westshore Campus: Funding to continue offering Honors Program students opportunities to connect their classroom learning with enriching off-site trips to educational and cultural institutions in Cleveland. Michael Piero shared this summary of the support this grant award provided: