Vision

The University of La Verne offers a quality education that prepares students for a full range of life experiences, including graduate study and professional careers. Faculty of the University are encouraged to keep pace with their ever-changing fields of expertise and to contribute to these changes. A University wide commitment to research is thus essential to student learning, University reputation, and faculty growth.

The faculty of ULV must prepare their graduates to meet the demands of a competitive and technologically sophisticated world while encouraging a spirit of cooperation and of respect for the life of the mind. The University’s emphasis on quality teaching has been expanded to stress students/faculty research projects and to encourage faculty research which invigorates quality teaching. As teachers ULV faculty do not simply transmit information to students; they model active learning and intellectual curiosity. As scholars ULV faculty have a responsibility to contribute to the advancement of learning in their disciplines. The University of La Verne aims at creating a balanced, vital, and practical teaching/learning/research environment.

Goals

The goals of funding of faculty research are tightly interrelated:

1) To improve student education
1) To enhance ULV’s local and national reputation
1) To encourage faculty growth and scholarship
1) To increase funding to ULV
1) To serve the community through research activities

When a university supports a research program, students receive a better education. Research reinforces concepts, theories, and techniques learned in the classroom and laboratory, while providing another forum for faculty to share their expertise. Research is also a pedagogical tool and an expression of the faculty’s training and profession. Rather than making research a primary goal, as at other institutions, ULV’s faculty research program aims at integrating teaching and research interests and to use each to enhance the other. In the process, research enhances the public image and reputation of the University, resulting in higher enrollments, increases in the quality of students applying, and additional revenue in the form of grants and patents.

Policies

1. The Faculty Research Committee (FRC) works with University Relations to promote support and fund-raising for faculty research, including assistance in grant writing, identification of sources for research funding, and meeting with donors and foundations.

2. Each year the FRC nominates to the Provost recipients of Major Grants, defined as a grant of between $2,500 and $5,000 with a course release. These Fellowships are designed as a catalyst for the completion by regular contracted faculty of a major research project beyond the terminal degree that will result in a major publication or representation recognized by the wider scholarly community.

3. The FRC disperses smaller ULV Research Assistance Grants without course releases to regular contracted faculty to assist in research project of varying sizes.
4. The FRC promotes an awareness of faculty research and publications on the ULV campus, including nominating to the President a recipient for Scholar of the Year at the Annual Awards ceremony.

5. Normally, research grants are not awarded to one-year faculty appointees, and Major Grants are not awarded to the same person two years in a row. Research grants are not awarded for the writing of textbooks.

6. Recipients of course releases must agree not to teach any course overloads during the term in which they receive their course releases.

7. Faculty members may use grant money while on sabbatical leave.

8. Normally, after a faculty member’s research project is complete, books purchased with grant funds by the faculty member become part of Wilson Library’s collection. Similarly, equipment and data purchased with grant funds normally become department property following the conclusion of the faculty member’s project.

Procedures

1. The Provost requests proposals for research grants by December 15 to be used in the following academic year.

2. Applicants for a Major Grant must submit to the Provost:
   a) A 4-page project proposal with updated bibliography, publication plans, and detailed budget. In addition to the applicant’s signature, this document needs to be signed by the department chair and the dean of the applicant’s college.
   b) An updated curriculum vitae accompanied by any work relevant to the proposal.
   c) The names of two referees outside the University with expertise in the field of the proposal.

3. Applicants for Research Assistance Grants submit to the Provost a two-page description of their project, an updated curriculum vitae, and a detailed budget proposal. The project description requires the applicant’s signature, the department chair’s signature, and the signature of the dean of the applicant’s college. Applications for Major Grants that are not selected for funding by the Faculty Research Committee are automatically placed in the Research Assistance Grant applications pool.

4. The Faculty Research Committee nominates to the Provost recipients of Major Grants and Research Assistance Grants on the basis of each proposal’s scholarly significance or artistic merit, feasibility, and ability to enhance ULV's reputation.

5. Recipients are generally notified by May 15 to enable them to plan for course releases and to apply for additional or matching funds elsewhere.

6. The Provost notifies the Vice-President of University Relations of the recipients in order that he/she might assist in obtaining additional funding for the project by meeting with potential donors to the specific project and the funding of research in general.

7. Money is only dispersed on submission of a completed, signed University Expense Report with attached receipts.
8. A report on the funded research project is due to the Provost and Faculty Research Committee at the end of the grant period. Major Grant recipients are also obliged to present a lecture on the funded research to the wider ULV community.