

Alliance to Advance Liberal Arts Colleges Faculty Workshop Program 2015

Membership of AALAC

Amherst College, Barnard College, Bryn Mawr College, Carleton College, Denison University, Furman University, Grinnell College, Haverford College, Macalester College, Middlebury College, Oberlin College, Pomona College, Reed College, Rhodes College, Scripps College, Smith College, Swarthmore College, Vassar College, Wesleyan University, Wellesley College, and Williams College.

AALAC Mission Statement

The liberal arts colleges that comprise AALAC vary in size, region and resources but share common educational goals and institutional challenges. AALAC strives to advance liberal arts education through collective efforts to support faculty research and teaching so as to enhance the overall experience of students and to develop faculty leadership. By working together, AALAC members seek to develop a broader view of their institutions in the landscape of higher education and thereby to address more effectively the pressing challenges facing American liberal arts colleges. Through assessment of AALAC activities and dissemination of our findings, the organization seeks to share best practices with other liberal arts colleges and to make the case to the larger public for the value of liberal education in the twenty-first century.

Workshop Proposals to be Funded in Calendar Year 2015

The AALAC provides funds to support workshops that enable faculty members from AALAC institutions to gather and work together on a subject of mutual interest. Designed and organized by the faculty, the workshops may focus on topics relating to research, curricula, or pedagogy and, where relevant, may be either disciplinary or interdisciplinary. The workshops may take place during the academic year or summer and may be held on member institution campuses or may extend a stay at professional meetings by a day or two. For the upcoming round, it is anticipated that about nine workshops will be funded. These workshops may take place in the spring semester, summer, or fall semester of 2015.

Workshop Selection Criteria

Priority will be given to proposals that are planned jointly by several faculty members from three or more (ideally, at least five) of the AALAC institutions. It is hoped that the workshops will foster collaboration among these institutions and might lead to sustained interactions in scholarship or pedagogy among faculty.

When selecting workshop proposals for funding, the Workshop Selection Committee will prioritize workshops that achieve the following:

- Breadth of impact within a discipline or across disciplines and familiarity with the current state of the field
- Integration of pedagogy and scholarship
- Well-developed plans for follow-up activities and significant outcomes. Assessment of the workshop is required within one year of completion.

Workshop Proposal Guidelines

Workshop proposals should contain the following items:

1. A description (not to exceed 500 words) of the proposed workshop, its rationale and intended audience, its schedule and format, and its goals and intended impact. Proposals should also include a discussion of any anticipated follow-up activities that workshop groups might envision.
2. A list of the faculty members who will be the workshop leaders and of other faculty members who will assist in the detailed planning of the workshop
3. The name, email address, and institutional affiliation of one designated workshop liaison. This individual must be one of the workshop organizers at the institution that would host the workshop. He or she will be responsible for submitting the proposal to the dean/provost at the proposed host institution and for conveying information to the other members of the workshop group. The dean/provost at the proposed host institution will decide whether the proposal should be forwarded to the Workshop Selection Committee.
4. Condensed CVs (not to exceed two pages) of the above individuals
5. A preliminary budget, which may support the following:
 - A modest stipend to be shared among the primary workshop organizer(s) (\$500 for smaller workshops, up to \$1,000 for larger ones)
 - Travel and accommodation expenses for faculty participants from the AALAC
 - Travel and accommodation expenses and a modest stipend for speakers from outside the AALAC. Please note that \$1,000 is the maximum honorarium fee for each speaker.
 - Modest staff support for organizing the logistics (hotel space, etc.) for the workshop
 - Administrative expenses (mailing of notices, duplication of conference materials, etc.)
 - Plans for the evaluation of the workshop

Submission Deadline and Notification of Awards

The Faculty member preparing the proposal must submit it to his/her dean/provost by **May 30, 2014**. Deans/provosts will forward all approved proposals to the Workshop Selection Committee, which will make the final decisions about proposals to be funded. Workshop awards will be announced by mid-July.

Encouraging Participation in Funded Workshops

The AALAC deans/provosts may help identify other interested colleagues at their institutions who might be interested in selected workshops. The AALAC award will support the travel expenses for up to two participants from each institution, to a maximum of \$1,200 per person, but the workshop organizers will make the final selections of workshop participants, based on the desired size of the workshop and any space limitations. Workshop organizers should endeavor to accommodate faculty from as many AALAC institutions as possible. The AALAC deans/provosts may provide supplemental support through their own institutional funds to enable additional colleagues to participate in a given workshop, if space permits. Workshops may vary in cost and number of participants. Funding levels will depend on the nature and scope of the workshop. The maximum funding for an individual workshop is \$20,000.