MCC Professional Development Award

This award opportunity is designed for your professional development in teaching an MCC CURE. Would it be beneficial to spend time in another MCC lab learning new techniques to bring back to the MCC CURE you are teaching, or setting up a new collaboration, or designing a new MCC CURE to share with the community? Would it help to observe an MCC faculty member facilitating their lab of students working through experimental techniques (since many schools have different spring breaks, that might be a good time for this type of professional development)? Are there other reasons to spend time in another MCC lab to help develop the MCC CURE you are/will teach? We envision this as your in-person professional development. What do you need? This opportunity is for you to design the development you need and will fund travel, lodging, and food to allow you to do so. If you are interested and do not know what lab it might make sense for you to visit, please talk with your hub leader (see below for their contact information).

Work with a MDH CUREs Community Fellow/Mentor. Talk you your hub leader to find contacts if needed.

**Budget**: Up to $2500 which can include (reimbursable):
- Travel to the MCC host lab you will work in (plane fare, train/bus fare, or $0.65/mile for car travel (NSF rate), parking, local transportation.
- Food $65 per day (NSF policy)
- Lodging
- Funds for supplies in the host lab: Once awarded funds of up to $400 may be available for support of the event. This will be worked out with the mentors and Hub leaders.

* In this first year, we anticipate being able to fund 8 of these grants for MCC cohort members and 4 for non-cohort members. Our plan is to continue this in future years of the grant, but we will evaluate and update this call for proposals each year.

**Application**: To be submitted via slack to your hub leader (for your hub leader, see below)
- 1 page describing what lab you will visit, how long you plan to stay, what you plan to do during that stay, and how this is important for the MCC CURE you teach
- A budget (see details of what is allowed above)
- An email from the MCC mentor of the host lab to your hub leader citing their support for your visit
  - East: Amy Springer (aspringer@umass.edu)
  - West: Joe Provost (josephprovost@sandiego.edu) or Ellis Bell (jbell@sandiego.edu)
  - Central: Lisa Gentile (lgentile001@csbsju.edu)

**Deadlines**: 
- April 30 (travel window: June 1-December 31)
- October 30 (travel window: December 1-June 30)

*Note: if funds are remaining, we will consider applications submitted outside of the dates above

**Post grant reporting**: 
- No later than a month following your travel, please submit a 1 page summary of what your grant funded, the progress you made, and how you plan to incorporate this into your MCC CURE.

**Application evaluation**: 
- Applications will be evaluated by the leadership team of Joe Provost, Ellis Bell, Amy Springer, and Lisa Gentile.
- Our goal will be to fund as many worthy applications as possible. We will be looking for evidence in your application of how this grant will impact your ability to provide a quality MCC CURE to your students.
- We will also ensure that the host lab is appropriate for the work you describe and that the host is able to accommodate your stay.