Externally-Funded Grants and Contracts

The Board encourages its faculty and staff to participate in externally-funded grant and contract programs that reinforce and complement the educational mission of the College. In addition, the Board recognizes the importance and benefits of professional development by faculty and staff. The College may only support or allow grants and contracts that are consistent with the mission of the College and the Bylaws and policies of the Board, and are in compliance with applicable federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. The College will not accept grants that may endanger its tax-exempt status or which cause a conflict of interest for any College employee.

The Board authorizes the President to implement a system for encouraging, monitoring, and administering College-related grants and contracts with faculty and staff. Such system shall include at least the following components:

(1) Voluntary Participation: Because the College is a teaching institution and not a research institution, faculty and staff who elect to engage in research and externally-funded grants, contracts, or other external professional activities do so on a voluntary basis.

(2) Coordination with Other Responsibilities: In all instances, balance must be maintained between external professional activities and the responsibility of a faculty or staff member to fulfill his or her employment obligations to the College. The needs of students must take precedence in regard to the scheduling of classes and the providing of services. Therefore, externally-funded grants, contracts, or other external professional activities must not diminish or detract from an employee’s primary responsibilities or interfere with the employee's scheduled work periods, except to the extent that the President of the College may authorize the employee to be relieved or partially relieved of his or her regular duties to participate in a project for which a grant or contract has been awarded. In this event, a replacement or substitute for the employee may be retained by the College to perform the duties from which the employee has been relieved.

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