

## GLCA Global Crossroads Grand Challenge Call for Proposals

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A Grand Challenge is a topic of global significance that transcends disciplinary boundaries and has important implications for humanity. Examples include migration, displacement and refugees; social justice; art and society; global health; energy generation, consumption and conservation; climate change; and access to clean water.

The Grand Challenge topic is *Challenging Borders*. Borders are everywhere. They can be political, economic, social, chemical, biological, physical, geographic, technological, and more! Anything that creates division can be a border and in today's world, these borders are increasingly being challenged. Whether biological cell borders challenged by new understanding of virology or political borders challenged by the movement of peoples or globalization breaking down economic boundaries in new ways or the challenge social media presents to political and ideological borders. (See the Grand Challenge web page for a set of examples.)

Participation in the Grand Challenge program requires:

**Collaboration** – Working with Alliance partners: a) identify dimensions of the Grand Challenge topic that are to be explored through curricular and co-curricular programming; b) identify the kinds of resources that will be needed: readings, viewings, tutorials, lectures, speakers, courses or course components, faculty research, undergraduate research, experiential learning opportunities, and so on; c) design and develop these shared resources; and, d) offer curricular and co-curricular programming.

**Tangible Outcomes** – At the end of the year, there should be a set of shareable materials that present the results of the exploration, illustrate the collaborative nature of the exploration, and the challenges and benefits of bringing multiple perspectives to bear on the investigation of a complex issue. These materials may be made available through a Grand Challenge web site.

Schools that agree to participate in the Grand Challenge program will use that year's topic as the focus for a wide range of curricular and co-curricular learning opportunities in collaboration with Alliance schools. This collaboration can take many forms. It could be part of a campus' Internationalization Innovation Fund project and could be investigated through a collection of connected courses that examine different dimensions of the topic. The Alliance Inter-institutional visit program could be used to bring in speakers. Faculty and student research projects, funded through the Crossroads New Directions in Global Scholarship program, could be part of a campus' Grand Challenge participation. Additionally, consider how a campus plan might make use of other GLCA programs such as the Library of Congress program and the Expanding Collaborations Initiative. Planners are encouraged to talk with the Global Alliance Program Officer, Simon Gray (gray@glca.org) about these possibilities.

A GLCA campus may choose to identify a Grand Challenge Director with responsibility for coordinating the campus' Innovation Fund programming. The Grand Challenge Director should work with the campus' Alliance Liaison and others on planning.

## **FUNDING SUPPORT**

\$16,500 has been allocated to each participating GLCA campus each year. This should be used to fund programming and to cover the time of a Grand Challenge Director (up to \$4,000 per year), who has responsibility for coordinating the campus' Grand Challenge programming. The budget may include a line to cover 7.65% for the employer paid portion of FICA/Medicare on stipends.

It is expected that collaborating campuses will do planning via electronic means (email, cloud storage, videoconferencing, etc.). Separate funding is available to bring a representative of each collaborating campus together to do final planning. This should be included in the budget.

## **PROPOSAL PREPARATION**

An institution will submit one proposal per year. A complete proposal includes the following

*Proposal Summary* – available as a Grand Challenge Proposal Summary Word Form from the Global Crossroads web page. The title, abstract, and keywords of successful proposals will be made available on the Awards database on the GLCA web page.

*Project Narrative* – the narrative should be no longer than five pages and should address:

*Topic.* What dimension(s) of the Grand Challenge topic will be explored?

*Collaboration.* How do you anticipate collaborating with Alliance partners to explore the Grand Challenge topic? With which Alliance schools are you considering collaborating?

*Activities.* What activities will your campus undertake to explore the Grand Challenge? What artifacts might be created that could be shared publicly as a demonstration of the work done?

*Evaluation.* How will you evaluate the project to determine its impact?

*Project Budget* – a project budget with justification that represents a responsible estimate of costs, including the cost of materials, travel, external speakers, and stipends (\$600/week) for participants contributing to the project's design and execution. The Grand Challenge Director should be included as a separate budget line.

## **PROPOSAL FORMAT**

Times New Roman at a font size of 12 points, One-inch margin, Single-spaced, numbered pages

## **PROPOSAL DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION**

Proposals will be reviewed as they are received. Proposals should be submitted by the campus' Alliance Liaison to the Global Alliance Program Officer at [gray@glca.org](mailto:gray@glca.org).

## **CONTACTS AND LEADERSHIP**

Questions about the program should be directed to Simon Gray, Global Alliance Program Officer ([gray@glca.org](mailto:gray@glca.org)). Each GLCA campus has an Alliance Liaison with responsibility for coordinating the campus' Alliance efforts and communicating with the Global Alliance Program Officer. Each campus that participates in the year's Grand Challenge may also have a Grand Challenge Director with responsibility for planning and oversight of relevant programming. The campus' Alliance Liaison will collaborate with the Grand Challenge Director to assure integration with the consortial pedagogy and curriculum projects within the Crossroads Initiative.