Welcome back for the Fall 2008 semester! The new academic year is filled with expectations and renewed energy, and Manatee Community College, as always, is on the move—with innovation and change on many horizons.

Grant funds support faculty and staff efforts to positively impact the achievement of MCC’s mission and strategic priorities while embracing the College’s institutional values. Often these external dollars will act as a catalyst for change. They bring new, enhanced or expanded programs, services and resources to the College.

External funding supports the rapid implementation of targeted initiatives by the infusion of funds exclusively for the purpose of achieving the desired outcomes. Well-designed grant projects also strengthen partnerships, both within the College and with other collaborators in the community.

I invite you to generate ideas for projects that have the potential to positively impact our institution, the MCC teaching and learning experience or our varied constituents and partners. I look forward to meeting with individuals or departments to discuss the grant approval and development process and to acquaint you with the ins and outs of putting together a competitive application.

So, check out our department’s services on page two, give us a call and feel free to discuss your ideas.

Remember: It all starts with an idea!

Bradley W. Davis
Director
Resource Development

THE BENEFITS: For Faculty, Students and Beyond

Grants often engage faculty, staff and students in collaborative efforts to focus on any number of ongoing issues. They might serve to expand access to the College and its programs, services and resources or help MCC address a variety of constituent and partner needs throughout Manatee and Sarasota counties.

The infusion of grant funds may help create or enhance curricula, provide state-of-the-art technology or increase support services for students. Grant projects augment the College’s ongoing commitment to continuously improve the quality and delivery of academic and student services designed to increase student success, retention and program completion. For example, projects that pinpoint and address students’ needs lead to more engaged students with fewer difficulties in grasping course content.

Grants may provide valuable professional development opportunities for faculty or staff. By working toward a common goal, grant projects often foment creative partnerships with colleagues from education or industry.

In grant projects at MCC, discoveries are made, programs are enhanced and valuable information is shared, leading to measurable improvements and positive change.
MCC’s Resource Development Department: Banking on Success via Collaboration

For those of you unfamiliar with who we are, the Resource Development Department (RDD) assists faculty, staff and administrators with applications for grant funding to further the mission of the College and the achievement of strategic planning initiatives. Our department, along with the Resource Development Committee, works to promote a collegial atmosphere that fosters “a community of grant developers.”

What we do:

- Maintain research on funding sources*
- Interpret the Request for Proposal (RFP)
- Provide workshops to enhance grant development skills
- Coordinate grant-writing teams
- Assist with effective budget development
- Gather additional data to support the proposal
- Provide writing, editing and proofing assistance
- Consult with the grant project director and others as needed

In order to increase the level of communication about how grants work at MCC, we have developed a new page on the MCC Web site. Here is the direct link: www.mccfl.edu/pages/1010.asp, or you can go to Administration > Administrative Departments and look for Resource Development. Once there you will find information on current and past grants at MCC, helpful tools for developing a grant project and newsletters that include a wide variety of articles pertaining to grants.

- Do you have an idea that would help MCC meet the educational and training needs of the communities it serves?
- Know of a program elsewhere that we might replicate?
- Heard of a funding source that might support a special project?

We can help you to assess the potential connection of your idea to MCC’s current priorities and guide you in the abstract development and topic approval process. Once your proposed project gets the green light, we will help you search for potential funding sources. When an appropriate funding opportunity surfaces, we will support the writing efforts of the grant-development team, which is usually made up of representatives from departments from different College divisions. Subject matter experts work with those skilled in budget development, human resources, pedagogy, technology and other areas to craft competitive proposals in support of MCC initiatives.

Check us out on the Web, e-mail us or give us a call!

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(Note: * The RDD works primarily with state and federal agency funding. For private and corporate foundations, RDD staff and grant project directors coordinate their efforts with The Foundation for Manatee Community College, Inc.)