



SCORE: STRENGTHENING THE CORE

FUND FOR INNOVATION IN GRADUATE EDUCATION



OVERVIEW

Graduate education at Stanford will maintain its excellence by ensuring that core graduate degree-granting programs are supported to pursue new educational possibilities. This is the purpose a new fund for innovation in graduate education, overseen by the Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Education (VPGE).

The SCORE (Strengthening the Core) Innovation Fund offers financial resources to academic departments to respond to challenges facing disciplines and departments. Among the emerging challenges facing graduate programs are reconfigurations of disciplinary boundaries, shifting demographics of the graduate student population, and new technologies that change the way knowledge is shared and advanced. Such changes make thoughtful reassessment of graduate education an urgent priority

Stanford graduate degree granting departments and programs are invited to develop proposals for **one-year or two-year projects** to scrutinize long-existing practices and test new educational approaches in graduate programs. In the first year, up to six SCORE grants will be awarded. Up to three medium-sized grants will be awarded in an amount not to exceed **\$20,000 per year**. Up to three large grants will be awarded in an amount not to exceed **\$50,000 per year**.

SCORE PROPOSALS

A SCORE proposal should identify **a pressing challenge** and **a plan for addressing the issue**.

Examples of projects include:

- rethinking curricular requirements in light of knowledge change in the field and related fields;
- teaching students to ask better questions, to take risks in their research, or to work collaboratively in new ways;
- reconsidering the preparation for doctoral students who will embark on academic careers likely to span the next three or four decades;
- better preparing doctoral students for non-academic career paths;
- experimenting with more extensive mentoring practices that include partners within and outside Stanford;
- rethinking primary objectives and requirements for the master's degree.

SELECTION OF PROPOSALS

SCORE is a two year pilot program. Inaugural SCORE awards will be made on a competitive basis in the spring of 2008. Proposals are due April 1, 2008. Proposals will be reviewed by a faculty advisory committee. Further information is available at vpge.stanford.edu/facstaff/score.

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