The Thomas E. Wenzlau (TEW) Presidential Discretionary Fund is an endowment used for faculty and curricular development. Under the terms of the endowment, at the discretion of the President, funds may be designated and used for faculty development projects. Traditionally, the President has divided those funds in such a way that a large portion of them are made available directly to faculty for TEW Grants. Because the TEW Fund was created primarily to improve the quality of teaching, teaching and curricular development proposals take preference over scholarly research. Generally, the most favorable reviews are given to proposals with a well-thought out research/development plan, a judicious and well-developed budget, and a focus on advancing the faculty member’s competence in teaching and/or research.

I am now soliciting proposals for grant awards for the 2013-2014 academic year. These proposals will be evaluated for funding by an ad-hoc faculty committee appointed and chaired by me. Funds will be awarded for proposals concerning teaching and curricular development and/or scholarly research projects. Faculty should be aware that the awarding of grants is competitive. Furthermore, it is beyond both the terms and the scope of the TEW endowment to fund all proposals fully. Faculty members receiving grants are expected to supplement their award with funds from other sources (outside granting agencies, other university funds, or themselves). This is especially true for faculty seeking grants to attend professional conferences. Increasingly, the Committee has tended to fund research and/or teaching and curricular grants as fully as possible and has substantially reduced funding for grants seeking support for travel to conferences. At this time, no exact determination can be made of the total amount that will be available from the endowment earnings of the fund. However, we anticipate a sum for distribution of approximately $90,000.

The TEW Committee must have proposals turned in by February 1, 2013. Due to the volume of work that the Committee must undertake over a short period of time, late proposals will not be considered. Decisions on awards are expected to be finalized by March 8, 2013. Grant funds become available as of July 1, 2013 and, unless an extension is granted, must be used by June 30, 2014. Faculty should be aware that the terms of the grant require that a report of the results of the grant be submitted upon its completion (see criteria). Faculty who fail to complete a report and/or clear an account are ineligible for subsequent TEW grants.

A copy of the guidelines and of the working criteria used in awarding the grants is enclosed. Please read these guidelines carefully, and be aware that the committee will pay close attention to the grant proposal’s “fit” with the guidelines. Please submit your proposals to Mindie Burke in the Office of Academic Affairs by February 1, 2013.

If you have any questions regarding the development of a grant proposal and/or awarding of a grant, please e-mail about your proposal.
TEACHING AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

Grants in this category are to help meet the teaching and learning objectives identified in the University’s Statement of Aims. More specifically, grants will be made to individuals or small teams of faculty to facilitate their professional growth and development when the proposed projects promise to enhance the teaching effectiveness of the faculty member(s) and are supportive of the goals of the institution. Funds will be provided for interdisciplinary projects which promise an integrated approach to knowledge and help students in the transfer of ideas and skills among disciplines, for the development or reworking of specific disciplinary courses, and for projects to improve pedagogy. Projects should address both the enhancement of the instructor’s future capabilities and the improvement of courses or programs through which those capabilities will be manifested. Of course, one objective may be emphasized more than the other in a particular project.

Funding may be requested for:
- Materials needed for the project
- Graduate school fees required for faculty study
- Student or secretarial help
- Travel required by the project
- Replacement costs for the teaching of a course from which the applicant is released by virtue of receiving the grant

Proposals should be submitted with information provided in the following sequence:

A. Proposer’s name
B. Brief descriptive title of the project
C. Description of the project, including background, who would be involved, proposed activities, and objectives to be achieved
D. Relation of the project to institutional and departmental goals and needs. (Cite specific documents or actions by committees or the faculty whenever possible.)
E. Procedures to be used for evaluation of the project objectives
F. Description of how the project lends itself to the search for additional funds outside the university
G. Itemized budget for the project
H. Other resources required, immediately and later. (If the project depends on funding from other sources, please note what they are and the status of each.)
I. Summary of your record with respect to follow-through, results, and accountability in similar projects, leaves, etc.
J. Dates when project will begin and end. (Note that a final report on the project will be required.)
K. Signatures of the proposer(s) and Department Chair
SCHOLARLY AND CREATIVE PROJECTS

Grants in this category will be made to help support scholarly and creative projects proposed by individuals or groups of Ohio Wesleyan faculty members. Financial support from the Thomas E. Wenzlau Presidential Discretionary Fund was made for a variety of purposes to include but not to be limited to the following:

- Materials essential to the project
- Some equipment, i.e., tools, materials, professional supplies. (Relatively expensive equipment, e.g., computers and scientific instruments, will not be funded.)
- Travel: transportation, room and board
- Tuition and fees (fees for professional education; not for pursuit of degrees)
- Replacement costs resulting from release time

(Generally, student research assistants, secretarial and/or editorial assistance or consultants will not be funded)

We will also consider the impact the grant will have on:

- The completion of professional projects
- Developing new directions for ongoing projects
- The development of completely new scholarly creative directions

Proposals should be submitted with information provided in the following sequence:

A. Proposer’s name
B. Brief descriptive title of the project
C. Description of the project including background, who would be involved, proposed activities, and the objectives to be achieved. Where appropriate, provide a brief summary of the state of current research in the area of your proposed project. (Please keep in mind that the Review Committee may not contain anyone who is knowledgeable about your project.)
D. A brief statement addressing the degree of maturation of the proposed project. Is it a continuance of current work or the development of a new creative or scholarly direction?
E. Description of how the project lends itself to the search for additional funds outside the university
   a. Discuss the prior success of the applicant in the search for non-University funds for this or other related projects.
   b. At what stage of development do projects in your discipline generally become more competitive for outside funding?
   c. What are some common supporting agencies for projects in your discipline?
F. Comment on the professional recognition which your work has received. Please indicate the level of achievement (i.e., local, regional, national, international), and provide an interpretation of what this means in your discipline
G. Discuss the procedures to be used for evaluation of the project
H. Proposed itemized budget for the project
I. Summary of applicant’s record with respect to follow-through, results and accountability in similar projects
J. Dates when the project will begin and end. (Note that a final report on the project will be required.)
K. Signature of Department Chair if teaching replacement is sought.
WORKING CRITERIA FOR AWARDING TEW GRANTS

2013-2014

1) Compatibility of the proposal with the overall purposes of the Thomas E. Wenzlau Presidential Discretionary Fund guidelines

2) Rating of proposals will involve:
   a) Kind of project (in descending order of priority):
      i) Curricular or pedagogic projects which advance the University’s aims, with greater weight given to those with potential for greater impact on numbers of students, faculty, or programs
      ii) Projects for the career or professional development of the individual, (i.e., publishable research) with greater weight given to those which help the faculty member to be of greater service to OWU. This includes projects which involve retraining to provide different services in the future. Lowest priority will be assigned to personal career or professional development projects which have little relation to the curricular or pedagogic staffing needs of OWU.
      iii) Funds for travel/attendance at professional conferences.

3) Record of achievement of proposer(s), where applicable, with greater weight for projects proposed by those who have demonstrated or show promise of follow-through, results, and accountability through the filing of reports (e.g., leaves, previous grants, etc). Failure to file report(s) or clear accounts on previous TEW grants results in ineligibility for subsequent grants. It is the responsibility of the faculty member to make sure that his/her report has been filed with the TEW Committee.

Extra weight will go to projects which will secure external matching funds or be likely to attract future external support.