

## **Edgren Scholars Program**

For the upcoming year, Bethel University will support the Edgren Scholars faculty development program for full-time faculty and undergraduate students. The Edgren Scholars Program funds up to two research partnerships in which Bethel undergraduate students and faculty work on summer scholarship projects. Applications and materials must be submitted in electronic form to Academic Affairs at [cas-academic-affairs@bethel.edu](mailto:cas-academic-affairs@bethel.edu) by the third Monday in March.

### **Goals:**

- To strengthen faculty/student partnerships through collaborative research.
- To encourage students to pursue scholarship, perhaps leading to a research focus beyond the undergraduate years.
- To provide time and salary support for a research agenda and its pursuit by faculty members.
- To raise the level of scholarship and discussion in the world of ideas at Bethel University.
- To encourage study of creative and innovative emerging issues and approaches.

### **Methods:**

- Faculty members submit a written proposal to [cas-academic-affairs@bethel.edu](mailto:cas-academic-affairs@bethel.edu) by the third Monday in March. Proposals include a definition of the problem, task, or project, an expected plan of action/methodology, a timeline for work on the project, and a method of evaluating progress made on the project.
- The proposals are reviewed on a competitive basis (see criteria for selection below) by a panel of peers composed of past winners of the Faculty Excellence Award for Scholarship and/or Edgren Scholars Awards, and possibly representatives from Faculty Development. The Review Committee will be chaired by a non-voting administrative representative. This committee will recommend awardees to the Associate Provosts of CAPS/Sem/GS and the College of Arts and Sciences, who make the final decision.
- Brief summaries (5-8 sentences) of the winning projects are submitted to Academic Affairs by the first Monday in May. These are for purposes of announcement to the Bethel Community and should be written in language that can be understood by faculty outside of the researcher's specialty. A summary should include the main topic and goal(s) of the project and how the work of the research will be shared by the faculty member(s) and the student collaborator.
- The collaborative research is conducted during the three summer months following announcement of awards (minimum 10 weeks of full-time work) at a location on campus or a relevant off-campus site.
- A stipend of \$7,500 is paid to the faculty member doing the summer research. (If 2 or more faculty members collaborate on a project, the stipend will be divided among them.)
- A stipend of \$3,500 is paid to the student partner for the three summer months. Students are also eligible to live on-campus at a significant discount, and may hold a part-time on-campus job with the permission of the faculty member.

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**PROCESS**

- Up to \$500 is available for supplies and equipment required for the project (funds are available by reimbursement for actual costs). Faculty may also apply for a Faculty Development Grant if additional funding for supplies or equipment is needed.
- After the summer work is completed, a summary report and self-evaluation of the project outcomes are due in the Academic Affairs Office by the last business day in October.
- Recipients of Edgren Scholars Awards present their research during the following school year in a campus forum, such as Primetime in the BU Library, which is open to all members of the Bethel Community and the broader scholarly community. A reception to honor the faculty members and students will accompany the presentation.

**Outcomes:**

- A sense of collaboration between faculty and students in the area of scholarly research.
- A scholarly product that has the potential to be disseminated beyond Bethel through academic or professional presentations, publications, or future graduate studies.

**Criteria for Selection:**

- A faculty/student team must be involved in the task together. The student must have at least one semester of on-campus study remaining at Bethel.
- Faculty members receiving an Edgren Scholars grant shall, prior to the experience, sign a contract promising to return to full-time service at Bethel for a period of one year.
- Projects that already have external funding will be considered for this award, though stipend amounts may be adjusted depending on the nature of that external funding.
- New applications have priority over those of the same quality from previous Edgren Scholar awardees.

**Review Rubric**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Expectation</b>
Threshold Expectations:	Proposal clearly defines problem or research area.
	The research methodology or action plan is clearly stated.
	Outcomes and means of evaluation are clearly stated.
	Timeline is provided for the 10-week project.
	Student - Faculty collaboration is evident.
	Student and faculty will be available for final report.
Expectations of Quality	The project's potential for dissemination and impact beyond Bethel is clear
	The project will raise the level of scholarship and discussion at Bethel.
	The project has the potential to engage the student in student research beyond the undergraduate years.
	The nature and quality of the collaborative approach of the faculty and student is explicit and clear.
	The project utilizes, and is manageable within, the time of the grant.

**Suggestions for Proposals:**

- Although reviewers are scholars themselves, they may not be familiar with your discipline and the research/scholarly agenda you are pursuing. Write to a sophisticated audience, but one which may not know the highly specific language of your project.
- The proposal **should not exceed 2,000 words**. Keep in mind what the reviewers need to know in order to evaluate your proposal. Be sure to provide adequate information and address the criteria listed. Substantive detail that clarifies the standard “who/what/where/how” questions is helpful. Include any additional information that helps the reviewers recognize any “value added” distinctives of your project.
- The organization of your proposal is likely to be influenced by your own discipline’s standards. However, each proposal should include: Title, Authors/Collaborators; Statement of Intent; Introduction to the Problem or Project; Project Goals; Methods/Action Plan; Investigators and Nature of Collaboration; Outcomes and Impact; Time Line.
- Please edit your work. Use the Review Rubric to determine if you have addressed all the criteria noted.