The LBC Trajectory Fund

Lyman Briggs College recognizes that once faculty members achieve tenure and promotion, they must continue to make progress as both teachers and scholars in order to meet the requirements for promotion to the rank of Professor. It is in the best interests of the faculty, the college, and university, and the students and communities we serve that faculty achieve the benchmarks necessary to reach promotion. However, it can sometimes be challenging for mid-career faculty to acquire resources at opportune moments to continue to make the necessary progress in their work. To address this, the college is launching the LBC Trajectory Fund, under the oversight of the college’s Faculty Excellence Advocate, to continue addressing these issues.

Tenure-System Associate Professors with majority appointments in Lyman Briggs College are invited to submit proposals for up to $10,000 in funding to support opportunities that will help them make tangible progress toward promotion to the rank of Professor.

**Eligibility:**

- At the time of application, applicant must be
  - A tenure-system Associate Professor working toward promotion to the rank of Professor, or;
  - An Assistant Professor currently under review for promotion to Associate Professor with award of tenure and with clear plans for working toward promotion to the rank of Professor. In this case, funding would be disbursed only if promotion and tenure are achieved.

- Applicant must have a majority appointment in Lyman Briggs College at the time of application and at the time the funds are used.

- Each proposal must be singly authored and support only one faculty member.

- An individual may submit only one proposal in a given year.

**Deadline:** For the first year, May 15, 2015. Thereafter, March 15 of each year.

**Proposal Instructions:** Write a narrative of no more than 3 pages that includes each of the required elements under the specified headings, as given below. Please also fill out the simple Excel budget sheet located here [URL].

- **Trajectory toward promotion:** Describe the portfolio of scholarly attainments and demonstrated impact that you are building in order to apply for the rank of Professor. Explain the unifying themes and (inter)disciplinary context of your work for an audience of scholars not in your field.

- **Opportunity to be supported:** What do you propose to accomplish with support from the Trajectory Fund? How does this specifically advance your career trajectory plan as discussed above?
• **Total cost of opportunity:** How much, in total, will it cost to pursue this opportunity?

• **Financial Plan:** How would you spend the funds? The funds could be used, for example, to support research or teaching assistants; buyout courses; or purchase equipment, software, or supplies.

• **Support requested:** How much funding are you requesting from the Trajectory Fund?

• **Matching support:** How much funding will you contribute to the costs from start-up, grants, or other sources? How much funding will other MSU units contribute?

• **Impact:** What do you expect to be the specific impact of accomplishing your proposed goal? How will it advance you toward achieving promotion to Professor? What future grants, publications, or other products will you use support from the Trajectory Fund to attain?

• **Time Frame:** When would you expect to reach your goal? Please include dates for sub goals if applicable.

**Factors considered in judging proposals:**

• Impact on career trajectory toward promotion to Professor.

• Sound financial plan for the entire project (including funds from this and other sources).

• Size of request relative to funds available. The maximum size of each request is $10,000.

**Post Grant Reporting**

All faculty who apply for, receive, and use support from the Trajectory Fund are expected to submit a one-page report that describes the accomplishments that the Fund helped support. Reports are due at the start of the academic year following use of the funds.