Presidential India Initiatives: Call for Proposals

In November 2013, a delegation of U-M Ann Arbor faculty and staff, led by President Coleman, visited India. The purposes of this trip were to forge and formalize relationships with several institutions and to connect with Alumni and friends of the U-M in Delhi and Mumbai. To support the continuation of international connections between the U-M and India, the President’s Office will provide strategic funding to U-M Ann Arbor units for up to 3 years in support of India-based initiatives.

Our primary goal for these initiatives is to create extensive networks in India that will provide meaningful international experiences for students from the U-M Ann Arbor campus.

Format:

- Proposals should clearly articulate how the proposed program will create greater connections between the U-M and India and develop platforms for student opportunities in India.
- Proposals should be no more than six (6) pages, including a budget and budget explanation. Unit-level cost sharing (optional but encouraged) should be noted where appropriate.
- Funding can be used for direct student support, staff support, travel, etc., but not for tuition.

Examples of strategic projects:

- Creation of a semester study abroad opportunity with an India institution for 20 or more U-M students per academic year.
- Creation of a co-curricular abroad experience supported by U-M alumni in India.
- Creation of a summer research opportunity for U-M students at an Indian institution.
- Creation of networks of U-M faculty with counterparts in India, with the goal of creating opportunities for student mobility.

Funding Levels and Criteria:

- Proposals should clearly be designed to provide U-M undergraduate and graduate students with opportunities to learn new capabilities via experience in India.
- Prospects for how the program can be maintained beyond the Presidential Initiative funding should be described.
- Proposals may request up to $200,000 total in Presidential funding, over a maximum of 3 years. Smaller budgets and programs with lower cost per student participant will be evaluated more favorably.
- Proposals that build on existing connections may be viewed more favorably than those that must start from scratch in creating new connections.

The Special Counsel to the President and the Vice Provost for Global and Engaged Education will review proposals (with input from others as appropriate) and make funding recommendations to the President. An annual report on the progress of the program and actual expenses will be required.

Proposals will be due February 28, 2014 and decisions will be announced by mid-March 2014. Funding will be available in May 2014. Proposals should be emailed to pres.india.grant@umich.edu