New Core Competency/Ability Learning Outcomes Mini-Grant Program

It's an exciting time to learn together! Thank for your continuous support of our curricular mapping and assignment development process. The Assessment Leadership Team [ALT] has carefully reviewed your submitted maps and survey responses. We were impressed with faculty members' wide-spread level of engagement and confidence in both understanding the provisional rubrics and designing/ adapting assignments that address these specific competencies and communication skills.

Based on feedback given during the June 2014 Town Hall meeting, the Fall 2014 Program Directors' meetings, the Fall 2014 Instructional Staff meeting, and the Curricular Mapping survey, ALT and the Center for Teaching and Learning have developed a calendar of workshops to be offered in Fall II 2015 seeking to help faculty better understand the rubrics as well as refine related assignments (see the attached *New Core Competency/Ability Assignment Design Support Workshops* schedule).

Faculty members have also requested longer-term opportunities to deepen the thinking, planning, development, and implementation of assignments grounded in our new core competency infrastructure. To support that work the CTL is offering mini-grants of up to $6,000 for an extended commitment (March 2015-June 2016) to a project addressing these tasks, as appropriate to your area:

- Develop/refine assignments to build students' Competencies (Inquiry & Problem Solving, Global Learning, and Integrative Learning) and Abilities (Oral, Written, and Digital Communication) in all of the courses designated in your Curriculum Map.

- Organize professional development for faculty in your area who will be working with those assignments, supporting implementation and the depositing of student artifacts in the assessment area of the ePortfolio system.

- Revise curriculum maps and assignments for implementation in Fall 2015 and beyond, drawing on what was learned from the Spring 2015 testing process.

ePortfolio Supplement: Additional funding of up to $1,500 (maximum total of $7,500) may be requested to support program- or department-led efforts that integrate ePortfolio into programmatic curriculum. Two key developments (the emergence of program-based First-Year Seminars; and the establishment of the Integrative Learning Competency and the Digital Communication Ability) present a unique opportunity for re-thinking, extending and/or deepening the incorporation of ePortfolio into the curricula and practice of programs college-wide. In this context, program directors and faculty may want to think about the staging and scaffolding of integrative ePortfolio work across multiple courses, including the incorporation of ePortfolio in capstone courses, in internship or research apprenticeship experiences, or in co-

curricular activities. The ePortfolio Supplement is designed to support programs in launching this work.

Clearly, different programs will have different challenges to address as the College moves towards full implementation of these new Core Competencies. The criteria above are meant to provide a general framework for mini-grant proposals. As you develop your proposal, please consider what you need to do:

- To ensure that all full-time and adjunct faculty understand the learning goals of our Core Competencies and the rubrics designed to assess them;

- To create and implement assignments that address the targeted competencies and abilities;

- To ensure a smooth and thorough process for depositing assessment artifacts.

NOTE: All mini-grant proposals should indicate tasks and timelines designed to meet targets related to relevant project goals during Spring 2015, Summer 2015, Fall 2015, and Spring 2016.

For further information, or to brainstorm ideas for your mini-grant proposal, please contact Debra Engel and/or Bernard Polnariev.   For questions about the ePortfolio supplement, contact Dean Howard Wach.

Support: To support programs' work in these areas, the Center for Teaching and Learning is offering mini-grants of up to $6000 ($7,500 for work which includes ePortfolio integration) for a period extending from March 2015 through June 2016.

*Note that all recipients will be expected to participate in scheduled Mini-Grant Program meetings, engage in a benchmark reading of artifacts for a selected competency and/or ability, present your work in up to three forums, and provide a short reflection paper on the process by June 30, 2016.

Eligibility: Faculty representing programs in Academic Affairs. Please secure approval from your Program Director/Coordinator and also your department chair before submission for the mini-grant.

Submit your application to Ros Orgel: roslyno@lagcc.cuny.edu , by **February 9, 2015**

Application Form for 2014/15 <u>New Core Competency Learning Outcomes Mini-Grant Program</u>

Name of team leader: _____

Names of key additional faculty participants:_____

Program & Academic Department: _____ & _____

ePortfolio Integration will be included in our project (Y)   (N)

In a proposal of no more than 3 pages, briefly describe action plans, calendar, and anticipated outcomes as of June 30, 2016. Applications should address the following questions:

1.   Please identify the courses (and specific Core Competency/Communication Ability linkages) that your Mini-Grant project will address. Do you have a particular priority area you want to focus on? Are you prioritizing particular stages of work (Baseline, Early, Middle, Late) in this project?

2.   What, if any, aspects of professional development will be included in your project? How many of your faculty do you expect to be involved in professional development activities? How do you envision structuring those activities? Will you need help from the Assessment Leadership Team or the Center for Teaching and Learning in this process? Will adjunct faculty participate?

3.   If your project includes an ePortfolio component, what is your plan for this? Will it build on an existing program-based ePortfolio structure or is this a new dimension of the program? How might you incorporate the First Year Seminar or the new Competency framework? What is your current thinking about how you might re-think, extend, or deepen the integration of ePortfolio practice in your program?

4.   Budget: Please estimate your costs according to the categories indicated below. Contact Ros Orgel (x5448; roslyno@lagcc.cuny.edu) if you have questions about your budget.

Category	*Amount Requested*
Released Time @ $1,102.95/hr	
Stipends	
Catering and Food Supplies	
Books and Materials	
Other Expenses (please explain)	
Total:	