Applying for T&L Funding

Supporting and connecting colleagues to develop inspiring and innovative teaching and learning
Overview

- The role of the T&L Institute – annual report
- Why apply for funding?
- Types of funding?
- What’s in it for me?
- Some success stories
- What do reviewers want to see
- Challenges, dissemination and what next

www.hud.ac.uk/tali
Where we sit
Institute Remit

- Coordination
- Teaching and Learning Institute
- Evaluation
- Dissemination

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Responsibilities and Activities

Communities of innovative T&L practitioners

- Annual T&L conference
- Networking events
- T&L Innovation Grants
- T&L Research Support
- Institute website and blog/twitter
- T&L Staff development programme
- Support professional recognition (HEA/NTF)
- Strategic involvement

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Why Bother?

- Solve a problem?
- Find out more about T&L practice
- Gain support from TALI
- Support from other colleagues in the T&L community
- How does money help?
  - Gain extra resource: people, equipment
  - Go to conferences
- Support you towards PhD or publication
- Journey to NTFS, UTF or professorship
Dr Janet Hargreaves – 2012 NTF

- ‘fosters critical thinking by being curious creative and open to challenge’
- Research interests: education in HE including disability, the use of creativity, reflective practice, ethics
- TQEF -> YHSHA ‘Managing Impairment in Professional Practice
- ALPS -> Confidence in practice using self-assessment tool

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James McDowell – 2011 UTF

- SL in Digital Media from Computing and Engineering.
- PhD underway
- Course with high numbers of students with disability
- Video feedback – asynchronous
- Applied to other subject areas
- Studying for PhD

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Andrew Walsh – 2011 UTF, 2011 NTF

- Interested in student engagement
- Make using the library fun, gaming concept - Lemon tree
- Register, earn points and rewards by interacting with library, leaving comments and book reviews.

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Previous TALI Priority Areas

• Assessment and feedback
• E-learning
• Employability and professions
• Inspirational teaching
• Retention and student success

• Collaborative – finding others?
• New priorities for 2013-18 Strategy Map
What we provide

• TALI funding. Historically approx £60-80K per year. Currently under internal review.
• Support to successful bids – 3 inspire sessions each.
• Feedback to unsuccessful bidders.
• Help find partners.
• Critical friend (not bid drafting) for external bids.
• Mailing list with news on new bids.
• Co-ordinate bids requiring limited number of institutional bids.
What do you need to make projects a success?

- What immediately comes to mind as an area of teaching and learning you want to research?
  - No Barriers
  - Unlimited time, resource, enthusiasm
  - 2 minutes then feedback
What do reviewers like to see?

• Exciting project, ‘hooked’ from first paragraph
• Committed team
• Research question, could be reflecting on your practice
• Clear rational backed up with evidence
• A project that meets the criteria
  – Match, adapt or ditch
• Achievable but ambitious deliverable
• Finance involvement evident (get involved early)
• Student Involvement
• Comprehensive dissemination
What they don’t like to see

- Messy forms – sections not filled in properly
- Inaccurate or unexplained costings
- Pet projects, lack of engagement with T&L
- Similarity to recently funded projects
- Too long forms – over word limits
- Rushed form, idea not developed.
- Fantastic idea – just don’t understand it!
• Timing of funding calls – plan. Resubmit and improve.
• Highly competitive, don’t waste time, submit to right call
• Quote vision and strategy
• Micro check and confirm funding criteria – phone funder.
• Strong case and context within the sector.
• Financially viable and achievable.
• Get peer feedback. Another area if general funding
• Who’s doing what? Active participants
Managing Risk

- Address ethical considerations
- Redundancies, absences, capacity (inc. partners)
- Difficulties in engaging staff/students. Sometimes around timing, forward planning, who will be available?
- Technical problems dependency upon kit
- Changing priorities
- Risk awareness, personal planning process
- If things go wrong, alert funder
Dissemination

- 2 most common: Conference (often funders), Paper – where?
- Wider society: stakeholder’s, schools, comm. groups; how?
- Starts on day one: local press, colleagues, manager, meetings.
- Funder engagement – plan ahead
- Grant holder networks
- External stake holders - discipline community.
Dissemination Methods

Institutional Newsletter; Project website; Press release; Flyers; networking meetings; Conference presentations, posters, workshops; Demos; Online discussion lists; Journal articles; Case Studies; Twitter; Promotional t-shirts
What next?

- TALI funding under internal review
- TALI Writing retreats
- TALI T&L events
- How can we help you?

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