



MacPherson Institute Teaching & Learning Grants

2021 Call for Proposals

The MacPherson Institute provides financial support to encourage scholarly investigations and the development or implementation of a project that enhances McMaster students' educational experience. Financial support is provided through the funding of two research grants: Priority Areas for Learning and Teaching (PALAT), and Small Teaching and Learning Exploration Grants.

PALAT Grant

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to promote and support scholarship that empirically or systematically explores issues related to the MacPherson Institute's priority research areas as they relate to teaching and learning, and/or the student experience, at the undergraduate or graduate level.

The PALAT grant funds are valued up to a maximum of \$4,000, and encourage the exploration of a research question relevant to one or more of the following broad research areas:

- 1. Interdisciplinary teaching and learning**
 - Barriers to and facilitators of interdisciplinary teaching and learning
 - Interdisciplinary graduate studies
- 2. Experience-Based Learning**
 - Supporting experiential learning in academic programming
 - Successes and challenges to incorporating experience-based learning in online and virtual classrooms
 - May include independent and collaborative learning experiences, research-integrated learning, application-based learning, community engaged experiential education, community informed learning, problem-based/inquiry-based learning, problem solving in experience-based environment, work integrated learning and place-based learning
- 3. Social justice, inclusion, and critical pedagogy**
 - Indigenous Education and Pedagogies
 - Universal Design for Learning
 - Mental Wellness, Madness and Social Justice in Teaching and Learning
 - Critical Pedagogy, Social Justice and Inclusion in Technology Enhanced Learning
 - Mental and emotional health among faculty, staff, and students in the context of COVID



4. Student engagement, retention, and success

- Definitions of success and engagement
- Expand and enhance the first-year student experience
- Innovative assessment and evaluation of student learning
- Student success in online and virtual learning environment

5. Technology-enhanced education

- Blended or online learning
- Barriers to technology integration
- Assessing quality in online courses
- Impact of online and virtual learning environment on the student experience

6 Undergraduate research and inquiry

- Professional development for faculty and staff leading undergraduate research and inquiry (URI) experiences
- Barriers to and facilitators of URI

Small Teaching and Learning Exploration Grant

MacPherson Institute also awards up to \$2,000 in funding as part of a smaller teaching and learning exploration grant designed to provide seed funding to promote and encourage scholarly investigation, development or implementation of a project that enhances McMaster students' educational experience. These grants can focus on any aspect of teaching and learning at McMaster University.

Grant Details

- **Length of Grant:** Funding is distributed for one year.
- **Eligibility:** Anyone in an educational role at McMaster University can submit a proposal. Successful applicants must be continuously employed by McMaster University for the duration of the grant. Sessional instructors and others with appointments that do not continuously span the full duration of the grant may be co-applicants, as may students (undergraduate or graduate).

Application Requirements

Completed application form (**Please ensure that you choose the appropriate application form to complete**).

Application Deadline

Deadline for submitting an application is: **Friday, April 16th, 2021 by 4:30PM**



Announcement of 2021 T&L Grant Winners

Week of May 24th, 2021

Expectations of Recipients

You must be able to commit to the following expectations when you apply for a MacPherson Institute Teaching & Learning grant outlined above:

- Implement the proposal as approved (adhering to budget, evaluating impact on learning, following the timeline, disseminating, etc.), unless changes requested in writing are approved by the Grant administrators.
- Meet as required with a MacPherson Institute Educational Developer to provide project updates, request supports etc.
- Attend the annual Teaching and Learning Grants Virtual Welcome Event in June 2021 where grant recipients will be announced and celebrated.
- Submit a detailed report at the end of the grant term (Summer 2022) outlining project progress, successes, challenges, etc. (template will be provided).
- Present their research proposal/findings at an upcoming SoTL Symposium Network

For questions related to any of the research grants, please contact Melec Zeadin:

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