

Guidelines for d'Arbeloff Fund Preliminary Proposals for 2009-2010 Educational Projects

Preliminary Proposals:

The preliminary proposal (2-3 pages) should explain the project's objectives, and how it relates to the criteria below. A rough estimate of the budget request should be included.

Completed preliminary proposals are due by Thursday, October 15, 2009. The d'Arbeloff Grants Committee will review the preliminary proposals; applicants who pass the initial screening process will be invited to submit final proposals by Tuesday, December 1, 2009.

The d'Arbeloff Fund is administered by the Office of Faculty Support (OFS) under the supervision of the Dean for Undergraduate Education. Information on current and past projects can be found at the fund's website, <http://web.mit.edu/darbeloff>.

Preliminary proposals should be sent to the Office of Faculty Support (darbeloff-fund@mit.edu). Please contact Mary (3-9763) or Dean Diana Henderson (3-0507) if you would like additional information.

Criteria:

A proposed project will preferably target a General Institute Requirement or the first-year experience of MIT undergraduates. The d'Arbeloff Grants Committee will be especially interested in projects that contribute to the following areas: the new HASS Distribution categorization, First Year Focus Subjects in HASS areas, Communication Intensive Subjects, as well as projects in any of the areas of the GIRs (science, mathematics, HASS and CI) that aspire to provide dynamic, effective teaching, that cross disciplinary boundaries, or that address new curricular areas.

A project should also include one or more of the following elements:

- *Motivation:* The project provides incentives for students and faculty to participate.
- *Collaboration:* The project stimulates interactions among faculty across departments or Schools and/or among faculty and other members of the extended MIT community, such as alumni/ae, close industrial partners, research scientists, partners at other institutions, and so on.
- *Impact:* The project can be expected to have national or global impact and contribute visibly to MIT's leadership role as a top-tier educational institution.
- *Sustainability:* The project will lead to long-term commitments by Schools and departments, with a result that it is likely to become a regular part of the MIT curriculum. For example, a project's long-term survival should not be entirely dependent upon the

continuing involvement of only one key faculty member or key students, and there should be a plan for sustainability after the initial d'Arbeloff funding terminates.

- *Scalability*: Initiatives that affect significant numbers of students are preferred. Initiatives that may be more practicable as small-scale projects, such as intense hands-on experiences or pilots in pedagogical innovation, should be designed with scalability in mind.

Requirements and Restrictions:

- Participation in projects funded by these awards, whether participation is for compensation or as a volunteer, qualifies as "significant use" of MIT Administered Resources under MIT Policies and Procedures. In accordance with the treatment of "significant use," ownership of intellectual property, including copyrights in instructional materials and curriculum, will vest with MIT.
- For multiple year projects, funding commitments will be made on a year-by-year basis.
- The d'Arbeloff resources are intended primarily for faculty-led initiatives, with the understanding that many such initiatives may involve non-faculty participants.