

## **Nursing Education Research Unit Pilot Project Fund**

### **Introduction**

The NERU Pilot Project Fund is possible due to the contributions from the royalties of the McMaster PBL Book: Transforming Nursing Education Through Problem-Based Learning. This will assist NERU to support McMaster faculty educational research. There will be four projects funded annually for \$ 2,000.00. NERU will continue to explore additional ways to generate revenue to support this fund. The fund is intended to enhance the scholarship and research capabilities of faculty.

All research is subject to full research ethics board approval of the intended site of data collection (ie., Conestoga, Mohawk or Hamilton Health Sciences). If you are seeking approval within the McMaster University School of Nursing please contact the Office of the Assistant, Dean of Research for further information on the appropriate procedures to follow. To access the student population at the McMaster University School of Nursing you must obtain approval from UNEC.

You must agree to present your research question and proposal at our September NERU meeting and present your final report at a later date.

The time frame to utilize funds has been extended to 24 months.

### **Eligibility for Application**

Projects must have congruency and relevancy to the nursing education theme areas as acknowledged by the NERU website at:

<http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/neru/ThemeGroups.htm>

All projects must have relevance to nursing education, knowledge and/or practice. The following will be considered for funding:

- Seed money to prepare application for external funding
- Funding for a small research project
- Secondary analyses of existing data
- Preparation for material for dissemination

All full-time and part-time (part-time includes sessional) faculty members of the School of Nursing are eligible to apply. The principal investigator must be employed by the School of Nursing at McMaster University. Co-investigators may be collaborative faculty members.

## **Application Requirements**

Application must include an electronic version and 3 hard copies of the entire application comprised of:

- Cover letter including name(s) of applicant(s), title of project and application date.
- Description of proposal (maximum 3 pages) without names of applicants.
- Budget and budget justification (maximum 1 page); and
- Supporting documents (e.g. appendices, supporting letters; etc).

### **Proposals should identify:**

- The principal applicant and where applicable, co-applicants on a separate page
- The purpose and objectives of the project
- Timeline for the project
- Methodology for the project
- Dissemination plans
- Budget for the project

## **Review Process**

Each application will be assessed by two reviewers [who will be blind to the identity of the applicant(s)], appointed by the Director of NERU. Reviewers will meet to discuss the applications for project and make recommendations to the Director of NERU.

## **Review Criteria**

- Is the proposal congruent with the purposes of NERU and its theme groups?
- How clear are the objectives of the project?
- How realistic are the objectives given the time period and funding requested?
- How sound is the proposed methodology of the project?
- Does the proposal pose any possible ethical concerns?
- To what extent has the budget been justified?

**NOTE: Funding will be distributed to successful applicant following attainment of appropriate ethics approval. The appropriate forms(s) must be received by NERU.**