



College of Charleston
School of Education, Health, and Human Performance
EHP Research and Development Support Committee
(EHP R&D Support)

2017-2018 Annual Report

Committee: Courtney Howard, *Chair* (CPIE), Quinn Burke (TEDU), Tom Parry (HEHP), Stanley Montgomery (Dean's Office). Melanie Greene (CPIE) provides administrative support.

Purpose: To manage the EHP R&D Support application and award process, including developing the forms, procedures, and guidelines that support application submission, review, and approval; awards disbursement; and follow up, if any.

Summary of Activities

Online application and review form

The online application and review form are hosted by Formstack, an online form developer. The EHP R&D Support application is accessed through the Center for Partnerships to Improve Education (CPIE) website. The link to the review form is not publicly posted. Rather, it is emailed to each committee member along with any applications for review. Because Formstack is used by both CPIE and the Dean's Office, the Formstack subscription fee is shared by those two offices.

Applications and Awards

In 2017-2018, the Committee received 16 applications totaling \$15,172.99 and awarded a total of \$6,204.27. Of these, two applications were withdrawn and three awards were forfeited.

Withdrawn applications - One application was withdrawn by the submitter after the Committee's initial review. The Committee requested additional information before rendering a decision, however the applicant opted to withdraw from further consideration. Another application was withdrawn by the submitter prior to the Committee's review. The reason for the withdrawal is unknown.

Forfeited awards - Three of the awards (\$117.20, \$116, and \$1000) were forfeited because the individuals did not complete the funded activity during the 2017-2018 academic year. Two of the awards were for students to travel to an instate conference to co-present with a faculty member. At the last minute, neither student was able to attend. The third forfeited award was to support faculty software trainings that ultimately were not scheduled. Forfeited awards do not carry over to the next academic year.

Three other applications and awards have special circumstances requiring explanation because the fiscal/academic year of application does not match the year of funds disbursement.

Past Application, Current Funding - The application for one of the awards (\$650) was submitted and approved in the previous academic year, 2016-2017. Since the funded activity was determined to take place in 2017-2018 rather than in the year of application, the disbursement of funds was delayed. That award is included in 2017-2018 totals, however the application itself was counted in 2016-2017.

Current Application, Future Funding - Two other applications (\$1253.25 each) were each submitted and approved in the current academic year (2017-2018). The two faculty members

each requested travel funds to attend the same week-long international faculty development seminar to which they had been accepted. The seminar was set to occur early in 2018-2019, so delaying reviews of the applications was not possible. The funds, however, will be disbursed from the 2018-2019 budget. Those two applications have been included in the 2017-2018 counts for submitted applications, however the actual awards will be counted in 2018-2019.

A detailed overview of all applications and awards is attached, and departmental summaries are below.

Health and Human Performance (HEHP)

	Funds Requested in 2017-2018	Funds Awarded in 2017-2018
Total	\$7,143.50	\$2,019.50
Faculty (n=5)	\$6,456.50	\$1,332.50
Students (n=1)	\$ 687.00	\$ 687.00

Individuals in HEHP submitted six applications and four were funded in 2017-2018. As described earlier two approved applications will be funded in 2018-2019. Monies awarded to HEHP faculty and students were used to receive specialized training (one faculty), present scholarly work (one student, one faculty), and “other” reason (one faculty), namely to travel to attend a professional expo.

Present Scholarly Work (n=2)

An athletic training major was awarded funds to travel to Louisiana to present at a national professional conference. The student reports that, “Attending and presenting at the NATA conference was a wonderful experience. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity provided to me through the funds I was granted.”

A public health faculty member received support to help pay publication fees required for an article accepted by a highly esteemed journal in the marine biology field. The article was published in *Aquatic Mammals* and is titled “Rapid Assessment of Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) Body Condition: There's an App for That.”

Receive Specialized Training (n=1)

EHHP R&D Support was awarded to an exercise science faculty member in November 2017 to help pay for training on three different types of software programs used by exercise science faculty and students. The faculty applicant noted that training was needed in order to make use of existing equipment. The Committee was notified in July 2018 that schedule conflicts prevented the trainings from occurring during 2017-2018. No upcoming dates were noted and the award was forfeited. If desired, the faculty member will be able to reapply for those funds in the future.

Other (n=1)

Another exercise science faculty member received funding to offset travel expenses to California to attend a professional expo with potential to net strong leads for external funding for research. The recipient noted that

This is the largest nutritional supplement showcase in the country, hosting thousands of companies and draws ~80,000 attendees. I was able to meet with dozens of companies who are looking to support research, and have already secured funding to begin a research project on campus. There are many other leads I am actively pursuing and my hope is to secure additional research support. Additionally, I was able to connect with other researchers across

the country and have formed collaborative relationships that will allow me to broaden my research scope and increase productivity.

Teacher Education (TEDU)

	Funds Requested in 2017-2018	Funds Awarded in 2017-2018
Total	\$8,029.49	\$4,184.77
Faculty (n=7)	\$6,334.29	\$3,375.57
Students (n=4)	\$1,695.20	\$ 809.20

Individuals in TEDU submitted ten applications in 2017-2018 and nine awards were funded, including one that was disbursed this year although the application was submitted and approved in the previous year. As stated earlier, two applications were withdrawn before funding decisions were made. Monies awarded to TEDU faculty and students were used to conduct research (two faculty), present scholarly work (three students, three faculty), and for one “other” reason— professional development (one faculty).

Conduct Research (n=2)

For one faculty member, EHHP R&D Support funded a faculty research project involving interviews with local teachers. That research resulted in a manuscript that has been submitted to a scholarly journal for peer review. For another faculty member, an award supported research on the use of mobile devices as teaching and learning tools in an international setting, Tanzania. That faculty member submitted a report of preliminary findings, and continues to develop the work through a Carnegie Fellowship.

Present Scholarly Work (n=6)

Funds were awarded to help pay travel additional expenses for a faculty member who was traveling to the premiere conference on educational research to present her scholarly work. The faculty member was also an outgoing officer in a special interest group of the professional association and was required to extend her stay to mentor the incoming officer. She requested funds to support the additional costs due to extending the stay. In her final reflection to the Committee, the faculty member writes,

...my practical experience as a K-12 teacher, my observations in public school settings, and the political discourse on education, child welfare, and science combine to highlight a glaring problem in our field, which is the translation and communication of research for policy and practice. As such, I pursued this elected position as a way to increase my understanding of how information travels from researchers to practitioners and policy makers...My main take away that I have included into my regular practice is that empirical research is unlikely to travel outside of academic circles in its original blind peer-reviewed format. Folks outside of academia prefer one page research briefs or social media posts with graphical displays. Interestingly, research briefs are not peer-reviewed and the responsibility for accurate reporting (that does not draw conclusions beyond the scope of work presented) falls to the author.

A different faculty member presented her research at an international conference on gifted children. Funds were used to support travel to and from Australia. Finally, a TEDU faculty member received to support travel to Seattle to present her research at the national conference on art education. She is one of two research honorees selected by the professional association, a prestigious honor and opportunity to have significant scholarly impact.

TEDU students were also awarded funds to present scholarly work. As described earlier, two students forfeited their awards because they did not travel to the conference as planned. The graduate and undergraduate students worked on the same research project and were to co-present with their faculty mentor. The faculty mentor attended and presented alone at the conference. EHHP R&D Support was not needed for the faculty member.

An undergraduate student was awarded funds to travel to a national science education conference to co-present with a faculty mentor. In her reflection to the Committee, the student says,

The presentation was on “Teaching a Culturally Responsive Pedagogy” and it went incredibly well and seemed to be very well received. This was great because it not only was a great professional development opportunity but a great representation of the College and what we have to offer. I was offered jobs and given business cards and had questions and dialogue with the audience members afterwards. It also gave me an experience to deal with a heckler as we had one in the crowd that tried to derail our presentation and we handled it with grace and poise.

Other (n=1)

One faculty member requested funds to attend a professional conference although she would not be presenting. She noted in her application that attending would provide valuable professional development. In her reflection to the Committee, she described the sessions she attended and what she gleaned. She also noted that “the topics on equity will also play a role in how [she] frame[s] [her] newest research projects.”

Historical Summary of Applications and Awards

	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Submitted applications	15	23	21	16
Applications funded	10	21	17	13
Amount requested	\$26,845.58	\$22,146.97	\$33,993.50	\$15,172.99
Amount awarded	\$17,686.00	\$15,351.96	\$10,035.47	\$ 6,204.27
Faculty applications	13	13	17	11
Student applications	2	9	3	5
Staff applications	0	1	1	0
# TEDU applications	9	9	16	10
# HEHP applications	6	11	5	6
# Other EHHP apps.	0	3	0	0

Actions and Future Plans

The EHHP R&D Support committee received and reviewed applications twice per month. Normally, the Committee meets two or three times per academic year. In 2017-2018, maintaining this schedule was challenging. A meeting was held in September 2017 during which the Committee agreed to continue to build a repository of final products. The repository was approved during the previous academic year to provide examples of acceptable final products and document the impact the EHHP R&D Support program. A second meeting was scheduled for May 2018, but ultimately was not held due to the attendance reasons.

The Committee experienced challenges in 2017-2018. Throughout this academic year alone, the Committee welcomed one new member and lost three returning committee members. Tom Parry joined the group as the HEHP representative, replacing Michelle McLeod who served on the

committee since its inception in 2014-2015. Andrew Lewis left the committee upon his retirement from the College in December 2017. Stanley Montgomery left the committee when he resigned from his position at the College in March 2018, followed by Quinn Burke who announced his resignation from the College in May 2018. To date, none of the three who left have been replaced by new committee members. In the midst of these resignations, individual participation waned at times, impacting meeting attendance and timely review of applications.

The Committee composition for 2018-2019 will be confirmed in August, after faculty return and departments hold initial meetings. Once established, the Committee will meet in early fall semester.

One issue the Committee should address is forfeited awards. Because EHHP R&D Support funds are generally disbursed as reimbursement after the funded activity takes place, a forfeited award typically imposes no financial burden on the budget. For funds associated with travel, however, some costs may be prepaid (e.g. conference registration), particularly for students. These pre-paid expenses may be non-refundable. While there may be situations that necessitate forfeiting an award, the Committee might want to establish guidelines about when the recipient should notify the Committee that forfeiture is likely.

Another issue the Committee should address is the review calendar. Currently, reviews are conducted twice per month, July 15-May 15 by the faculty members on the committee. Since faculty are not on contract during in July, the previous committee members generously donated their time to review applications. That generosity should not be an expectation of future committee members, therefore the review calendar should be adjusted accordingly.