

# ***TCNJ 2021 Strategic Plan: Funded Proposals (Fall 2016 RFP)***

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## **I. Enhancement of Signature Experiences**

### **1. Community Engaged Learning Research and Scholarship Institute**

Michael Nordquist - Executive Director, Center for Community Engaged Learning & Research

Diane Bates - Professor and chair of Dept. of Sociology, CEL Council, CELR Center Faculty Fellow

As one of TCNJ's Signature Experiences, Community Engaged Learning (CEL) is substantially embedded in TCNJ's academic programming and overall identity. To join the ranks of leading institutions in the field and publicize our accomplishments, a robust program of CEL scholarship development and dissemination needs to be supported at TCNJ. Funding will support a group of community engaged learning staff and 12 faculty members to become experts in the field of CEL (often called "service learning" in the literature) through participation in institutes that provide the necessary background and resources to develop rigorous and sound CEL experiences and scholarship.

### **2. Global Student Teaching to Promote Two Signature Experiences: Application for Funding for Enhancement of the Signature Experiences**

Jeff Passe - Dean of the School of Education

Eileen Heddy - Coordinator of Global Student Teaching

Monica Jacobe - Director of the Center for American Language and Culture

Steve Schierloh - Director of International Recruitment

This proposal focuses on the School of Education's Global Student-Teaching (GST) Program. It addresses two overlapping Signature Experiences: 2) Undergraduate research, mentored internships, and field experiences; and 4) Global engagement. Education students oftentimes struggle to participate in these Signature Experiences due to the many state-mandated requirements that fill their schedules, so GST represents an important opportunity for this large population of TCNJ students. Funding will support trips to explore new sites, particularly in Latin America, and to strengthen our current relationships and explore resurrecting past sites. Global student teachers will also receive training to recruit for TCNJ, develop ESL modules, and give professional development workshops at their host schools. Grant funding will pay for travel expenses, stipends for faculty planning workshops, and the production of promotional materials.

### **3. Summer Community Leaders Program**

Adams Sibley - Program Coordinator, Center for Community Engaged Learning & Research

Debra Kelly - Director, Career Center

Michael Nordquist - Executive Director, Center for Community Engaged Learning & Research

The Summer Community Leaders (SCL) program will provide stipends to a cohort of disadvantaged TCNJ students to undertake an area non-profit internship and participate in an 8-week, intentional learning community among peers, which advances two Signature Experiences (i.e., Mentored internships and Community-engaged learning). Participants will develop interdisciplinary solutions to community problems, deeply engage in two Signature Experiences that they otherwise could not afford, and address unmet needs of the College's community partners during the crucial summer months. Funding will support student onboarding and training, supervisor orientation and site visits, and intern stipends. This program is also partially supported by matching funds from the host non-profit organizations.

## **II. Accepted Strategic Initiative Proposals**

### **1. TCNJ Data Summit: Using Data to Close the Opportunity Gap**

Dr. Amy L. Moyer - Center for American Language & Culture

The TCNJ Data Summit is designed for faculty and staff who want to strengthen their ability to analyze and leverage institutional data for program evaluation, development, and improvement. The Summit consists of a series of sessions that will (1) develop skills and raise awareness of existing institutional data, (2) share general and unit specific databases, and (3) provide a forum to identify and discuss assessment needs. Much of the work will focus on identifying opportunity and achievement gaps among the student body. An enduring product of the Data Summit will consist of a database that will be maintained by Center for Institutional Effectiveness and accessible to faculty and staff. Funding will support the development of training simulation materials, conference administration, and database development and administration.

## **III. Conditionally-Accepted Strategic Initiative Proposals (Pending Revision with Cabinet Officers)**

### **1. LED Lightbulbs: Saving Hundreds of Thousands, Boosting our Reputation, Meeting Environmental Goals, and Increasing Campus Safety**

Elsa Leistikow - President's Climate Commitment Committee.

This initiative will replace existing lightbulbs in the Metzger garage with LED lightbulbs, which are far more energy-efficient and cost-effective over their lifespan. The project will improve the College's reputation for sustainability, which has a positive impact on student recruitment; advertising this environmental initiative will improve our own reputation, attract students, and help us retain our position on "green" college lists. Overall, the project will advance several strategic goals for 2021: it will save TCNJ considerable money, improve our reputation to potential new students, invest in modern technology to improve campus safety, and reduce our energy usage and emissions, thereby supporting Priorities IV and V.

## **2. TCNJ My Way: Welcoming Campus Initiative Strategic Initiatives Grant Proposal**

Lynn Gazely, PhD MPH – Assistant Professor, Sociology and Anthropology Department

Meghan Sooy - Director of Disability Support Services

Kerri Tillett, Assoc. VP/ Chief Diversity Officer

Tiffani Warren - Director of the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Program

Janice Selinger - 14-time Emmy-award winning producer and a TCNJ Adjunct Professor.

Steve Stone - Emmy-award winning editor. Stone is also an adjunct professor at TCNJ and worked for many years with Selinger at NJN Public Television.

This initiative will foster an inclusive campus through the production of topic-specific PSA videos, printed media, and an advocacy campaign called *TCNJ My Way: Welcoming Campus*. The campaign promotes a sense of belonging at TCNJ for current and future members of the community through positive messaging, ongoing dialogue, and campus engagement with diversity, in support of Priorities I and III. Through this initiative, TCNJ seeks to expand its welcoming campus reach to impact a greater number of faculty, staff, students, and visitors with the goal of highlighting the best of what we have to offer.

## **3. The Universally Accessible Campus**

Susan O'Connor – Coordinator of Audience Services, TCNJ Center for the Arts

Lisa Angeloni – Vice President for Enrollment Management

Thomas Brennan – Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering

Sarah Domire – Assistant Professor, Special Education, Language & Literacy

Manuel Figueroa – Assistant Professor, Technological Studies

Amy Hecht – Vice President for Student Affairs

Curt Heuring – Vice President for Administration

Carole Kenner – Dean of Nursing // Co-Chair, Healthy Campus Program Council

Mark Kirchner – Assistant Campus Architect

Stephen Leddy – Associate Vice President, Conference & Event Services

Lt. James Lopez – TCNJ Campus Police

Kathy Leverton – Associate Vice President for Facilities and Administrative Services

Margaret Pezalla-Granlund – Director, TCNJ Art Gallery & Sarnoff Collection

Meghan Sooy – Director, Disabilities Support Services

Kerri Tillett – Chief Diversity Officer, Human Resources, Co-Chair, Healthy Campus Program Council

Matthew Winkel – Senior Web Architect

This initiative builds on the concept of Universal, or Human-Centered, Design to improve the accessibility of the campus for people with physical disabilities, in support of Priorities I, II, III, and IV. Universal Design principles go beyond ADA guidelines to consider the needs of a wider variety of visitors and members of the community. Funding will be used to acquire mobile

access electric shuttles that are wheelchair-capable, install bench and wayfinding elements to help guide visitors and provide resting points, and redesign web elements to make disability-relevant information easier to find.