



Undergraduate Departments of Religion or Theology Invitation for \$30,000 grant project

New Grant-making Process: The Wabash Center is initiating a new grant-making program that will involve all approved grant project directors in a consultative process to refine the design, activities, and evaluation process for their project. To pilot this program, we are opening up 12 \$30,000 grants to undergraduate religion and theology departments. This opportunity is being offered to undergraduate faculty members in religious and theological studies who have participated in Wabash Center workshops or colloquies.

Description: In 2015, 12 schools will receive \$30,000 grants to support 18-month projects directed by faculty in religious or theological studies departments. Projects need to explore teaching and learning issues encountered in religious or theological studies' classrooms and contribute to the capacity for sustained pedagogical conversations within the department or college. Such projects might focus on the building of departmental culture and new faculty development; summer funding for innovative pedagogical exploration; a student/faculty initiative around new interdisciplinary methodologies for teaching religion; reading & interpreting "religious texts" across disciplines; campus-wide conversations around religion as a pivot discipline between STEM, Social Sciences, Humanities, and the Professions; connecting with nearby schools who also have small religion departments; or building assessment tools for the study of religion.

Project directors from all approved projects will be expected to attend an initial Project Development Consultation on **September 24-27, 2015**, a Project Director Meeting in **September 2016**, and a Summative Conference for all schools in **September 2017**. These meetings will help the project directors refine the design, structure, and processes of evaluative learning for their grant projects through structured exercises and peer conversation. All costs for these meetings will be borne by the Wabash Center separate from the grant funding.

How to Apply: Application for the grant will be through an electronic or hard copy submission of a "Letter of Intent." Letter of Intent Guidelines are attached to this announcement.

Successful Grants will demonstrate a departmental readiness and willingness to explore questions of teaching and learning that originate in the classroom and a willingness to learn through the consultative processes that will be provided. Because the Wabash Center will be providing funding and leadership to support the refinement of the design, activities, and evaluation process for the grant project, clarity of the pedagogical question and issue will be more of a factor than a finished, detailed design of the grant project.

Submission DEADLINE is June 15, 2015. Grant funds will be dispersed by Dec. 31, 2015.