



## CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

### Center for the Critical Study of Race and Ethnicity Call for Proposals 2017-2018

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The Center for the Critical Study of Race and Ethnicity announces its 2017-2018 call for proposals for competitive grants, open to all faculty, staff and students. These grants are made available to support research, programming, the arts, and/or community engagement projects related to the study of race, ethnicity and social difference. Priority will be given to proposals that reflect this year's CCSRE theme: **“Intersectionality.”**

The term intersectionality was coined by Black feminist Kimberle Crenshaw in 1989 in her article [“Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics.”](#) This term describes what Black feminists have also called simultaneity (Combahee River Collective), and interlocking oppressions (Patricia Hill Collins). The concept explains how identities such as race, ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality and ability are not mutually exclusive but intersect on a person in a social system where these identities can confer power and privilege as well as experiences of oppression and discrimination.

The CCSRE's focus this year on intersectionality comes as the CCSRE has undergone a process of inward reflection over the last two years. As we engaged in a process of reorganizing we agreed that the theme of intersectionality perfectly captures the CCSRE's aims to provide the institutional structure, resources, and expertise necessary for initiating and sustaining critical and intersectional examinations of race, ethnicity, and social difference (e.g. gender, class, sexuality, caste, indigeneity) in global contexts and in broader social and political projects.

#### **Purpose and Scope of Grants**

The intent of CCSRE grant funding is to encourage and support individual or group teaching, research, programming, or engagement with topics relevant to the study of race, ethnicity and social difference. In the spirit of intersectionality, we are particularly interested in promoting interdisciplinary work and artistic expression that underscore the importance of critical theory and practice (praxis) in the academy and public life.

While this call is open to all faculty, staff and students, applications over the past two years have become increasingly competitive. Proposals that utilize critical<sup>1</sup> theoretical frameworks,

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<sup>1</sup> In this instance, the term “critical” refers to work that seeks to confront the social, historical, and ideological forces and structures that produce and constrain social life. Critical theory is oriented

methods and approaches as well as those from first time applicants will be given priority. This includes but is not limited to:

1. Research projects or artistic endeavors that are relevant to the theme and/or the study of race, ethnicity and/or social difference;
2. Programming, community engagement and performances integrated with aspects of the CCSRE theme; **“Intersectionality”** and/or that focus on issues relevant to race and ethnic justice and/or social difference;
3. Class-linked trips that directly engage issues of race, ethnicity and social difference;
4. Work groups interested in examining and improving current policy or practice; and,
5. Presentations or attendance at conferences or workshops related to the work of the Center. In keeping with our theme we are particularly interested in funding faculty and staff who are interested in attending conferences not directly related to their discipline but that intersects with their interests and connects their work to other fields of study.

### **Amount of Grants**

The total budget for awards across the 2017-2018 academic year is \$8,000. Individual awards of up to \$500 will be awarded to those groups or individuals whose proposals are competitive and meet the eligibility criteria.

### **Application Guidelines**

The following requirements should be carefully considered before submitting your proposal:

1. Proposals for 2017-2018 Competitive Grant for Research and Programming on Race, Ethnicity and Social Difference will be reviewed on the following dates: **October 13** and **February 9**.
2. All funds for awarded grants must be encumbered within the 2017-2018 budget cycle. Funds not yet spent by May 1, 2018, will be returned to the CCSRE general operating budget unless prior approval has been given to expend funds beyond that date.
3. Connecticut College full-time tenured, tenure-track, visiting, and adjunct **faculty, staff** members and **students** are all eligible to apply.
  - a. Priority will be given to those who do not normally have access to other types of grant funding at the college.
  - b. Each individual or group may apply for both the fall and spring calls. Individual and groups may not apply to the spring call to fund a project/ research/ program supported under the fall call.
  - c. Proposals submitted to the fall call for projects/ research/ programming in the spring will be considered. It is highly recommended that individual and groups submit proposals as earlier as possible as funding is contingent upon the availability of funds.
4. All applicants must utilize the application proposal form using the link provided below. Proposals received using any other format than the online form will not be eligible for review.

### **Application and budget forms**

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toward critiquing and changing society, while traditional theory is only oriented to understanding or explaining it.

## CCSRE Application Form

### **Notifications**

Applicants will receive two email notifications. The first email notification will confirm receipt of the proposal. The second email notification will delineate the outcome of the panel review, the award disposition and the guidelines to access funding.

### **Administration of Grants**

Those who receive grants are expected to fulfill the following requirements:

1. To submit a final report summarizing the project and, evaluating its impact and outcomes.
2. To present their project at an end of the academic year event.

These reports and presentations are very important and will be included in the matrix used to measure the overall impact of CCSRE support for the academic year. The CCSRE will also use information from these reports on their website as examples of successful grant proposals.

### **Contact Information**

For further information, please contact CCSRE Associate Director of Praxis Andrea Baldwin at [ccsre@conncoll.edu](mailto:ccsre@conncoll.edu).