Mini-Grant Rubric 2015-2016

Proposals will be evaluated by the Director of Sponsored Research along with two faculty mini-grant reviewers from departments other than the one in which the applicant works for. The reviewers will look for:

- feasibility of project, including accuracy of budget and timetable;
- well-written, well-organized, focused research projects;
- design and merit.

Criteria for evaluation are:

- **Significance**: What is the expected value of the outcomes of the proposed project? What impact will it potentially have on the students involved?

- **Approach**: Are the organizational framework, design, methods, and procedures adequately developed, well integrated, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?

- **Innovation**: Does the project employ any novel concepts, approaches or methods? Are the approaches original and innovative? Does the project challenge existing paradigms or develop new methods or approaches?

- **Investigator**: Is the principal investigator experienced and well suited to carry out this work? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigator and other collaborators (if any)? Does the project bring students into the research arena?

- **Environment**: Does the organizational environment offer those things necessary to support the project? Do the proposed activities take advantage of unique features of the environment or employ existing equipment and facilities? Will the budgeted materials adequately supplement existing equipment and facilities?

- **Budget**: Is the budget clear and practical? Is the budget sufficient to support the proposed project?

- **Research Ethics**: Does the project represent a conflict of interest with another organization or researcher on campus? If so, has it received approval from the appropriate people? Does the proposal have RERB approval and/or approval to use Immaculata populations (if applicable)?