



Conversations in the Disciplines

Grants in Support of Intercampus Conferences

Request for Proposals held between

July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028

Proposal due date: January 29, 2027

About the Program

The Conversations in the Disciplines (CID) grant program brings together SUNY faculty from across the system to examine new trends, address changes and challenges, and review promising research findings and pedagogical practices in a wide range of disciplines and fields. Proposed Conversations that focus on scholarly, pedagogical, and /or creative activities are welcome. The goal of this program is to support the cross-fertilization of ideas and invite collaborations across the system and beyond. The program has supported over 500 Conversations since 1965.

Conversations typically occur in the fall of the awarded year and June 30 of the following academic year.

Funding Tracks

There are two funding tracks available. Project directors should select the funding track that best suits their proposed Conversation in terms of scope and maturity.

Track 1 will allow for funding of up to \$5,000, while Track 2 will provide funding of up to \$10,000. The proposal must indicate which track the proposed Conversation falls under and provide justification for the track, as outlined in the selection criteria.

For this year, proposals for Conversations that focus on the discipline-specific exploration and integration of artificial intelligence are particularly welcome.

All project directors for successful CID projects will be expected to participate in a cross-disciplinary and inter-institutional "Conversation with the SUNY Provost." This capstone conversation will be an opportunity to exchange ideas and share learning across the funded CIDs.

SUNY Pillars

Each proposed Conversation must be tied to one or more of the SUNY pillars established by the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees:

- Student Success
- Research and Scholarship
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Economic Development and Upward Mobility

Selection criteria

- **Program Benefits and Outcomes:** The proposal must explain how the Conversation will provide benefits to SUNY overall, not a single campus; it must be connected to one or more of the SUNY pillars. The proposed outcome(s) for the Conversation must be included.
- **Facilitation of Intercampus Scholarly and Pedagogical Exchange:** Since scholarly and pedagogical exchange is a major purpose of the Conversation, a strong proposal must demonstrate its work in promoting exchanges and collaborations and its timeliness in relation to clearly stated objectives. Cross-disciplinary events are particularly encouraged. SUNY CID funding cannot be used to support meetings of groups or professional organizations that would be held irrespective of program support.

The proposal must include a track rationale as part of its discussion of the Conversation's facilitation of intercampus scholarly and pedagogical exchange. The proposal must explain which track the proposed Conversation fall under and provide a rationale for the appropriateness of the track based upon scope and maturity. All Conversations must last at least one full day and must involve at least two campuses working in concert with each other. Track 1 projects must last one full day and involve two collaborating campuses, while Track 2 projects must last two or more full days and/or involve three or more campuses, including the lead campus.

- Track 1: Funding for up to \$5,000 for Conversations that jumpstart new scholarly and pedagogical exchanges. These Conversations may be opportunities to pilot ideas and collaborations, explore focused questions, and/or work toward the development of future projects.
 - Track 2: Funding for up to \$10,000 for Conversations that build and expand upon previous collaborations and conferences. The rationale must explain how the proposed Conversation scales up from and/or otherwise advances earlier projects; this track is intended to support Conversations on projects and collaborations that are beyond the initial stages.
- **Feasibility:** The proposed Conversation must be realistic in its objectives, scope, and implementation. The clarity of the program structure is a critical element of the proposal. The proposed program should have clear and attainable goals and a carefully planned agenda.
- **Participant Roles and Expertise:** The proposal must clearly articulate why the selected participants are relevant to the overall objectives of the proposed Conversation. It must explain how the participants possess the appropriate expertise, professional experience, or 2

academic background that qualifies them for participation. Tentative commitments from participants will strengthen the proposal.

- **Budget:** Complete the required budget information using the budget template. The proposed budget must be reasonable and clearly aligned with the goals of the project. It must detail honoraria; travel expenses, including meals; lodging; clerical support; publicity; and other costs. Honoraria may not be requested for SUNY faculty and staff. No single presenter may receive more than \$500 as an honorarium from CID funds. (However, honoraria may be supplemented from other funding sources).

Guidelines for Preparing Proposals

Eligibility: Any full-time, SUNY faculty member or academic department (or equivalent organizational unit, such as a center or library) on a campus is eligible to submit a proposal for planning and hosting a Conversation. **All proposals must be made by representatives from at least two SUNY campuses.** Multidisciplinary efforts and projects across campus sectors are actively encouraged. Only one proposal may be submitted per department each year, whether submitted singly or jointly. In-person events are encouraged but those with a hybrid option will be considered as well.

Members of the University Faculty Senate Programs and Awards Committee will recuse themselves from voting on projects submitted from their department.

Proposal

Proposals must be submitted via the online submission portal. Please adhere to the character limits. Proposals must include confirmation that the proposal has been endorsed by the project lead's department.

- Abstract (1000 characters max, including blank spaces)
- Proposal Narrative:
 - Program Benefits and Outcomes
 - What is the significance of the proposed Conversation? What are the proposed outcomes?
 - How does the proposed Conversation advance one or more of the SUNY pillars?
 - Facilitation of Intercampus Scholarly and Pedagogical Exchange
 - Describe how your partners at other SUNY institutions will support the planning and execution of this project.
 - Provide a rationale for why the proposed Conversation is suitable for Track 1 or Track 2 funding. Include information about the proposed length of the Conversation, number of campuses involved, scope, and maturity.
 - Participant Roles and Expertise
 - Anticipated total participation (including attendees): description and number of SUNY and non-SUNY campuses represented. Include a description and the number of SUNY faculty, staff, and student participants, along with the nature of their involvement.

- Provide a similar description for any non-SUNY faculty and staff participants.
 - Provide a brief summary of how the expertise of each speaker and the organizing faculty and staff members aligns with and supports the objectives of the proposal.
 - Explain how the program will be publicized and made accessible to those interested in participating.
- Budget:
 - Use the budget spreadsheet template available on the CID webpage. Enter anticipated source of funds, specifying sources and amounts, if any, from campus or from external sources in addition to the CID program.
 - Enter proposed CID-funded expenditures, identifying clearly how funds are to be expended. This is a Line-Item Budget explanation.
 - Include items such as registration fees in the budget. The Committee strongly recommends the use of non-CID funds to cover the costs of luncheons, coffee breaks, refreshments, etc.
 - Itemize all expenses on page 2.
- Campus endorsement:

Use the campus endorsement template available on the CID webpage. Be sure to obtain necessary signatures.

Understanding/Agreement. The applicants understand and agree to the following:

- All Terms and Conditions of this program (see appendix A);
- Any funds awarded will be expended for the sole purposes outlined in the proposal. Any funds not expended for these purposes shall revert to SUNY upon completion of the project or termination date of the award, whichever is earlier;
- Any major change in the original theme or purpose of the Conversation requires prior written approval; and
- If the CID Review Committee makes any changes to the proposed budget and if the applicant agrees to those changes, then the Conversation as proposed in the application will be completed for the awarded amount.

Submission

The submission portal is available on the [webpage](#).

Evaluation and Notification

The University Faculty Senate Committee on Programs and Awards reviews all proposals, then forwards its recommendations to the SUNY Executive Vice Chancellor and System Provost who makes the final award determinations by mid-May. The System Provost will notify all successful

Project Directors of their selection, with the caveat that support is contingent upon receipt of program funding from SUNY's operating budget. After program funding is assured, Project Directors will be notified and directed to proceed with planning for their Conversation.

Program Contact

Direct all questions to CID@suny.edu.

Appendix A

Terms and Conditions Governing *Conversations in the Disciplines* Program Awards

Expenditures

All funds must be expended in accordance with State University of New York policies and procedures for the use of state funds. All forms and correspondence authorizing disbursement of funds are to be processed through the campus Business Office (not the Research Foundation). Funds must be expended between July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028. Any funds not expended for the Conversation shall revert to the State University of New York System Administration upon completion of the project or termination of the award, whichever is earlier.

Unallowable Costs

Conversations funding supports only the activities outlined in the CID proposal.

Program funding may **not** be used for the following:

- Honoraria to SUNY (including contract and community college) faculty or staff participants;
- Honoraria in excess of \$500 to any single presenter. Other sources may supplement honoraria;
- Compensation, including gift cards and other gifts in kind, to planners (e.g., directors, collaborators) for preparing and conducting the Conversation;
- Travel expenses that do not meet state requirements and limits;
- Costs of breakfasts and dinners for individuals other than presenters and planners. Non-CID funds are encouraged to cover the costs of luncheons, coffee breaks and refreshments; and
- Alcoholic beverages.

Prior Approval

The University Faculty Senate Committee on Programs and Awards must give prior approval for the following:

- Significant modifications to the budget as approved at the time of award;
- Change of the Conversation lead project director;
- Significant changes in the theme or purpose of the Conversation; and
- Changes in the conference dates of more than one month from those specified in the proposal.

Reporting Requirements

Awardees must submit the following:

- Award Acceptance Form, confirming the lead project director's acceptance of the funding. For those proposals that indicated external funding, include a copy or scan of the sponsor(s) commitment letter(s); and
- Evaluation Report of the activities supported by the award due within 60 days of the Conversation's completion.

Program Participation

As Conversations are conducted to benefit scholarly and pedagogical development within the State University, the host campus must send a Conversation announcement to the academic dean and appropriate faculty chair of each SUNY campus including the statutory and community colleges. All project directors for successful CID projects will be expected to attend a cross-

disciplinary and inter-campus “Conversation with the SUNY Provost” as a capstone.

Publicity, Printed Matter, and Publications

On the printed program of a Conversation, include the following sponsorship credit: “This conference is sponsored by the Conversations in the Disciplines Program of the State University of New York.” Publications resulting from the Conversation are subject to the copyright policy of the State University of New York. A copy of any publications, including programs, should be submitted to CID@suny.edu.