

## CURRENT RESEARCH SUPPORT AT THE COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND

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Updated May 1, 2021

**OVERVIEW** of main awards and programs. White rows are for faculty; grey are for undergrads requiring faculty mentors. More detail on each program follows the recommendations.

Name	\$ Amount or Time	Number given	Deadline
1. Provost's Research Scholarship	\$5,000 annually for two years	5-11 (historically since 2009). None given in 2011. Reduced to 2 in 2016-17 under Provost Reichard and <b>never offered again.</b>	March or April
2. Dean's Research Grant	\$2,000 for academic year	4-10 (historically since 2009). None in 2011. <b>None have been given since 2017.</b>	April
3. Scholarly Reassigned Time Awards	One-course release	10 annually in 2014-15 and 2015-16. <b>None offered ever again.</b>	March 31
4. Provost Travel Scholarship Award	Up to \$1,500 for conference travel	Budgets: 2015-16: 76,200 2016-17: 15,175 2017-18: 25,400 2018-19: 15,000 <b>2019-20: None</b>	3 deadlines per year (Sept. 1, Jan. 1, April 1)
5A. CSI Undergraduate Research Stipend	\$250-\$1,000 <b>for student research in Spring semester.</b> Faculty mentor students.	Unknown. Funded by Coordinated Undergraduate Education (CUE)	November
5B. Deans' Research Award	\$1,000 for <b>student research in summer and fall.</b> Faculty mentor students.	Provost decides funding level for Schools and Divisions.	?
6. Provost's Fellowship Leave	Two leaves at 100% pay, each lasting one semester	3 were last given in 2015-16 and <b>never given again.</b>	November

Because the PSC-CUNY Awards are governed by the faculty/university contract and [letter of agreement of Feb. 27, 2014](#), they are not covered here.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS AS OF MAY 1, 2021**

1. Travel funds mandated in the PSC-CUNY Contract should be accounted for. At a December 2020 meeting, former Associate Provost Mel Pipe and Provost Michael Parrish stated that PSC funds provide approximately \$42,000 annually for research-related travel expenses. The total travel expenses for three years from \$71,282 (2017-18), \$56,794 (2018-19), and \$61,689 (2019-2020). Since travel was not allowed starting in March 2020, there should be funds left from the rest of fiscal year 2020 and fiscal year 2020-21. These accounts should be identified and ear-marked for distribution in academic year 2020-21. Many faculty could use these to register for online conferences, for example, and some conferences have resumed in-person meetings.
2. Funding should be secured regularly for all programs. The Provost's Research Fellowship, Provost's Fellowship Leave, and Dean's Research Grants were apparently eliminated after 2016. This could explain why the number of outside research grants has declined since then. Given that the College told Middle States reviewers from the previous review that these were part of ongoing research support, and given that faculty satisfaction with research support at CSI is low, regular funding should be a priority.
3. The irregular funding levels of the Provost Travel Scholarship Award Program continues to cause concern. Bringing this back to its 2015-16 levels is a relatively minor investment. It should be funded with federal funds that CSI received from three federal aid packages during the pandemic.
4. The Deans' Research Grants were originally created in the era when there were two divisions at the college. Because there are now two divisions and three schools (Health Sciences, Business, and Education), they should be expanded. The Committee discussed this with the administration back in 2016.
5. In the past, the Provost's Fellowship Leave consisted of two fellowships, each offering a faculty researcher with 100% pay for one semester. As noted in the chart, these have not been given since 2015-16— a five-year pause. These must be reinstated before the next Middle States review.
6. In December 2020, former Associate Provost Mel Pipe and Provost Michael Parrish conveyed that prior to fiscal year (FY) 2017, "up to 33% of indirect research costs were distributed back to those departments generating them, based on a sliding scale." This was cancelled in 2018 and no monies were distributed from FY 2017. Then, in 2019, the administration distributed funds from FY 2018 according to a new formula: 10% of net IDCs were returned to departments and 10% were returned to Deans to incentivize additional funding. We would like to learn what happened to the funds for fiscal years 2019 and 2020 and provide input about spending priorities for the coming academic year.

## **DETAILED OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS**

### **1. Provost's Research Scholarship**

Offered by the Office of Academic Affairs  
\$5,000 annually for two years

Historically, between 5 and 11 were awarded each year from 2009-2015.  
However, none have been awarded since 2016-17, and none were awarded in 2011.  
Applications are usually due in March or April.  
Faculty can receive this more than once.

From the RFP:

“Overview:

The Provost’s Research Grant is given for a period of two years in support of faculty scholarship with the purpose of either attracting external research grants, contracts or of being awarded prestigious fellowships or residencies (i.e NEH, NEA, Fulbright, Guggenheim). Those faculty pursuing grants are encouraged to use some of the funds to travel to funding entities, especially federal agencies, to discuss specific RFPs or solicitations to generate grant proposals. The Provost Research Grant funds may also be used for research related travel, summer salary and student support. The grant is not intended for the purchase of routine supplies.

Expectations:

The Provost’s Grant is given in support of building the research and scholarship of faculty. It is expected that each faculty member receiving the award will submit at least two proposals for external funding to agencies that allow overhead or will apply for two national/international fellowships. It is also expected that faculty will produce a tangible record of scholarship activities over the two year time frame. A short interim report is required by July 15, 20xx. Continuation of funding for the second year is contingent on the progress made during the first year. A final report, describing activities and a list of works submitted/published and grant or fellowship proposals submitted during the two-year period, is due July 15, 20xx+1.

Selection process:

The selection committee will recommend a slate of candidates to the Provost. While all tenured or tenure-track faculty are eligible to apply, **preference will be given to junior faculty** trying to build their scholarship and to faculty who are considering changing to a new line of research. **Faculty may apply for both a Dean’s Scholarship and a Provost’s Research Scholarship but will not be awarded both.”**

## **2. Dean’s Research Grant**

Offered annually by Divisional Deans. This will be expanded to include the Schools, according to an email from Jessica Stein in 2016.

\$2,000 for the academic year

Historically, between 4 and 10 were awarded each year from 2009-2015.  
However, none have been awarded since 2015, and none were awarded in 2011.  
**Applications are usually due in April**

From the RFP:

“Overview:

The Dean’s Scholarship Award is given to allow faculty members to dedicate their time to furthering and strengthening their research, scholarship, or creative agendas.

Expectations:

It is expected that faculty will use the award in support of their research, scholarship, and creative activities. A report (maximum of 2 double spaced pages) is required at the end of the scholarship period and will be due on July 20xx. The report should describe the product of the scholarship period. This may be a grant, a peer-reviewed article submitted for publication, or an equivalent product.

Selection process:

A selection committee will recommend a slate of candidates to the Deans. **All tenured or tenure-track full-time faculty at or below the rank of associate professor who have not received this award before are eligible to apply.** However, strong preference in the selection process will be given to untenured junior faculty trying to build their scholarship and to faculty who have not received this award before. Faculty may apply for both a Dean’s Research Grant and a Provost’s Research Grant but will not be awarded both.”

### 3. Scholarly Reassigned Time Awards

[www.csi.cuny.edu/privacy/ScholarlyReleaseTimeAwardPolicy.pdf](http://www.csi.cuny.edu/privacy/ScholarlyReleaseTimeAwardPolicy.pdf)

Offered annually by the Provost

Release time for one course, given to ten faculty (Note: There is no formal rationing system for divisions and schools.)

Chairs may nominate multiple candidates

Nominations are supposed to be for candidates who have “exceed departmental expectations.”

This depends on department, Division, and School. For Science and Technology, it mean “publications in top tier journals and grants received.” For Humanities and Social Sciences, individual departments and their chairs decide. The School of Business considers publications and external recognition. The School of Health Science considers publications and key-note speaking. The School of Education considers “exceeding department standards” to mean multiple publications in a single year, as well as a major grant.

Nominations by March 31

From the Provost’s “policy document” (link above)

“Timing:

- Awards for an academic year are solicited and announced during the preceding spring semester.
- **Scholarly work eligible for nomination must be completed and published or performed during the calendar year preceding the year of the award.**

Eligibility:

- Only **tenured** members of the faculty are eligible for this award.

- Faculty members receiving reassigned time during an academic year for external grants are not eligible for the award that same year.
- Only accomplishments exceeding departmental standards are eligible for nominations.

Process:

- Nominations are made by chairs and are based upon the recommendations of the departmental appointments committee.
- Nominations must include a current CV and a letter describing the significance of the accomplishments during the previous calendar year.
- Nominations must be received by March 31 and should be sent to Jessica Stein in the Provost's Office.
- Departmental nominations are examined by an award committee consisting of the academic deans and selected members of the Faculty Senate Research Committee, which then makes recommendations to the Provost.
- The Provost makes the final decision regarding all awards."

#### **4. Provost Travel Scholarship Award Program**

<http://www.csi.cuny.edu/administration/academicaffairs/pdf/ConferenceTravelFundingOpportunity.pdf>

Provides travel funding opportunities for faculty presenting their work at national and international conferences. Administered through Faculty Center for Professional Development. Proposals are reviewed by faculty serving on the advisory board of the center. Recent amounts per applicant were very low—around \$250 per applicant.

The total budgets were the following:

2018-19: \$15,000  
 2017-18: \$25,400  
 2016-17: \$15,175  
 2015-16: \$76,200

From the CFP:

"Eligibility: Tenure-track faculty will be eligible to apply if they are presenting the results of their research, scholarship, performance, or the scholarship of teaching and learning at a peer-reviewed national or international conference. In limited instances, full-time lecturers will also be eligible to apply to attend a conference in their area of specialization or the scholarship of teaching and learning. Given the competitive nature of the process and the goal to enable as many colleagues as possible to participate, we would not expect to fund a faculty member for more than one conference within the above time period."

**5. A. CSI Undergraduate Research Stipend Program (formerly known as Dean's Undergraduate Research Fellowship). These are actually programs for undergraduates; faculty serve as mentors.**

Range is \$250-1,000

Student must present at Undergraduate Research Conference in April

Faculty mentors research student, receives no release time or teaching credit unless student signs up for an independent study

Typically had a November deadline.

Process: Students submit application and budget. Review committee ranks applications. In the past, the Director of Verrazano Honors Program and Macaulay Honors College at CSI decided the exact amount a student received.

NB: This was funded by Coordinated Undergraduate Education, called CUE.

### **5.B. Deans' Research Award**

Funds student research in the summer and fall

Total amount is \$1000. \$500 is issued at the beginning; \$500 is awarded at the end after the student submits a research report.

Student must present at annual Undergrad Research Conference in April

Awarded annually

Process: Provost decides how much funding each School and Division receives; Deans decide student winners.

### **6. Provost's Fellowship Leave**

Offered annually by the Office of Academic Affairs. Last offered in 2015-16.

Two leaves at 100% pay, each lasting one semester

The terms of 100% pay following the same contract terms as in the PSC-CUNY contract; if a faculty member takes 100% pay, he/she cannot take another leave until six years have passed.

#### **Applications due in November**

From the RFP:

“Overview:

The Provost's Fellowship Leave is given in support of scholarship to full-time faculty eligible for a *fellowship leave under the terms of the CUNY leave policy*. Preference will be given to faculty with strong records of scholarship. These fellowship leaves are given for the purposes of supporting publication in top scholarly outlets and/or developing proposals for external research grants/contracts.

It is expected that recipients will use the fellowship leave for activities such as preparing manuscripts for scholarly publication, conducting research in order to generate a research proposal, attending grant writing workshops, and/or visiting potential funding agencies to generate proposals.

Expectations:

Since Provost's Fellowship Leaves are given to support research and scholarship, recipients are

expected to produce a tangible record of scholarly activities in the form of publication and/or a significant grant application during the leave period.

A short report (maximum of five double spaced pages) will be required at the end of the scholarship period describing activities and giving a bibliography of works and grant proposals published/awarded or submitted during the period of award.

Selection process: Proposals will be evaluated by a committee consisting of five members of the P&B Committee. The Committee will forward its recommendations for awards to the Provost.”