

**Small Educational Research
Grants Program Increase Productivity
and Collaboration:
The CGEA Collaborative
Grants Program**

**CGEA 2009,
Mayo College of Medicine**



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Background

- **CGEA initiated the program in 2001**
- **Purpose**
 - **Advance the region as community of scholars**
 - **Promote collaborative projects among Sections and SIGs**
 - **Promote collaborative research within the region**



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Background

- **Product**
 - **Public**
 - Available for peer review
 - Available in a format that others can build upon the work
- **Funding**
 - 18 months in length
 - \$5,0000



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Background

- **2001 – 2006**
 - **20 applications received**
 - **9 projects funded**



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**The effectiveness of such programs
has often been assumed,
but
has relatively little
empirical evidence**



**Nehad I. El-Sawi, Ph.D.,
President
KCUMB Institute for Medical Education Innovation**

Methods

- **Brief structured interviews**
 - **8 of 9 funded applicants**
 - **6 of 11 unfunded applicants**
- **Compare responses and productivity**



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Survey Questions

- Regarding the funding received, describe its significance in terms of
 - Was it crucial
 - Important
 - Helpful?
- In what ways did the actual program as administered change from the program that was submitted for funding?
- Describe the products that resulted from the project.



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Survey Questions

- Overall, what impact do you see the grant as having had on collaborative efforts?
- In all, what do you see as the main benefit(s) of receiving the CGEA grant



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Impact of CGEA Collaborative Grants Program for years 2001 - 2006

FUNDED GROUP

School #	Level of Funding Importance	Number Schools Collaborating	Continued Collaboration	# Products
1	Crucial	4	-	4
2	Crucial	3	Yes	7
3	Crucial	4	Yes	13
4	Crucial	3	-	9
5	Important	Expanded to include all SIG members	Yes	In Progress
6	Crucial	Missing Data	Yes	0
7	Important	5	-	3
8	Helpful	Missing Data	Yes	10

Impact of CGEA Collaborative Grants Program for years 2001 - 2006

CONTROL GROUP

School #	Project Implemented	Number Schools Collaborating	Continued Collaboration	Number Products
1	Yes, but modified	0	0	0
2	Yes, but modified	2	No	3
3	Yes, but modified	2	No	5
4	No	<i>Project not implemented</i>		
5	Yes	2	Yes	In Progress
6	Yes	2	No	3

Percent Continuing Collaboration									
Number Continuing Collaboration									
Average Number Products for Survey Participants									
Total Number Scholarly Products Reported									
Average Number Collaborators for Survey Participants									
Total Number Collaborators Reported									
Percent Participating in Survey									
Number Participating in Survey									
Total Number Applications									
	9	8	89%	19	2.38	46	5.75	5	63%
	11	6	1%	8	1.33	11	1.83	1	17%
	20	14	70%	27	1.93	57	4.07	6	43%

Funded
Not Funded

All Participants



Conclusion

- **Small educational research grants program can have a practically beneficial effect on research productivity and for promoting collaborations among institutions**



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