



PROJECT DATA

Note: This form is for **APPROVED GRANTS** only! A Project Data form is a requirement for the grants. The information provided will be posted on the Learning College website.

Directions: Fill out the form and email it to anne.holte@montgomerycollege.edu.

Project Name: Food For Thoughts

Project Director: Peter Zakutansky/Rockville Faculty Council

Project Starting and Ending Date: Jan 21-Apr 30 2007

Brief description of the project: The *Food for Thoughts* initiative grant will cover the costs associated with 15 one-hour to 90 minutes events during the spring semester of 2007. These events will be held by 15 separate disciplines during each of the two semesters. These events may be structured as forums; breakfast meetings; “brown-bag lunches”; “chat ‘n chews”; or some other meeting format that could be held anytime during the day. Each discipline will have the ability to structure their event to best meet the needs of their faculty/staff and students.

The Rockville Faculty Council will oversee the distribution of up to \$175 in a mini-grant for each of the 15 events. The Rockville Faculty Council will ask for application information at the beginning of the spring (2007) semester to all of the College’s disciplines. 15 events will be funded on a first-come-first served basis during the semester. Disciplines may only apply to conduct one event.

Three documents will be created and provided to each discipline that receives a \$175 award:

Pre and Post-event Tracking Form: to be completed by the event organizer that sets the date, time and place for the event, anticipated and actual numbers of faculty/staff and students attending and itemizes the events expenses.

Faculty/Staff Evaluation Form: used to measure the effectiveness in reaching the goals of the *Food For Thoughts* initiative.

Student Evaluation Form: used to measure the effectiveness in reaching the goals of the **Food For Thoughts** initiative.

State fundamental need or concern addressed in this project.

Because our school is a commuter college, there is seldom any opportunity for faculty/staff to communicate with students outside of the classroom setting. There is an ever increasing need to communicate critical information about scheduling, changes in curricula, and other programmatic changes to students. Additionally, there is a need for faculty/staff to have the opportunity to interact and socialize with students in order to improve team-building and the quality of campus life. The **Food for Thoughts** initiative will also provide the faculty/staff of individual disciplines opportunities to interact with prospective and current majors and to help them understand the relevance of the course work in their specific major.

List the project's core goals and/or objectives.

- To improve timely communications and distribution of information about constantly changing programs;
- To increase socialization between faculty/staff and students to enhance academic quality of life ;
- To enhance the understanding of the discipline's course work relevance to prospective and current majors;
- To provided Disciplines with an understanding of the gaps in students' knowledge and Discipline-specific information to guide future academic decision-making; and
- To establish benchmark evaluation data to gauge the effectiveness of these types of informational events for comparison in future years

Who will benefit from this project?

The faculty/staff and students will all benefit equally from the **Food for Thoughts** events. Faculty/Staff will gain keener insights into the needs of their students resulting in higher engagement and academic commitment by students to their disciplines. Students will feel more informed and involved in their disciplines and experience an increase in their quality of academic lives.