

**ELLA GRANTS FOR 2011**  
**ENGAGED LEARNING IN THE LIBERAL ARTS**

Application for Funding



**College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Utah Valley University**

The College announces Round III of the ELLA Grant Application process. Please submit completed applications by Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, to Jolene Arnoff in the Dean's office. The Engaged Learning committee will make its recommendations after meeting on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Please submit your completed written application to:

**Jolene Arnoff**  
**Dean's Office**  
**College of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**LA 209**  
**(801) 863-8743**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

<b>Name:</b>	Travas Young
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**PROJECT**

<b>Date of Application:</b>	03/08/2011
<b>Title of Project:</b>	ASL Engaged Learning

**Others Involved in the Project:**

<b>Name:</b>	Travas Young	<b>Student/ Faculty/ Staff:</b>	Faculty	<b>E-Mail:</b>	travas.young@uvu.edu
<b>Name:</b>	Michael Farner	<b>Student/ Faculty/ Staff:</b>	Student	<b>E-Mail:</b>	msFarner@live.com
<b>Name:</b>		<b>Student/ Faculty/ Staff:</b>		<b>E-Mail:</b>	

**ABSTRACT FOR PROPOSAL**

*Not to exceed 500 words. Please include project time-frame and specific objectives, and discuss how the project will contribute to the goals of engaged learning. Use a separate sheet and attach it to this application.*

**PROJECT ASSESSMENT AND RELEVANCE TO ENGAGED LEARNING IN THE LIBERAL ARTS.**

**1) ELLA funding not only encourages projects in engaged learning, but will provide you with opportunities to enhance your professional development as well. How will your proposal complement your teaching, service, and scholarship?**

As a new faculty member, I was impressed by the UVU's dedication to engaged learning. The more I learn about engaged learning, the more I am convinced of its benefit to students and the community. This project will benefit ASL students directly because it is developed with the students' curriculum in mind. Students who participate will receive an immediate opportunity for engaged learning that will supplement current course activities. I will gain an increased awareness of engaged ASL learning informed by students and community members. I will be able to apply this information to immediately improve my teaching at UVU. This project is very likely to produce leading indicators that we can mine for future engaged curriculum development. These indicators could easily lead to a research proposal on the effectiveness of this type of ASL learning. In addition to academic benefits, this project will also make our program more transparent to the community. There is a desperate need for more interpreters and ASL fluent professionals in Utah. This project will help the community see what we are doing to fill that need. One goal of this project is to allow the community to serve the students in the short term so that students can better serve the community as prepared professionals.

**2) How do you intend to assess and measure the results of your grant? (At the conclusion of the grant year recipients will be asked to discuss informally the results of their projects with ELLA committee members.)**

The results of the grant will be measured by a series of questionnaires offered to students, mentors, faculty, and community members. A questionnaire will be offered in the middle of the project and at the project's conclusion. The questionnaires will offer a judgment scale that people can use to rate the success of each project in relation to the desired outcomes. The relative size of the initial group involved will prohibit any statistical assessment of progress or improvement. We may be able to identify leading indicators to judge the success of future projects of this type.

**DETAILED BUDGET INFORMATION**

Amount Requested: \$5,760	Detailed budget spreadsheet is available on request or by following <a href="#">this link</a> .		
Has previous ELLA funding been requested?	No	If yes; when?	

ELLA GRANTS FOR 201  
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Abstract for Proposal

1. There are three aspects to this project. One aspect will focus on beginning and intermediate ASL students. This project will link students with members of the ASL community through video technology already in place in UVU computer labs. It will allow new ASL signers an opportunity to engage with the language community in a positive structured situation. This will ease students' introduction into the ASL community and encourage them to become further engaged. This aspect of the project will utilize funds to train community volunteers and to offer them some compensation for the time they donate to the project. The technology is in place and we could begin and recruitment immediately. The project is designed to run as part of a 15-week semester with one or two weeks for training. The project could begin immediately in the remaining weeks of spring semester with a small cohort of students and continue during summer or fall Semester with a larger group.

2. The second aspect of the project will provide mentoring for upper division students preparing to become certified ASL interpreters. This project will provide peer mentoring and mentoring by working interpreters in the community. One goal of the mentor guided learning aspect is to help students form connections to their professional peers early on in their college career, facilitating an early start on finding internship and job opportunities. Grant funds will be utilized to train peer mentors, as well as to provide some compensation to community volunteers. There is a current need for more mentoring. Mentoring could begin at any time this semester, summer semester, or fall semester. My goal would be to report the initial results of the mentoring project by the end of Fall 2011. The initial mentoring could be completed as early as Summer Semester.

3. The third aspect of the project will increase awareness of engaged learning opportunities by establishing an online socially based repository where students, faculty, working interpreters, and the language community can provide information on internships, job opportunities, community ASL based events appropriate for new signers, and pedagogical resources for ASL teachers. ELLA funds will enable student volunteers to establish a perpetual administration for the repository. Students will engage each time they turn to their peers for accurate and effective advice. The starting time for this project is flexible. I would like to see this type of thing started as soon as possible. My goal would be to have a site up and running before Fall Semester 2011.

Each aspect of this project seeks to create sustainable engagement for a minimal investment. The project will establish a foundational core of volunteer based engagement that can rapidly expand with further funding. It will also serve as a starting point for academic research on the effectiveness of each aspect of this project. In addition to the long-term goals, the immediate involvement of students, professionals, and community members, will provide value added reciprocal return of the ELLA grant funds to liberal arts students.

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Formula: Description

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Description	Unit	Cost per unit low est.	Cost per unit high est.	Units per week	No. of weeks	Cost per week low	Weekly Cost high	Cost per semester low est	Cost per semester high est	
2	Working Interpreter Mentoring	One man hour	15	18.5	4	15	60	74	900	1110	
3	Community Mentoring*	One man hour	15	18.5	20	15	300	370	4500	5550	
4	Engaged curriculum Development	One man hour	15	18.5	4	3	60	74	180	222	
5	Mentor training	One man hour	15	18.5	2	2	30	37	60	74	
6	Online resource development	One man hour	15	18.5	2	4	30	37	120	148	
7						15	0	0	0	0	
8						15	0	0	0	0	
9			75	92.5	32		480	592	5760	7104	
10											
11	*4-20 mentors contributing 1-5 hours each week.										

Sheet1