Mentoring Mini-Grant Program at Swarthmore College

The aim of this initiative is to increase participation, success, and retention in science and engineering careers among students who are from groups underrepresented in the natural science and engineering disciplines, especially at the PhD level (such as first-generation college students, underrepresented minorities, students from economically or academically disadvantaged backgrounds, females in NSE Departments other than Biology and Psychology). Mentoring Mini-Grants are offered as a means to encourage development of scientific identity and meaningful mentoring relationships for Swarthmore College students who are members of these groups. The Faculty and staff may apply for mentoring mini-grants to support a mentee directly or to advance mentorship generally on campus. Suggested mentorship development activities are listed below (Part B). Mentors and mentees will be asked to write a brief report at the conclusion of a supported activity and may be asked to participate in program evaluation through surveys or focus groups. Maximum grant per application is $1500. Supplemental funds from other campus sources may be available for projects with higher costs. Note: This program was established through several grants awarded to Swarthmore College from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Questions: Kathy Siwicki, Program Director (ksiwick1@swarthmore.edu) or Debbie Thompson, Administrative Coordinator (dthomps1@swarthmore.edu).

TO APPLY, please provide the information requested in A, B and C below. You may submit this application by emailing it to the Administrative Coordinator no later than 30 days before the conference (see above).

A. Application Date:

Faculty/Staff Sponsor:

Department: Student

Name: Class Year:

Major/Minor: Student

email:

B. Mentorship development activities: Check option that qualifies for funding. I plan to ...

___ hire a mentee as a research or curriculum development assistant - a mini-grant will pay the student’s hourly wages

___ bring the mentee to a scientific conference - a mini-grant will cover the student’s registration and travel costs

___ facilitate an off-campus summer research internship - a mini-grant will provide a housing stipend or defray other costs for the mentee

___ encourage the mentee to re-take a foundational science course (e.g., chemistry or math) in order to earn at least a B - a mini-grant will provide a summer tuition grant

___ support mentors’ professional development related to mentoring diverse students (e.g., workshops, webinars, and publications)

___ bring alumni scientists from diverse backgrounds to campus for scientific talks or career panels

___ other (describe in Part C with as much detail as possible)

C. Attach a single-‐page description of your project, which includes the following:

1) Project Description - Who, What, Why & How (one paragraph)

2) Objectives

3) Evaluation - How will you determine if your objectives have been met?

4) Expected Dates/Timeline

5) Expected Expenses

NOTE: International conference travel can only be approved if the student completes the Off Campus Study Office requirements which includes a Travel Registry and other supplemental materials.