

# The MTSO Student Enrichment Program

Funded by a generous grant from the Walter and Marian English Foundation

With the help of the Walter and Marian English Foundation, MTSO has created the Student Enrichment Program (SEP) beginning during the academic year of 2008-09. **This program allows *full-time* students to participate in life and professional enrichment through application for funds to support their endeavors.** The SEP supports (but is not limited to) such areas of student enrichment as: attendance and participation in scholarly or professional conferences and workshops, participation in social action initiatives, attending lectures related to society and religion, and participation in service initiatives. The MTSO Student Enrichment Program encourages the transformation of the participants, as they will have the opportunity to engage in activities beyond the borders of MTSO.

The MTSO community as a whole benefits from the dialogue that ensues when participating students return to MTSO. The program encourages students to be imaginative about ways their academic and professional horizons may be enriched.

**Applications** for enrichment funding are received **September 1<sup>st</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup>**, *on a rolling basis*. If you are applying to use the funding for a Summer or early Fall event, the completed application is due no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications are reviewed by the SEP Committee consisting of two current MTSO faculty members.

The **maximum** funding of a domestic project will normally be \$1,500 and for an international project, \$2,500. Applications that request more than \$500 must be accompanied by a letter of support from a person able to speak to the contribution of the experience to the student's scholarly/professional growth. The letter of support *cannot* be completed by a current member of the SEP Committee.

A **maximum of three** SEP grants can be received per student during the time period they are a degree-seeking student at MTSO, normally one per academic year. Please note, this grant would not normally cover travel that is *required* for a credit-bearing course.

Successful applicants will be expected to contribute in some way to the community life of MTSO upon return. This could take the form of a campus presentation, special chapel service, or other form of integration with their class work. The event being funded as well as the presentation component, in whatever form it takes, *must be completed prior to the student's expected date of graduation*.

A running list of successful application ideas and some examples of student contributions to the community will be made available on Populi to raise awareness and stir imagination of students.

The SEP Committee will use criteria for selection for the program which will include (but are not be limited to) such issues as: 1) the nature of the connection between the proposed experience and the student's area of interest and expertise, 2) the level of participation in the experience (e.g. will the student be a presenter or observer in the experience), 3) the value of the experience both for the student and MTSO, 4) the creative/imaginative dimension of the experience, and 5) whether the student has been a previous participant. **Student applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.00.**

Any questions as well as completed applications should be sent to Kris LoFrumento, Director of Student Services - [klofrumento@mtso.edu](mailto:klofrumento@mtso.edu).