Accumulations in Individual Faculty Development Funds

The purpose of the Faculty Development Fund (FDF) is as follows:

1. Provide a modest level of support for expenses that cannot be charged to sponsored projects or supported by the department. This includes, for example, business development travel and entertainment and general purpose items such as computers, software, and membership dues.

2. Provide funds for short-term pilot projects that might require the support of a graduate student or research associate for a limited time (one year or less).

3. Provide a source of investment funding for large projects. This might include providing a source of cost sharing for a large project or funds for investing in research infrastructure such as major equipment purchases or renovations.

The goal of this policy to limit accumulated balances in the FDF is to balance the needs of individual faculty with the overall ability of the school to fund improvements and reinforce the intended primary purpose of the FDF as a source of funds to develop a faculty member’s research program.

As of June 30, 2010, the following limit on individual accumulations shall be applied: At the end of each fiscal year, if a faculty member’s accumulated balance at the end of the fiscal year (June 30) is greater than $40,000 and the balance exceeds 5% of their research expenditures for the fiscal year just ending they will not automatically receive an allocation based on that fiscal year’s results. Faculty may submit a justification and intended plan for the allocation and, if approved by his or her chair and the dean, an exception may be made to the cap on the accumulated balance.