

TRU Instructional Innovation Grant in Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Learning (TIIG-AI)

Overview

Proposals are invited from University Instructors, tenure-track, and tenured faculty who are interested in responding to the impacts of artificial intelligence through the redesign of the student experience to include or model responsible use of artificial intelligence in teaching and learning. The context of the project will be a course that the faculty member(s) will teach during the 2025/2026 academic year.

The support provided by this grant is focused on supporting students as partners in roles such as co-researchers, student project managers, or as research assistants. All grant awardees will also be assigned a CELT Coordinator to help manage the scope and outcomes of the project.

Streams

Grant applicants are asked to present a rationale for how their project connects to TRU's Institutional Learning Outcomes and, if appropriate, a program learning outcome within an existing TRU credential.

Additionally, projects are expected to result in beneficial impacts to one (or more) of the following areas:

- Digital learning
- Assessment for learning
- Open practice and technology
- Community engagement*
- Student engagement, retention, and persistence
- Equity, diversity, and inclusion

(*Includes collaborations with community organizations and nonprofits, school districts and/or small businesses etc...)

Objectives

- Increase the creation, adaptation, adoption, and integration of high-quality AI innovation in pedagogy, in TRU campus-based courses.
- Grow capacity at TRU to support and sustain AI pedagogical innovation.
- Engage with the TRU community to increase awareness of AI teaching and learning innovation.

Funding

Successful applicants may receive up to \$5,000.

Deadline: **February 24, 2025**

Results: Awards will be announced by mid-March. Projects begin on **April 1, 2025, and end March 30** of the following year. Final reports will be expected no later than **May 30th of the year the project ends**.

Duration: 1 year (with interim report at 6 months and final at 12 months); Projects needing time beyond 1 year can apply for an extension for the project (on a case-by-case approval basis), in writing to CELT, at least 6 weeks before the end of the project (March 30th); however, funds should be spent in the one-

year time frame for which the grant was awarded.

Eligibility

- Faculty members may individually or jointly submit grant proposals. The lead applicant must be named and must be a full-time continuing faculty member. Faculty members with other term appointments, non-academic staff, community members, and students may be co-applicants.
- Principal Applicants to the TIIG-AI cannot hold more than one CELT grant concurrently. Co-applicants can be involved in more than one active CELT project at a time.
- Applicants can hold other external grants (e.g., BC Campus) to develop the same project, if the use of the funding meets different project outcomes.
- Proposals that overtly
 - support the institutional learning outcomes at TRU**, and
 - engage student assistants/co-researchers in the project
 - has an AI innovation focus
 - has a knowledge mobilization plan for sharing within the TRU and CELT community.
- **** Institutional Learning outcomes:**
Communication, Teamwork, Lifelong Learning, Social Responsibility, Knowledge, Critical Thinking and Investigation, Indigenous Knowledge and Ways, Intercultural Awareness

Eligible Expenses

- Support for student assistants/co-researchers to perform tasks related to the project (e.g., research, writing, editing, translation, graphic design, and audio or video recording services).
- Honoraria for Elders, contributors, or collaborators.

Ineligibility

- Proposals for the creation or development of technologies, new systems, or platforms are not eligible for this funding.
- The TIIG-AI will not fund equipment purchases.
- The TIIG-AI cannot be used for travel funding.
- The TIIG-AI cannot be used for course release or faculty stipend reimbursement

In Kind Support

CELT will provide in-depth information, consultation, and support to any perspective applicant with an interest in enhancing the classroom experience by adopting innovative AI technologies that challenge and encourage students.

These services can include:

- Coaching and mentoring in the SoTL research process, as needed
- Coaching and supporting faculty in working with students as partners

- Consulting on EDI, Indigenous ways of knowing, and Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles
- Identifying, evaluating, and creating high-quality AI interventions and pedagogy
- Consulting on effective AI pedagogy implementation to support the projects' teaching and learning AI goals
- Instructional and open resource design expertise
- Project evaluation consulting
- Connection to other services at TRU that may be able to support the project, such as:
 - Guidance and consulting on best practices for open licensure, such as Creative Commons
 - Copyright review of third-party materials

Application Process

Applications will be submitted to CELT, with all documents bundled, and submitted to the Grant Submission link.

The full application will consist of:

- Complete Project Proposal Form
- Complete Budget (template) - all expenses need to be aligned with the Project
- Appendix with other materials to support the application (if applicable)

Adjudication Criteria

TIIG-AI proposals will be reviewed by an adjudication committee organized by CELT. Successful proposals will meet the following criteria:

- Describes a clear plan for how the AI proposal idea will be developed and/or integrated into courses to support and enhance institutional, program and course learning outcomes as part of the course design.
- Includes an evaluation plan complete with outcomes-based criteria and alignment with program and institutional learning outcomes, that will be used to determine the project's success and impact.
- Commits to release and share the subsequent created resources with an open license, such as a Creative Commons license, that allows others to freely adapt, modify, copy and/or redistribute the resources.
- Adopts or develops materials that are in a format or on a platform that readily enables modifications or reuse of the content.
- Commits to contributing to an AI Showcase, a CELTalk or CELT workshop at TRU (in person or virtual) or other dissemination to facilitate the discovery and sharing of the innovation.
- Has the support of relevant partners (if applicable).

Conditions of the Award

- Upon receiving an award letter, grant holders will be required to create a project in TRU's ROMEO system and append their award letter to the project by March 1, 2025. This is required to initiate funds transfer into their grant account. Funds not transferred within the 2024/25 fiscal year will be forfeit.
- Provide written status updates at the midpoint (6 months) and conclusion (one year) of the projects to CELT
- Acknowledge support from CELT and the TIIG-AI within any adapted or newly created work.
- Share experiences with interested colleagues at TRU events, in media stories, and an agreement that the final product will be open, accessible, and listed on the CELT website.
- If students develop/co-develop the teaching and learning materials as a part of their coursework, appropriate communication and permissions must be provided
- If students develop/co-develop the AI teaching and learning materials as a part of their coursework, they are credited appropriately as co-authors or contributors
- If the project includes any data collection or engagement of a research focus, research ethics will be expected to be applied for and approved before the implementation of the grant.

Further Instructions

All documents and other components in the application should be uploaded to the submission site on or before the due date and will be used by the adjudicators to judge the submission.

Please reach out to CELT@tru.ca if you have questions at any time during the process of applying for this grant.