To: Deans, Department Heads, Directors, and Purdue-West Lafayette campus faculty

From: Michael A. Brzezinski, Ed.D. 
Interim Vice Provost for Global Affairs and Dean of International Programs

Date: August 6, 2010

Re: Purdue University-Tsinghua University strategic partnership grant program

President Córdova signed an MOU to christen the Purdue-Tsinghua Strategic Partnership in May 2010. This memo serves as an announcement of a grant competition for the advancement of this partnership. There are two components to this program. The first section (Focused Interest Level) is for faculty who already have existing ties to Tsinghua and who can easily craft a proposal for funding in a relatively short period of time. The second section (Exploratory Phase Level) is for faculty who do not have existing relationships but who would like to explore collaborative possibilities with Tsinghua. Details follow.

Focused Interest Level
Awards at this level will generally be in the range of $10,000 - $20,000. It is intended to support strategic initiatives within and across academic units. Proposals should be comprehensive in nature and address their strategic importance within a unit, curricular integration, research opportunities, and sustainability. An ideal proposal will address as many of the following areas as possible:

- development of semester study abroad exchange opportunities, faculty-led study abroad programs, or internship opportunities for Purdue students at Tsinghua University. Priority will be given to semester exchange.

- research activities that will promote and sustain short and long-term faculty exchange with Tsinghua faculty to address departmental-based research or interdisciplinary research.

- development of dual degree programs.

- a symposium/workshop that will foster the development of this partnership in the aforementioned areas.
“Strategic” refers to the degree to which a proposal fits within an already-articulated plan within a college or department for globalization, or the degree to which a proposal helps to develop such a plan. “Curricular integration” refers to the extent to which proposed courses or programs become an integral part of a unit’s offerings, so students can participate without adding to graduation time or incurring other penalties. “Sustainability” refers to both the longevity of the program through time, and its long-term financial viability. Faculty should coordinate program development with their respective department heads and college International Program Officers tasked with international planning and obtain written support from both parties.

Interested faculty should submit a proposal of no more than four (4) pages in length to Interim Vice Provost and Dean of International Programs Mike Brzezinski on or before Wednesday, September 15, 2010. From these submissions, a subset of workable proposals will be chosen. We will then work with faculty investigators to develop a detailed proposal for final acceptance and grant award by Friday, October 8, 2010.

A proposal must include the following:
- A full description of proposed activities and how they fit into a broader plan to develop a long-term partnership with Tsinghua counterparts;
- An outline and timeline of the activities to be undertaken under the grant, together with the names of the faculty members responsible for these activities;
- A projection of the number and type of students who will participate in the program;
- A discussion of how the program will be made sustainable;
- Written support from Head of Department and also from the International Programs Officer of the college/school; and
- A budget.

**Exploratory Phase Level**

Faculty who do not yet have well developed ties to Tsinghua counterparts are welcome to submit proposals to participate in an International Programs led trip to Tsinghua this fall semester, most likely in October or November. International Programs will coordinate the trip with Tsinghua University so that Purdue faculty will be able to meet with appropriate counterparts. This will be an all expense paid trip. Proposals should outline possible strategic outcomes from participation in such a trip.

Interested faculty should electronically submit a proposal of no more than two (2) pages in length on or before Wednesday, September 15, 2010. From these submissions, our office will select a subset of workable proposals and work with faculty investigators to develop a detailed proposal for final acceptance and grant award by Friday, October 8, 2010.

**Summary**

These grant funds are primarily for the development of new initiatives, but may, in some cases, be used to further enhance already existing ones. Initiatives are normally expected to continue through time without additional financial support from International Programs, although exceptions are sometimes made for special circumstances when departments or colleges are willing to cost-share.

Completed proposals should be submitted to me via e-mail (mbrzezinski@purdue.edu) as an MS Word file any time on or before Wednesday, September 15, 2010. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

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*International Programs*

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