

# Celebrating 28 Years of Impact: Course and Program (C&P) Grants

Since 1996, Course and Program (C&P) Grants have been a cornerstone of innovation and entrepreneurship (I&E) in higher education, empowering educators and inspiring students nationwide.

## Our Reach

For over two decades, C&P Grants have impacted 275 institutions across the United States, from the University of Puerto Rico to the University of Hawaii. By awarding 718 grants totaling more than \$15 million, we have supported a diverse range of institutions, including minority-serving institutions and leading research universities.

## Empowering Educators

In November 2023, VentureWell recruited 138 C&P grantees to take a longitudinal follow-up survey. We wanted to understand whether or not grantees' courses or programs had continued to be sustained past the duration of the grant, the extent of positive impact the grant had on themselves and other involved parties, and what factors inhibited or supported the implementation of their grant.

Respondents shared that our grants have had a transformative impact on faculty, with 71% reporting significant positive changes in their teaching and mentoring capabilities. Educators have used these funds to develop new courses, integrate sustainability and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Belonging (DEIAB) practices, and foster collaborative learning environments. Notably, 31% of grantees leveraged their C&P funding to secure additional support from prestigious sources like the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and industry partners.



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## Highlights

### Transformative Impact

68% of faculty respondents enhanced their capacity to support I&E programs.

### Innovative Teaching

57% of faculty respondents incorporated I&E into their courses.

### Broadened Horizons

49% of faculty respondents integrated DEIAB practices.

### Inspiring Students:

According to feedback shared from faculty at institutions receiving C&P Grants, the programs produced have also profoundly influenced students, equipping them with practical skills and an entrepreneurial mindset. Our grants have fostered environments where students can collaborate on innovative projects, learn sustainability principles, and engage deeply with entrepreneurship.

Here's a breakdown on some of the findings based on faculty insights:

## Student Success

### Experiential Learning

71% of respondents gained hands-on experience.

### Skill Building

61% of respondents developed practical skills for their future careers.

### Leadership Development

Over half of the students identified as leaders and innovators.

### Building a Legacy:

The impact of C&P Grants extends beyond individual faculty and students to entire institutions and their surrounding communities. By promoting collaboration, enhancing institutional capacities, and fostering a culture of innovation, these grants have left a lasting legacy.

## Institutional Growth

### Enhanced Collaboration

47% of respondents reported improved interdepartmental collaboration.

### Strengthened Ecosystems

43% developed new I&E-focused courses and extracurricular activities.

### Sustainable Innovation

27% advanced environmentally sustainable designs and solutions.

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## Looking Ahead

While most of our survey findings were extremely positive, we continue to strive for deeper institutional impact and change in higher education I&E. As we transition to the new VentureWell fellowship program, we carry forward the legacy of the C&P Grants. This new chapter will build on our 28 years of success, continuing to empower educators, inspire students, and foster a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

## Join Us in Celebrating the Future

Stay connected as we embark on this exciting journey, honoring the past and embracing the future of innovation in higher education. Be the first to hear about news and updates on the new VentureWell fellowship by [signing up for our waitlist here!](#)

