



# XAVIER

UNIVERSITY *of* LOUISIANA

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## **Xavier gets Grant from Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to Enhance Core Curriculum**

New Orleans LA - The College of Arts and Sciences at Xavier University of Louisiana has received a \$500,000, three-year grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to reshape the core curriculum.

The award will help fund the University's Core Curriculum Enhancement initiative, which is aimed at assisting faculty to develop new courses and revise existing ones to include interdisciplinary courses, e-portfolios, writing intensive courses and digital humanities. The program will also will increase Xavier's faculty's proficiency with assessment strategies to reflect new learning outcomes.

"We are deeply appreciative of this award from the Mellon Foundation, as this significant financial support will allow us to renew our core curriculum, which provides a foundation in the liberal arts to all of our undergraduates," said Xavier Provost Dr. Anne McCall. "Over the next three years, large numbers of faculty will also update their pedagogical techniques so that we bring disciplines into greater dialogue with each other, create knowledge together with our students, and cultivate curiosity. We relish the opportunity to examine our practices and aim even higher with each other on behalf of our students."

The grant principal investigator and A&S Associate Dean, Kim Vaz-Deville, said that because of the faculty's and staff's continuous commitment to the mission of the university to produce leaders who work toward a more just and humane society, the Core Curriculum Enhancement program is on course to reshape the undergraduate academic experience at Xavier University of Louisiana.

For more information, visit <http://www.xula.edu/cas/cce.html>

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### **About Xavier University of Louisiana**

Xavier University of Louisiana founded by Saint Katherine Drexel and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in 1925 is the only historically Black and Catholic university in the Western Hemisphere. It is a private, liberal-arts based, co-educational institution offering 40 undergraduate majors, five master's degree programs, and a doctor of pharmacy program.