

## **Leadership for Excellence in Learning and Teaching Program**

### **Assessment Report March/April 2006**

A total of 63 applications in the form of expressions of interest and full proposals were received in the ratio of about 2:1. From the expressions of interest, the Board Standing Committee has approved 21 applications to submit full proposals.

The assessment of full proposals was based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to program criteria as listed in the Program Guidelines
- Quality of project design
- Value for money
- Importance of proposed project outcomes to the Carrick Institute's mission, objectives and responsibilities
- Capacity of the project team to deliver the proposed outcomes

The assessment of expressions of interest was based on the following criteria:

- Relevance of program criteria as listed in the Program Guidelines, in particular those dealing with the scope and intent of the program, the significance of the proposed change and potential usefulness beyond the project site
- Approach of the proposed project
- Importance of anticipated deliverables and outcomes.

General comments regarding the applications:

- The enthusiasm for teaching and learning in higher education was evident in the applications.
- While there were many interesting projects, there was a lack of clarity around the concept of "leadership" itself, how leadership would be developed by the projects and how the leadership capacity would be sustained.
- Some proposed projects focused on the development of individual leadership capacity building within the institution/s or a discipline but failed to address how this development would enhance teaching and learning.
- A number of full proposals were limited by simplistic models of change management and/or the lack of a clear dissemination strategy that went beyond attendance at conferences, creating websites and writing journal articles.
- Work is needed on evaluation strategies as an integral aspect of project design.
- Attention needs to be given to ensuring that there is an appropriate model of 'capacity building' for the outcomes proposed.

- Many applications gave insufficient attention to the outcomes expected from the proposed project – they failed to go beyond the model proposed.
- All expressions of interest and full proposals must make explicit the nature of the outcomes anticipated from the project.