The Marianna Russell Technology Grant
Part of the Critical Difference for Women Fund

This fund is in honor of Marianna Russell (1944-2001).

Marianna worked in education since 1967, and started with the Ohio State University in 1975. She retired in May, 2001. At the University, Marianna worked her way up from a keypunch operator to a director-level position. Along with her own development, she inspired others to achieve their full potential by creating opportunities for all who worked with her to grow in their own careers. This award is to recognize Marianna’s personal traits of courage, determination, ability, and insight, and to honor her achievements.

In light of this, this fund will sponsor awards for professional development for women who are in or are going into technology fields. The term "technology field" is to be widely construed so as to include all facets of technology, including but not limited to work in sciences, engineering, teaching, communication, or administration. The amount of the grant will be determined by the amount of money available in a given year.

Activities appropriate for consideration

Activities to facilitate the professional development and career mobility of women shall include, but not be limited to, activities related to technology career exploration and refocusing, changing, or enhancing skills in technology related fields, either for oneself or in order to help other women achieve these goals.

Funding will be considered for, but not limited to:

- attendance/presentation at professional conferences
- professional development seminars
- developing articles or books for publication
- networking activities
- mentoring projects
- equipment/supply costs
- expenses directly related to the ability to participate in a career-advancement opportunity.
Criteria for Selection

Selection criteria and requirements shall take into consideration the importance of the activity in its ability to help the recipient achieve her professional and personal goals, and the recipient’s efforts to secure funding from other available sources. Preference shall be given to first time applicants. With all other attributes being equal, preference shall also be given to women who demonstrate shared attributes with Marianna Russell’s dedication to nature and wildlife preservation.

Women who are eligible to apply for this grant will be regular full- or part-time faculty and staff who have been continuously employed at Ohio State for at least one year (12 months); full-time undergraduate students at the sophomore level and above who maintain a 3.2 cumulative point-hour ratio and above; and full-time graduate students in good standing. Grants to part-time faculty, staff, or students will be pro-rated on the basis of their appointment percentage.

The family will have input to the final recommendations made by the committee as long as they so desire.