The Education and Innovation Grants scheme announced by the DVC-E Pip Pattison was widely welcomed and the number of applications - 107 - for the Small and Large grants show how keenly the initiative has been appreciated.

The main external funding for Learning and Teaching grants comes from the OLT, the national Office for Learning and Teaching. These have become highly sought after now they are Category One grants. Each year there are two rounds for Innovation and Development Grants, the larger grants for which the funding is up to $500,000 and Seed grants which provide $40,000 for smaller projects. Applications closed at the end of November for first round of the 2015 grants which is for the larger grants and EOIs.

The next application for OTL funding will be for Seed grants and applications from successful EOIs. These are due in June 2015 but you can check out the priorities now:

- Academic standards
- Assessing equivalence of qualifications and learning outcomes
- Assessment and promotion of student learning (on selected topics)
- Curriculum design (on selected topics)
- Employability skills
- Improving institutional pathways across higher education
- Improving access to and outcomes in higher education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- The contemporary PhD

and what’s involved in making an application.

The ITL will offer workshops which will be advertised early next year in Teaching@Sydney and on the webpage, for those thinking of applying. If you are thinking of applying, you will find attending a workshop a useful way of sorting out whether your project fits the scheme and the best way of ensuring that you know what is required by the OLT for a successful application.