A proposal is made by Southwestern College, requesting $17,654 from the Fund for Instructional Improvement, under the Eligible Programs and Services category of nontraditional instruction. This proposal addresses issues relating to the Board of Governors’ Basic Agenda Priorities of mission. Under this proposal SWC will develop a planetarium based student leadership program in response to two areas of need for improvement: to attract students to programs of study that lead to careers in science, science education, or public education while simultaneously providing the students with practical experience in these areas; and to pursue the College's commitment to the community by strengthening ties to local elementary and secondary schools. The goal of this proposal is to offer SWC students practical educational experiences that will simultaneously benefit them, the College, and the community via its schools. It will attract more students to potential careers in science and science education, and help retrain those already pursuing such fields. The project objectives will be to (1) institute a student lectureship program in the SWC Planetarium that will provide students with practical educational experience; (2) develop a training program that will teach the students proper planetarium operating techniques and appropriate educational pedagogies; (3) employ six students as planetarium lecturers to accommodate visiting school groups; (4) evaluate the success of the lectureship program both formatively and summatively; and (5) disseminate the final project results and recommendations to national and regional associations, and to California Community Colleges. It is expected that the outcomes of this proposal will be easily adaptable to planetaria at other California community colleges.