

## FACULTY ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROPOSAL 2009

**Project Title:** Development of a Book Titled *Four Reasons We Might Harm the Environment: An Introduction to the Economics of Environmental Degradation*

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### PROJECT ABSTRACT

The goal of the project is to develop a trade book to inform discussion about the economic reasons for environmental degradation. There is a great need for such a book, which would move beyond superficial discussions of economy versus the environment, but also not to get so far into details that beginning students and the interested public would not be attracted. The interaction between environments and economies is and has been a polarizing topic for at least forty years, yet economists, including the PI on the proposed project, have developed a number of insights into the causes of environmental harm and how those problems can be mitigated. To a large extent the public and undergraduate students are ignorant about these developments. The proposed book seeks to contribute to making these well-accepted lessons available. The proposed PI has been invited to submit sample chapters of the book to a number of publishers for evaluation, but to-date has been unable to engage in the consultations needed, hire students to assist and carve out the time needed to develop those chapters. This faculty enhancement grant project will allow 3 to 4 chapters to be developed and the existing book proposal to be refined.