CHANCELLOR’S SEED GRANT PROGRAM 2016 - 2017
Advancing Our Strategic Priorities

Request for Proposals

Overview
Central to the vision of the Rutgers University - Newark (RU-N) strategic plan, Where Opportunity Meets Excellence, is the notion of RU-N being a place where people with tremendous talent, intellectual capacity, and imagination can fully leverage these assets for the benefit of our students, our university, and the larger global community.

In order to achieve the ambitious goals articulated in the strategic plan, up to $2 million per year has been dedicated to support new and nascent projects proposed by members of the RU-N community. We are currently accepting proposals for the second year of the seed grant program. We are looking to provide seed funding for innovative projects that support scholarship, education, and community engagement.

Review Criteria

All proposals will be initially reviewed by the Strategic Seed Grant Committee comprised of faculty and staff. Following this initial review, proposals will be sent to a committee of academic deans and ultimately to the Chancellor’s office for final approval.

Each proposal will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

1. Crosscutting: Proposals should address one or more of the priorities articulated in the strategic plan. All applicants are strongly encouraged to examine the strategic plan carefully. It can be accessed here: http://www.newark.rutgers.edu/strategic-planning.

2. Sustainability: The seed grant initiative is meant to provide start-up funding for projects that can be sustained over time. Each proposal must outline how the applicant(s) intend to sustain the project using RU-N resources and external funding opportunities.

3. Bridge-building: Proposals should demonstrate partnerships across units, agencies, and/or organizations.

4. Originality: Proposals should reflect projects/curricula/programs that contribute to a spirit of innovation on our campus. Priority will be given to proposals that can successfully bring something new and different to RU-N.

5. Impact: Proposals must include a statement of the project’s expected impact and outline a very clear metric as to how this impact will be measured.

A competitive advantage will be given to proposals that: (1) integrate one or more of our existing centers or institutes or programs, (2) provide support and research opportunities for master’s and doctoral students and professional fellows, and/or (3) demonstrate potential for support from additional sources (e.g. deans, directors, external funding), including matching funds and/or cost-sharing.
**Funding Available**

Applicants may apply for up to a total of $120,000 (not including matching funds from a dean or department) per project to be distributed on a timeline of one to three years depending on the scope of the project. Priority will be given to those proposals that demonstrate sustainability of the project’s funding, infrastructure, and personnel for the entire grant period and the ability to qualify for external funding at the end of the grant period.

**Eligibility**

The Chancellor’s Seed Grants Program is open to all RU-N faculty and professional staff. Applicants may serve as a Principal Investigator (PI) on one proposal only; however, an applicant may serve as a collaborator or co-PI on multiple proposals. Previously funded projects are not eligible to reapply for the 2016 - 2017 cycle. Priority will be given to new projects and/or applicants.

**Submission Process**

*All proposals must include:*

1. An **Application Cover Page**. (Note: the cover page must include a signature of approval from the dean, department head and/or director of the PI’s home unit).

2. **Abstract**: A one-page (or less) summary of the proposed project that includes an outline of the project’s goals and its significance. Applicants should be aware that the review committee is comprised of representatives from a number of disciplines. The abstract should be written in language that is accessible to those with varying levels of expertise.

3. **Project Description** (maximum 5 pages)
   a. Project methods and goals for the grant period. (If applicable a brief summary of the strategy for dissemination, i.e. conference papers, publishing, etc.)
   b. Statement outlining the project’s advancement of RU-N’s strategic plan.
   c. Description of partnerships, including the names and affiliations of the individuals collaborating on the proposal, with letters of support from participants (not included in page count).
   d. Plan for sustaining the project beyond the initial funding cycle, if applicable.
   e. Projected outcomes and evaluation criteria by which these outcomes will be measured.

4. A budget and budget narrative that provides an overview of projected expenses. A budget template is provided [here](#). (Note: Funding may be used for course releases, summer stipends, research assistants, and travel.)

All proposals must be uploaded in pdf format via electronic submission form, including the title page and budget template provided. Proposals should be mailed to: gsnprops@andromeda.rutgers.edu

Please direct all questions to:
*Kyle Farmbry, J.D., Ph.D.*, Chair, Chancellor’s Seed Grant Committee
Dean Graduate School, Rutgers University-Newark

**Due Date:** February 29, 2016

**Award Announcement:** May 1, 2016