Faculty Seed Grants (FSG) – Multiple Tracks

Award Cycle: Annual
Limit on Proposals per PI: An individual may participate as PI on one FSG per cycle.
Next Due Date: March 22, 2017, 5pm MST
Earliest Start Date: July 1, 2017
Award Period: July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

Description: Research, Discovery & Innovation (RDI) funds these Category 1 grants. They are designed to jump-start worthwhile projects by providing short-term, one-time support. FSG grants provide up to $10,000 on a competitive basis and are available in three tracks: International; Art, Culture, Heritage; and Early Career Innovation.

Track 1: International: lead to international research collaboration and/or mobility collaboration with an international partner that will eventually lead to new external funding or financially sustainable programming that supports research activities.

Track 2: Art, Culture, Heritage: lead to interdisciplinary collaboration that will lead to new externally funded research or scholarly activities.

Track 3: Early Career Innovation: lead to the generation of data for new extramural proposals. This track is limited to faculty within 8 years of their initial academic appointment.

1. Expected Outcomes (all Tracks): FSG awards must be leveraged to acquire external support for the proposed research or scholarly activity. Indications of such support will vary (e.g. depending on when a grant proposal is due). Other expectations are distinguished below.
   - Recipients must prepare at least one proposal for an external grant during the award period. Ideally, a copy of a submitted proposal will address this requirement. If that is not possible, the final report must include proposal components prepared to date.
   - Recipients must use RDI services/staff to enhance the competitiveness of their external grant proposals. Options include: Research Development Services, Strategic Business Initiatives, and the Associate Vice President for Global Research Alliances. In addition, PIs will need to liaise with college/departmental staff on planning proposal budgets.

2. Eligibility: Track 1 and Track 2 FSG grants are available to UA faculty across all disciplines and levels. To apply for Track 3 you must be within the first eight (8) years of your initial academic appointment.

3. Other Program Details
   a. Proposal Related Information: FSG proposals must be submitted through UA Competition Space by 5:00 pm on March 22, 2017. See below for other proposal and submission requirements. Review is anticipated to be finished in May, and award/decline decisions made soon thereafter.

   b. Award Related Information: Award notification will be sent to PI, heads/directors, and deans. FSG awards begin with the fiscal year (i.e., July 1). Typically, FSG-supported projects will be completed within one year. That is, award period is exactly one year.

   c. Reporting Requirements: Within one month of the award’s end date, PIs must submit final reports via UA Competition Space. Failure to meet the expectations described here results in ineligibility for receipt of subsequent funding from RDI. This report will describe research or scholarly activities preformed and success in meeting project milestones, including proposals submitted to external funders. If a proposal has not been
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submitted, the status of its development, as well as a critical evaluation on project milestones relative to the stated proposal plan, must be addressed. In addition, FSG recipients may be asked to deliver a presentation on their project to campus. Publicity will be coordinated through RDI Research Communications.

d. **Review Requirements:** FSG awardees are expected to serve as reviewers on at least two RDI grant competitions over a three-year period.

4. **Review and Selection Processes:** A panel of faculty peers will review proposals; this panel will be supplemented by ad hoc reviewers as needed. PIs should write proposals that are understandable to an interdisciplinary audience. The following criteria will be considered:
   - Evidence of the project to initiate new research or scholarly activity
   - Feasibility of the plan to pursue external funding and likelihood of a competitive proposal
   - Soundness of approach, including research questions and methods
   - Significance of proposed research and potential impact
   - Fit with identified funder’s priorities

Selection will be based first on the outcome of the review. Where applicable, alignment of FSG proposals with the Strategic Pillars in *Never Settle*, with *RDI Strategic Planning Sessions*, or with the UA’s *TRIF plan* will be considered. Also, some international partners may provide matching funds with specific criteria to build research or academic program collaborations. When a proposal includes such a feature (e.g., in letters of support), this will also be considered.

5. **Application and Submission Instructions:** FSG proposals must be submitted through UA Competition Space by 5:00 PM on March 22, 2017. If you have not used this system, please see the instructions on the right side of UA Competition Space’s home page.

   a. **Two-Page Project Narrative**
      - Summary of milestones revealing a specific strategy for proposed research or scholarly activity
      - Proposed activities corresponding to each milestone
      - Discussion of at least one extramural funding opportunity: Include a link to the RFA/RFP/solicitation (or program if the solicitation is not yet available). Give the grant/program title, agency name, and submission deadline, and/or private foundation funding priorities.
      - Brief description of significance and impact, addressing why the PI is uniquely positioned to be competitive in this area, and how the FSG will increase competitiveness
      - References Cited

   b. **Supplemental Documents**
      - PI’s CV or agency-specific biographical sketch
      - Letters of support from collaborators, if applicable, e.g. a letter or email from the hosting/collaborating institution abroad for Track 1.
      - Budget and budget justification using template on UA Competition Space for costs such as these:
        - Short-term hourly student wages & associated ERE
        - Consultant fees, honoraria, or participant stipends
        - Meeting costs
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- Supplies, including research supplies and/or items such as musical scores and art supplies
- Core facility use
- Travel
- Marketing/printing expenses
- Specialized equipment (capital & other) pertaining specifically to the project
- For Track 1: collaboration and matching funds from an international partner institution will strengthen the application

Note: No FSG awards may be used for faculty or administrator salaries; neither may awards be used to replace current sources of support for personnel. No FSG awards may be used for personnel salaries from other institutions.

Questions: resdev@email.arizona.edu