The Office of the Vice President for Research
Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)
Collaborative Research Advancement Program: Pilot Grants

$200k / 24 months + $50k / OoR Space Pilot
Up to eight $25,000 grants + up to two $25,000 space-specific grants

IMPORTANT DATES

- LOI Due: November 10, 2022 by 5:00 pm EST
- Finalists Notified: December 8, 2022 (anticipated)
- Final Proposal Deadline: January 17, 2023 by 5:00 pm EST (for finalists only)
- Finalist Presentations: Week of January 30, 2023 (anticipated)
- Grantees Announced: Week of March 6, 2023 (anticipated)
- Grant Project Period: May 2023 – April 2025

Overview
Consistent with Office of Research goals to spur interdisciplinary[1] research and establish new partnerships within and beyond the institution, this program is designed to seed collaborative research endeavors to help develop research to the point where external funding can be obtained. The expected outcomes for this program: 1) Support interdisciplinary teams for achievement of greater success and prominence; 2) Advance high-potential, team research and creative activities in emergent areas; and 3) Increase teams' competitiveness and capacity for major extramural awards and funding.

This program follows a two-stage application/evaluation process. The first stage involves submission of a 2-page letter of interest (LOI). Up to fifteen finalists will then be invited to submit a full proposal and pitch at a pitch event that will be held from 10am-3pm on Monday, March 23, 2023.

As part of the FOA, applicants are asked to consider, articulate, and ultimately measure how the project positively impacts society. As high-level frames of reference, the Office of Research refers applicants to two impact frameworks:

1. The Arts & Social Impact Explorer
2. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs)

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[1] Teams that have faculty from more than two colleges will be more competitive than those with only two colleges represented. Applicants who seek assistance in developing a team contact research@uc.edu.

Eligibility & expectations
- Eligible applicants include UC faculty members with at least an 80% FTE appointment;
- Faculty holding a primary appointment in one of UC's affiliates (CCHMC, VA and Shriners) are eligible to contribute effort to a team, but may not be the primary applicant;
- External collaborators are eligible to contribute effort to a team, but may not be primary applicant;
- So to foster and assure diversity, equity, and inclusion and to encourage new and early-career applicants, faculty who have received Office of Research funding in the last five years (2016-2021) from the AHSS, Pilot, Pivot, Scholars, Strategic, Urban Futures Pathway and/or the Digital Futures program are **not** eligible to serve as primary applicant. [2]
- Otherwise eligible faculty with external funding may apply but the proposed activities must not duplicate those already funded.

In addition to the $200,000 dedicated by the Office of Research, UC's Space Research Institute is providing an additional pool of funds ($75,000) for Pilot projects focused specifically on space-related research topics. Applicants should follow all the instructions noted below.

LOI: Information required
All applicants will be required to provide their name, UC email, UC ID-number, college, department/unit, date of hire/appointment at UC, and proposal title within the Wizehive portal prior to uploading the required pdf file. Also, applicants are required to select the area designation for review/award based on their proposed activities, which can differ from their department/unit home.

The LOI should contain the following information in the order listed below and will be submitted as a single PDF file. Figures may be included but cannot be used to exceed the page limit. No hyperlinks or redirects to external information may be included. Your submission must adhere to general requirements of 12 point font, 1 inch margins, and single column layout.

- Title of Research Project
- Name, Title, College, and Department of primary applicant
- Problem Statement (300 word max) *What problem do you want to solve & why?*
- Approach (300 word max) *How are you going to solve this problem?*
- Impact (300 word max) *What is the anticipated outcome and who will be ultimately impacted?*
- Bibliography (1-page max – any standard format is acceptable)
- 3-page biosketch/CV for PI, Co-I (if applicable), and key personnel (if applicable). View template

Names, Titles, College, & Department of internal/affiliate collaborators as well as any external collaborators (Information will be completed within Wizehive.)

LOI: Submission
LOIs will be submitted online via *Wizehive*, a user-friendly, internal funding software. When the platform is ready to accept LOIs, the live link to apply will be posted at https://research.uc.edu/funding/overview.

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[2] *Previously funded faculty are encouraged to serve as a collaborator to a primary applicant - particularly those led by an eligible, early career or new faculty member, an eligible female member of the faculty, and/or an eligible, URM member of the UC faculty.*

LOI: Review Criteria
- Project Merit
- Clarity, significance and relevance of problem being addressed
- Innovation/creativity/feasibility of the proposed approach
- Suitability of the team to undertake and complete the proposed project.
- Compliance with Application Guidelines in the RFP and the Submission Portal.

Finalist Selection & Review Process
Each Pilot LOI will be reviewed by a team assembled by Office of Research Program staff. No more than fifteen (15) finalists will be invited to submit a full proposal. Details on the full proposal process and required materials will be distributed to all finalists directly.

Finalists will be selected based on the quality, novelty, team composition and impact of the proposed research, scholarship and creative activities, along with a clear potential to make further, sustainable contributions to knowledge creation and improved societal outcomes. Neither comments nor feedback on LOIs will be provided to applicants however, comments & feedback on full proposals will be made available to finalists.

Note
Each UC faculty member on each of the teams selected for pilot funding will be required to serve on the review panel for the Pilot program for the two succeeding years of the program.

QUESTIONS? Email research@uc.edu