

NEW DCP INITIATIVES: RESEARCH SEED GRANTS

Request for Proposals

Introduction: The College of Design, Construction and Planning is pleased to announce an internal competition for seed funding for high impact research projects that enable faculty to go after follow-on funding from federal and other agencies. Proposals should meet the following criteria:

- Support preliminary research (e.g. data collection, proof-of-concept models, experiments, etc.);
- Enable faculty to establish a track record in a new area of research or a new collaboration;
- Lead to the submission of a competitive research proposal for funding by an external agency.

Funding Provision: The College will provide two categories of funding:

- Individual Projects: Up to 5 awards of \$10,000 will be made to support one year projects;
- Collaborative Projects: Up to 4 awards of \$25,000 will be made to support one year projects that involve faculty from at least 2 of the academic units within the College.

Funds may be requested for student support, small equipment, materials and supplies, faculty course release, etc. Funding will be available from January 1, 2018, and projects should start between this date and June 30, 2018. Funds cannot be used for faculty salaries.

PI Eligibility: Tenure track and tenured faculty in the College of Design, Construction and Planning are eligible to apply for these funds. Other UF faculty members may participate as collaborators but no funds will be disbursed outside of the College. Non tenure faculty can serve as co-PI. Preference will be given to early career researchers.

Submission Details: For full consideration, proposals should be submitted by 5 p.m. ET on **November 1, 2017** to Ileana McCray (mccrayi@dcp.ufl.edu). Please include 'DCP Seed Grant' on the subject line. Funding decisions will be made by December 1, 2017.

Proposals should be submitted in a single PDF file and should include the following:

1. *Project Description:* This should include project a) motivation, b) scope, c) approach, d) expected results and impact, and e) outcomes. The development of a larger proposal at the conclusion of the project is a **required** project outcome in its own right. The project description, including figures, tables and references, should not exceed 5 pages in length, using a minimum 11 point font.
2. *Project Budget:* Investigators can include one additional page for the budget and budget justification.
3. *Investigator(s) CV:* Include a maximum two-page CV for each investigator demonstrating sufficient expertise to successfully undertake the proposed work.

Proposal Review Criteria: Proposals will be reviewed by an ad-hoc committee of three professors. Two of these will be from the College of Design, Construction and Planning, and one will be from another College at UF. The ad-hoc committee will provide funding recommendations to the Dean and Associate Deans, who will make final funding decisions. Review criteria for proposals include the following:

- Technical quality of the proposal and its potential to lead to follow-on funding
- Capacity of the PI(s) to successfully complete the proposed work
- Adherence to the proposal guidelines and criteria
- Justification of the proposed budget
- Impact of the proposed work on the discipline and the broader society (if applicable)

Interim and Final Reporting Requirements: Investigators are required to submit a one page interim project report after six months from the project start date, detailing progress toward project scope and outcomes. The report will be used to determine if good progress is being made and if the support will be continued for the remainder of the project. Investigators are also required to submit a final project report within three months of the project end date. Final reports will be limited to three pages and should include the following:

- Project accomplishments including research findings and impacts, students supported (if any), refereed publications (or evidence of manuscript development), presentations at conferences and workshops, collaborations formed, etc.
- Follow-on activities that will result from the project including details of the required follow-on research proposal and the funding agency to which it has been, or will be, submitted.

Publications resulting from projects should acknowledge the support from the DCP Research Seed Grant Initiative.

Constraints:

- A PI receiving the DCP Seed Grant will not be eligible for consideration for another seed grant for the following two years;
- Successful completion of the deliverables for a DCP Seed Grant is required to apply for any future DCP research grants.
- Successful PIs will be required to make a presentation as part of the DCP Research Seminar Series or at the annual DCP Research Symposium.

Questions regarding this Request for Proposals should be directed to Dr. Meg Portillo (Associate Dean for Research and Strategic Initiatives), Email: mportill@ufl.edu, Extn: 4-1430.