

TO: UGA/GRU Faculty

**FROM: David Lee, UGA Vice President for Research
Mark Hamrick, GRU Vice President for Research**

RE: New UGA-GRU Seed Funding Program

Our two offices jointly announce a new inter-institutional seed funding program explicitly designed to encourage competitive extramural grant proposals involving personnel from both institutions (the PI may be at either institution).

These funds are being distributed in order to stimulate new collaborative projects between UGA and GRU that subsequently lead to new external grants, and applicants should keep this overriding goal in mind. Applicants and successful recipients must commit to submitting applications to external funding agencies by the specified deadlines.

We invite proposals from a broad range of disciplines and we particularly encourage those that are interdisciplinary or translational in nature.

Up to \$250,000 will be available for this new program to be spent in FY2015 and FY2016. Maximum awards will be \$75,000. Examples of appropriate use of these funds include the generation of pilot data, travel to meet with partners, and payment of external expert reviews. Funds are not intended to support conferences.

Proposals of no more than 8 pages in length should include the following sections in order and with the specified headings:

1. A Cover Page that includes: the proposal title; PI name with unit and contact information; a list of the coPIs with units; total budget requested.
2. A concise Summary paragraph describing the nature and objective of the work in terms understandable to a non-expert. Also include a single sentence or phrase describing the project.
3. A List of PI and CoPIs, with credentials briefly summarized. Include a full CV with funding history for the PI (does not count against page limit). Provide assurance that team members will participate in the subsequent extramural proposal submission.
4. A concise list of Specific Aims.
5. A Work Plan that also clarifies how the funds will be used.
6. A summary of the Targeted External Funding Opportunity (agency, specific call for proposal and deadline if known, and the timeline for proposal submission). Document advanced outreach to the funding entity.
7. A brief description of the Impact of the Requested Seed Funding: how will it establish or improve a track record of collaboration for the planned extramural submission. Include a description of the prior work as a team, if any.
8. A Proposed Budget that clearly shows how funds will help prepare a competitive grant proposal.

Not included in the page limit but required: letter of support from appropriate deans – or as appropriate for some centers or institutes – vice presidents.

Teams must submit a brief Letter of Intent (LOI) by August 1, 2014 that lists the project title, the PI and co-PIs, and provides a brief (no more than a short paragraph) description of the project. The LOIs will be helpful to our offices as we assemble appropriate review teams.

The deadline for receipt of proposals is 5 pm, September 1, 2014. Late proposals will not be accepted.

LOIs and proposals should be submitted to: waprince@gru.edu.

Questions should be addressed to: waprince@gru.edu.

Proposals will be reviewed by a team of UGA/GRU faculty and administrators jointly assembled by our offices. Proposals will be judged on the basis of their competitiveness for the indicated funding opportunity. Criteria will include the strength of the team and its leadership, the extent of outreach to the funding agency, and the quality of the plan leading up to proposal submission. Only meritorious proposals will be selected for funding.