

The SUNY/RF Research Collaboration Fund

Supporting the Power of SUNY

SUNY's priority through the *Power of SUNY* is the revitalization of the State of New York and a better quality of life for all its citizens.

The Research Foundation of State University of New York (RF) exists to serve SUNY by capitalizing on the scope, scale and diversity of SUNY as an engine of New York State's innovation economy.

To encourage the development of collaborative proposals in areas that will provide the initial foundation for long term, sustainable research partnerships that support SUNY faculty, SUNY and the RF have created the SUNY/RF Research Collaboration Fund ("the Fund").

Focus and Scope of the Fund

This Fund is focused on inter-disciplinary, multi-investigator, multi-campus research projects and pilot studies needed to generate preliminary results and data necessary to provide a basis for, or add credibility to, more advanced, larger-scale proposals for future funding. Projects could range from basic science to applied, translational and clinical research. An institutional contribution will be a requirement of this fund and can take the form of in-kind or cash.

Review Panel and Awards

The Research and Development Catalyst Committee, a review panel composed of representatives from SUNY campuses, will review proposals and select grantees for awards of up to \$50,000 per year, for a maximum of 2 years. Experts from industry, other educational institutions and/or federal laboratories will be consulted on an as needed basis to augment the committee's work. Projects teams should submit 2-3 names of potential external reviewers. (The Committee will require that external reviewers disclose potential conflicts of interest.)

Calls for Proposals

The Fund will have semi-annual calls for proposals, one with a **July 1** deadline and the other with a **December 1** deadline. Awards will be made within two months of the proposal dates. The Fund will be administered by the RF, and be subject to RF policies and procedures (www.rfsuny.org). Applicants are encouraged to submit non-proprietary content within these proposals and clearly mark proprietary information when applicable.

Criteria

Proposals for funding will be reviewed through the following criteria:

- Ability of the funding to leverage growth of collaborative research opportunities to build SUNY's research profile
- Originality and significance of the research

- Ability to attract federal, state, philanthropic or private funding
- Strength of the record of achievement of the team and team members
- The involvement of students, industry, and other outreach efforts as well as the broader impacts of the research
- Strength of the institutional contribution

Proposal Format

Proposals should be submitted electronically as 2 separate pdf files. The first should include The SUNY/RF Research Collaboration Fund Cover Sheet, Budget, Budget Justification and letters of collaboration. The second should include the Narrative and Biosketch sections. The proposal package should be submitted through the lead campus' sponsored programs office to The Research Foundation of SUNY Central Office at the following e-mail address:

SUNYRFFUND@RFSUNY.ORG

Include the following items:

1. SUNY/RF Research Collaboration Fund Cover Sheet (see attached):

- (a) Title of Project
- (b) Duration of Project
- (c) Funding Requested
- (d) Institutional Commitment (prime institution and collaborators)
- (e) Project Abstract (200 words or less)
- (f) Project Participants
- (g) Institutional Endorsement from Lead campus

2. Narrative (Single spaced, half inch margins, at least 11 point fonts):

- Describe the plan to make this program or project sustainable. Describe how these funds will be used to leverage increased collaborative R&D funding from external sources (1 page)
- Describe Principal investigator and co-principal investigators contributions to the research efforts and project organization. Discuss participation of post doc and /or students (1 page).
- Proposal narrative, describing innovation, relevance to and opportunities in New York State and the nation, research plan, timeline, strategy for future growth and sustained funding (5 pages, including charts and figures).

3. Biosketch (NIH or NSF format) of PI and co- PI's.

4. Budget for the project (one page).

The budget may include salaries for students, post-doctoral associates, supplies, travel, and equipment. Fringe benefits should be included, but no tuition or administrative overhead (facilities and administrative costs). Partnerships with non-SUNY campuses are encouraged as part of collaborative proposal development, but funding to non-SUNY entities from the Fund will not be permitted.

Matching costs (prime institution and collaborating SUNY institutions) should be indicated on the SUNY/RF Research Collaboration Fund Coversheet and referenced in the budget form

5. Budget justification (one page).

6. Letter counter-signed by Collaborating PI and Collaborating Sponsored Programs Office indicating willingness to collaborate on proposal. If Collaborating Institution is providing match funding (cash or in-kind) this should be indicated in this letter. (1 page).

Notification of Award

The lead institution's sponsored program office will be notified of a successful award, with a copy to the lead institution's principal investigator. The RF Central Office will work with the campus sponsored program's office to establish the award/projects from which funds can be expended.

Reports

The lead principal investigator will be expected to provide a progress report at month 9 of the project and a final report summarizing the outcomes of the project, including any abstracts, publications and invention disclosures (if applicable). The final report should be submitted sixty days after the end of the project. Failure to submit the interim report will impact the ability to receive year 2 funding if applicable. Further, plans for submitting proposals to external funding agencies should be described. It is the hope that a formal grant or contract proposal to an external funding entity will be submitted with eighteen months of the end of the project period.

Questions

Any questions concerning the Fund or the application guidelines contained herein should be forwarded to **Ivar Strand**, Director of Sponsored Program Initiatives at Ivar.Strand@rfsuny.org or via phone at (518) 434-7126.