

*ENHANCING OUR RESEARCH THROUGH PROGRAMMATIC INVESTMENT.*

Guidelines for full application

Due Date: July 1, 2009

Portland State University seeks to support the development of innovative research programs that contribute to knowledge creation and regional economic development. The purpose of this program is to advance PSU's mission with a particular focus on the guiding theme of "Achieving Global Excellence," while also supporting our academic programs and enhancing our institutional identity and reputation.

Similar to the investment in Sustainability, PSU seeks to support the growth of other "program areas" - *defined as multi-disciplinary faculty efforts to address a particular thematic issue or area* that speaks to the objectives below. Programs supported by this activity will likely span academic units and be administratively supported through the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects. While the focus of this effort is on developing sponsored research projects, the programs are also expected to enhance the quality of instructional programs and engagement efforts.

### **Objectives**

- Programs are expected to address "big questions"; problems / issues of considerable importance to society that are locally relevant, nationally or internationally significant, and of a level of complexity that mandates multi- or trans-disciplinary solutions.
- Programs should build on and enhance existing strengths within the institution
- Programs should contribute to the University's goal of growing PSU's external funding base by attracting additional resources through support from individual donors, foundations, government and/or industry.
- Programs should lead to results and impacts that will substantially advance the reputation of Portland State University

### **Guidelines for developing a full proposal**

The preliminary screening committee has selected five applicants who are being asked to develop a full proposal. This "full" proposal should address the areas listed below.

#### **I Provide a detailed description of the innovative research area and an analysis of the impact it can have on society.**

- Describe how this research area is locally relevant and nationally and internationally significant.
- Describe how this research area will contribute to knowledge creation and regional economic development (eg what companies might be assisted by this?)
- Discuss the current state of the science in this research area. What are likely to be the most critical research questions in the next five years?
- What methodologies are most likely to be employed? What is PSU's capacity for supporting these research approaches? What gaps in capacity exist that would require institutional investment?
- Discuss other educational institutions that have made this research area their priority. What is the likelihood that PSU will be able to establish a prominent reputation in this research area?

- Recommend a metric that PSU should use to determine whether or not a PSU's prominence in this research area is being enhanced.

## II **Multi or transdisciplinary approach of the workgroup.**

- Discuss the capacity current available within PSU to address this research area. Please include relevant funded and unfunded research projects, training and curriculum development initiatives, current engagement activities, etc.
- Describe the initial membership of the intended workgroup. Discuss plans for expanding the workgroup to include other disciplines or academic units and other research institutions.
- Describe the steps you will take to assure that the workgroup continues to be multi or transdisciplinary.

## III. Connection to the **educational and engagement mission** of the University.

- Describe plans for involving students (particularly graduate students) in the workgroup.
- Discuss specific plans for including new career faculty and helping them develop their capacity for sponsored research in this research area.
- Describe how activity in this research area will contribute to PSU's ongoing commitment to community engagement.
- Discuss how you will disseminate research results to the public (e.g. publication, conferences, sharing with companies, etc.)

## IV. Describe the **potential for external funding.**

- Describe the potential for external funding for research in this area. Identify specific federal, foundation, foreign or industrial funding sources, funding initiatives and the average amount and length of awards from these sources. Include brief information about the capacity of these award programs (number of awards and "success rate" of the programs).
- Describe local, regional and state opportunities for funding in this research area.
- Discuss the potential for funding or other collaborative activities with business, industry or corporations.
- Describe how this workgroup and research area might attract gift funding from foundations or private donors.

## V Describe the **organizational structure of the workgroup.**

- Describe how the work of the group will be staffed or otherwise managed.
- Provide a time line of group activities for the first year
- Describe the outcomes you expect to achieve in the first year.
- Provide a detailed budget and budget justification for year 1.

The entire narrative may be single spaced and should not exceed 20 pages in length. Provide a detailed line item budget that does not exceed \$100,000. These proposals are due by 5:00 pm on **July 1, 2009**. They should be e-mailed to Nancy Koroloff ([koroloff@pdx.edu](mailto:koroloff@pdx.edu)) with the term "Enhancing Research Proposal" in the subject line. Address questions to either Nancy Koroloff or Bill Feyerherm ([feyerhw@pdx.edu](mailto:feyerhw@pdx.edu)).