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Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Fund

Purpose: Through a partnership between the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation, the VCU Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Fund is designed to support, facilitate and enhance the creation, production and dissemination of arts, humanities and social sciences research and creative activity at any stage of development, including initial or mid-stage project development, presentation or performance, and final publication.

Eligibility: Principal investigators must be any full-time VCU faculty regardless of rank or tenure status. Both single- and multi-scholar or artist grants are eligible.

Award Period: Funding up to $10,000 total for 12 months. The award date is June 15, 2022 with a start date July 1, 2022 and project end date of June 30, 2023.

Full proposal deadline: Application packages must be submitted via RAMS-SPOT Internal Opportunities here: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Fund (OP00000444) **no later than 5 p.m. (EST) on April 15, 2022**. You will receive a confirmation email upon receipt. Applications will not be accepted after the deadline for any reason.

Format: Applications should be single spaced, Arial, 11-point (minimum) font with half-inch margins on all sides. Required forms can be downloaded here. Proposals not following the format requirements will be returned without review. **Proposals must include the following components, in this order:**

1. **Project abstract (250 words)**
2. **Project plan (3 pages):**
   a. Background and significance.
   b. Identify the VCU Strategic Research Priorities Plan initiative(s) and the specific goal(s) and objective(s) the project advances.
   c. Scientific or creative objective(s).
   d. Research methodology, data or materials to be used, method of analysis or performance of the project.
   e. Description of measurable outcomes/timeline (i.e., publication of book, performance/exhibit details, program outcomes, etc.).
   f. Sustainability plan: Description of how project outcomes/outputs will advance your creative or scholarly trajectory/line of inquiry.
3. **References cited (1 page)**: Use the citation format appropriate for your field.
4. **Current or prior internal funding (1 page)**: Please give a brief description of any current or prior internal university funding received by the PI(s) including:
   a. The source of internal funding, project title and a short description of the project and outcomes, project dates and the amount of the award(s).
5. **CV (5 pages total)**
6. **Budget and budget justification**: Use this form (a Word version will download directly from the link) to justify all requested costs associated with the proposed project. Arts and Humanities funding cannot supplant existing support for the proposed project. Facilities and administrative (F&A or indirect) costs are not allowed.

   Eligible costs:
   a. Salary support with a detailed justification is required with approval via RAMS-SPOT by the department chair(s) and school(s)/college(s) for each PI.
   b. Salary support for project staff.
   c. Supplies for the project.
   d. Undergraduate, graduate student and postdoctoral stipends if relevant to the project with a detailed justification.
   e. Travel essential to the project.

     f.   Participant fees.

Ineligible costs:
    a.   Salary support for administrative personnel.
    b.   Office equipment and supplies (including faculty computers/laptops/tablets unless strictly related to project).
    c.   Travel not strictly related to the project.
    d.   Student travel that is not strictly related to the project.
    e.   Tuition other than graduate student tuition.
    f.   Professional organization dues or membership fees.
    g.   Sub-contracts to institutions or salary support for individuals external to VCU.
    h.   Pre-award costs.

7. **Current and pending support**: Use this form (a Word version will download directly from the link) to itemize all current and pending support associated with the proposed project.

Review Process: Applications will be reviewed and scored by a faculty panel including members from across the University. Reviews and scores will then be submitted to a funding committee composed of the Deans of the School of the Arts and College of Humanities and Sciences, as well as the Provost and the Vice President for Research and Innovation for final selection. Written reviews and scores will be sent to those applicants not awarded. Review criteria will include:

1. Scholarly and/or creative merit and impact.
2. Feasibility (budget and timeline).
3. Relation to Strategic Research Priorities Plan: specific potential for a project to advance the goals and objectives identified.
4. Suitability of the PI for the proposed work.

Award and Reporting Requirements: The award date is June 15, 2022 with a project start date July 1, 2022 and project end date June 30, 2023. A final project report including an accounting of all funds expended will be required 30 days after the project end date.

Additional requirements for all Arts and Humanities Fund awards:

1. Projects must have documented compliance approvals, as applicable and appropriate, secured before work may begin.
2. All publications, presentations, etc., resulting from the project must acknowledge financial support from the VCU Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Fund, as appropriate.
3. Projects are expected to be completed within the specific budget period. No-cost extensions will be granted only in highly exceptional circumstances. PIs will be expected to fully justify any extension requests in writing. Extensions are at the sole discretion of the Provost and VPRI.

Questions: Please direct all questions to Melissa Throckmorton (throckmortms@vcu.edu), Director of Research Development and Strategic Projects, with the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation (OVPRI).