Research Initiation Program (RIP) Awards

The RIP Awards are designed for faculty to seek funding to jumpstart a line of research or for established faculty to investigate a new line of research. RIP awards are designed for projects that are likely to result in a peer-reviewed publication, external funds, or other creative discipline-specific academic products.

Awards can be up to $10,000. Only research-related expenses will be allowed. Examples of allowable expenses include equipment, equipment maintenance, stipends to support technical personal and< undergraduate research assistants, supplies, and travel associated with conducting the research (such as traveling to interview research subjects). Faculty stipends, professional dues, and travel for conferences/professional development will not be permitted.

All RIP awards are for a 1 year fixed term (June 1 - May 31). A one-time, no-cost extension may be granted. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing to the RIP Committee by April 30. Any remaining balance at the end of the award period will be forfeited and returned to WSSU. The PI of the project is responsible for monitoring and maintaining the project budget at all times

Submit proposals to The Office of Sponsored Programs via RAMSeS (Research Administration Management System and electronic Submission), by March 16th, 2018. Contact Dr. Aaron Keith McCullough at (336) 750-2606 or mcculloughak@wssu.edu assistance with RAMSeS.

Who is eligible? All full time tenure track and clinical faculty are eligible. Adjunct faculty and visiting faculty are not eligible for these awards. Faculty cannot receive funding more than once every 5 years.

To apply, faculty must submit a RIP application in one of the two accepted formats. Faculty should decide which format best suites their project. Applications should not be longer than 6 pages.

Format I: (up to 5 pages)

1. Abstract: A 1-paragraph summary of the proposed activity suitable for publication. Clearly address in separate statements intellectual merit and broader impacts.

2. Objectives: State precisely what the research will accomplish, what hypothesis it will test, and the rationale for undertaking it.

3. Background and Significance: Summarize the most pertinent previous work and the current state of the field, including your own preliminary data. Identify the gaps that the proposed project is intended to fill.

4. Methods: Discuss the experimental design and methods proposed to accomplish project objectives in sufficient detail to allow assessment of their feasibility and applicability. How, specifically, will they test each of the hypotheses? If proposing new methods, describe their advantages. If several experiments are proposed, indicate their priority. Indicate the type of data to be generated, and how they will be analyzed (e.g., proposed statistical design and analysis). Briefly identify any potential pitfalls or limitations in procedures and suggest remedies. Provide plans for future efforts, including submission to external sponsors. Include a timeline.

5. References: Include only the most pertinent.

6. Other Sources: Other sources of funding sought or received (if applicable).

Format II: (up to 5 pages)

1. Question or Problem: Describe the question or problem under study and its significance to the field.

2. Research Methods: Describe the design, protocols, ability to carry them out.

3. Timetable: A timetable for completing and publishing or presenting results, including interest from a publisher if requesting funds to write a book.

4. References: Include only the most pertinent.

5. Other Sources: Other sources of funding sought or received (if applicable).

All applications in either format must include: (These do not count towards the 5 pages)

1. Budget: ($10,000 maximum). Include a brief budget justification. If the requested funds are in adequate to complete the project, indicate the source and amount of additional funds.

1. Equipment. Justify why the equipment is necessary for the proposed study.
2. Supplies (list major categories)
3. Personnel. Funds for faculty salary and secretarial support will not be considered.
4. Other (necessary travel, computer charges, audiovisual costs, hazardous waste disposal costs)

2. CV: up to 2 pages.

3. Description and Outcome of Previous Internal awards: Briefly describe internal awards received within the past 3 years and their outcomes.

4. Plan for External Submission/Publication/Scholarly Work: Indicate what you plan to do with the data or product generated from this award

Appendices are discouraged, and reviewers are not required to read them.

Projects involving compliance requirements (i.e., human subjects, animals, toxins, etc.) must be submitted prior to submitting the application.