

**BREAKING THROUGH:
DEVELOPING INTERDISCIPLINARY SOLUTIONS
TO GLOBAL GRAND CHALLENGES**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Purdue Scholarly Publishing & Purdue Policy Research Institute (PPRI),
with
Discovery Park, Purdue University Libraries,
College of Liberal Arts, and Purdue Systems Collaboratory

Letter of Intent Due: October 15, 2016
Final Proposals Due: November 4, 2016
Award Notification: November 30, 2016

OVERVIEW

This ongoing Purdue initiative seeks to develop and promote a new model for grand challenges research and publishing, one that aims to generate fresh solutions for grand challenges and to employ new means of scholarly communications.

The model is unique in two ways: 1) it catalyzes collaboration between STEM researchers and scholars in the Humanities and Social Sciences; and 2) it integrates communication planning into projects from the start, in order to prioritize reaching communities of interest (policymakers, expert communities, not-for-profit and advocacy organizations, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders).

Thanks to continuing, generous support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, we request proposals from interdisciplinary teams addressing global grand challenges in line with the investigative goals of the program. Information on Eligibility, Deliverables, Review Criteria, Post-Award Reporting, and the Submission Process is provided below.

Eligibility

Research teams must meet the following criteria:

- The lead PI must be a Purdue faculty member.
- At least one of the co-PIs must have a faculty appointment in the humanities or social sciences at Purdue.
- At least one of the co-PIs must have a faculty appointment in a STEM discipline at Purdue.
- At least one of the co-PIs must be a member of the Libraries faculty at Purdue.

Personnel from other universities can be included as consultants on a Purdue-led team. Teams may be as large as necessary for the best projects, but the most successful teams in past rounds have had between five and seven faculty members.

It is expected that the projects funded will be in the range of \$100,000 to \$150,000, but projects that are under or over this range will be considered.

Deliverables

Projects must produce new actionable knowledge on important policy issues/grand challenges; a plan for communicating that new knowledge to communities of interest; at least one policy brief; and one or more research products. These research products may be provided in whatever forms are most appropriate for the disciplines involved (publications, conference papers, performances, etc.).

Over the grant period, successful teams will be expected to engage with assigned publishing, communication, and policy professionals to develop appropriate communication vehicles targeted at specified audiences. All teams will work with assigned policy staff to develop at least one policy brief and assigned library and publishing staff to develop at least one research product appropriate to the disciplines involved (publications, performance, data sets, patent, etc.).

All materials produced must acknowledge the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Copies of all final versions (or author-submitted or pre-print versions, in cases where copyright restrictions would prevent Open-Access posting of the final copy) must be delivered to Scholarly Publishing and PPRI for upload to the Purdue e-Pubs repository.

Review Process

A Review Panel of experts from inside and outside Purdue will evaluate each proposal.

Review Criteria

Proposals will be assessed on the following:

Relevance for Grand Challenges

Projects must address and generate new actionable knowledge on important policy issues/grand challenges.

Robust Interdisciplinary

Projects must draw on theories, approaches and methods from both the social sciences and/or humanities on the one hand and the STEM disciplines on the other. The contribution of the libraries faculty member must also be delineated. Preference will be given to those projects that engage more fully with the various disciplines, taking a holistic approach to the problem. Projects that explicate the specific role and contribution of each member of the team will also be preferred.

Integrated Communication Planning

Every proposal should include a communication plan. The communication plan should identify relevant stakeholders, give examples of possibly anticipated messages, and identify means by which researchers will communicate results to stakeholders and communities of interest (e.g., video summaries, journal articles, blogs, policy briefs, Twitter campaigns). Preference will be given to projects with more integrated and creative communication plans. Successful teams will receive assistance in developing and implementing the plans over the grant period.

Diversity and Inclusion

Projects that integrate diversity and inclusion into all aspects of the research proposal and investigative process, will be preferred. This includes considerations such as the composition of the teams, the formulation of the research questions, and the approach to proposed analyses.

Scholarly Excellence

Proposals (and projects) must meet the highest standards of scholarly excellence as defined by the relevant disciplines involved. For example, proposals will be examined as to whether they identify appropriate literatures on which to draw, apply appropriate methods, demonstrate conceptual clarity and soundness of logic, and so on.

Leveraging Purdue's Strengths:

Projects that enhance Purdue University's strengths in interdisciplinary research, education, service, and outreach will be preferred.

Student Involvement

Preference will be given to projects that involve undergraduates in aspects of the project.

Potential for Impact Beyond the Academy

Proposals should describe the potential for the project to have impact beyond the academy, meaning that their research contributes to finding solutions to grand challenges by enabling communities of interest-citizens, policymakers, not-for-profits, entrepreneurs or other stakeholders- to generate, improve, or apply fresh solutions to grand challenges.

Leadership:

Proposals from investigators and teams with a strong track record of leading innovation in problem-solving and successful collaborations will be preferred.

Creative Leverage of Resources:

Projects that creatively leverage resources (intellectually and internationally) to enhance success and build research, communication, and education capacity will be preferred.

Sustainability:

Projects that display means or plans for continuing the research and engagement or communication following the grant period will be preferred.

Post-Award Reporting Requirements

Over the grant period, teams will be required to submit presentations on progress every six months at an internal workshop which at least one PI or key staff member must attend. Within 30 days after the end of the project period, all participating teams will be required to submit a final written report (5-pages maximum plus one-page financial summary).

Submission Process

Teams must submit a Letter of Intent (maximum 1 page) by 5:00 p.m. E.T. on October 15, 2016.

The Letter of Intent should include a list of team members and a brief overview of the research topic and grand challenge to be addressed. It should be attached as a single file and sent to humstem@purdue.edu.

Teams must submit a Final Proposal by 5:00 p.m. E.T. on November 4, 2016. Final Proposals should be attached as a single PDF and sent to humstem@purdue.edu. Team members and elements of the proposal may change between submission of the Letter and the Proposal, but the team lead may not.

Final Proposal Budget Requirements

Final Proposals must include a budget prepared by the investigator's pre-award office. A COEUS budget is to be included with the proposal. Due to restrictions related to the source of funding, F&A charges will not be allowable and, therefore, should not be included in the COEUS budget.

Final Proposal Submission Documents

Final Proposals must be covered by a completed Proposal Submission Form (the pre-awards office will prepare this form) and should follow this sequence:

1. Title page, including: title, principal investigator, co-investigators, total budget, and project period
2. Research plan, addressing the review criteria and including a timeline, (single-spaced, one-inch margins, and at no smaller than 12-point font), limited to 7 pages.
3. Biographical sketches for each PI and Co-PI/investigator, limited to 2 pages.
4. CV and summary of current and pending funding for lead PI
5. Budget, as prepared through COEUS by the college's pre-award office, and
6. Budget justification limited to 2 pages.

Contact Information

For more information, interested parties may contact project leads Peter Froehlich and Laurel Weldon at humstem@purdue.edu.