Office of the Vice President for Research  
FY2018 Quarterly Strategic Investment Process

BACKGROUND:  
Colorado State University is committed to supporting a wide range of activities in the area of Research and Discovery as communicated in the University's Strategic Plan:

“CSU will foster an academic environment that nurtures excellence and growth in research, creative artistry, and other scholarly accomplishments.”

The Office of the Vice President for Research engaged the INSTAR and VPAC committees to develop a seasonal process around the funding requests from colleges, departments and other units. The purpose of this seasonal process is to synchronize the submission of funding requests, provide a means to strategically assess funding needs across a larger pool of proposals and establish a common set of funding criteria.

DESCRIPTION:  
The Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) is pleased to continue the Quarterly Strategic Investment submission process initiated in FY15. Funding is available from the OVPR’s existing Research Administration/Resources for Scholarship Programs (RA/RSP) allocation. This is an on-going program to provide support for a broad range of research and discovery activities. The program is not a seed funding program nor does it replace the start-up/retention funding process, Core/Specialized Facilities RFP, or awards made for Programs of Research and Scholarly Excellence (PRSE). Instead the process is intended to standardize OVPR funding support that was previously handled in an ad hoc and less structured manner.

One of the major advantages of the new process is the allocation of available funds across the entire fiscal year to ensure that awards can be made for funding needs identified later in the year.

AVAILABLE FUNDING:  
Approximately $100,000 is anticipated to be available each quarter during FY2018 with approximately 6 - 8 awards anticipated to be made each funding cycle. Awards will be limited to funding available for the quarter from the OVPR portion of the RA/RSP allocation. Requests will be considered for one-time funding only. A separate pool of contingency funds is being set aside to address cost sharing (please see Mandatory Cost Share below). Requests for cost sharing support are not part of this process or funding availability.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES:  
Four funding requests cycles are scheduled for FY18. Funding requests will be accepted starting with the Submission Start Date and continue until COB on the Submission Deadline. Requests received after the deadline will not be considered in that funding cycle.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submissions Start Date</th>
<th>Submission Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 1, 2017</td>
<td>October 2, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1, 2017</td>
<td>January 3, 2017</td>
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<td>March 1, 2018</td>
<td>April 2, 2018</td>
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<td>June 1, 2018</td>
<td>July 2, 2018</td>
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Updated: August 30, 2017
ELIGIBLE COSTS:
Requests for funding will be accepted for a broad range of activities including:

- Conferences/Workshops/Colloquia/Special Events
- Construction/alteration/renovation of research space
- Center/Program/Research Project Support (including access to Core/Specialized Facilities analytical services)
- Equipment/Infrastructure
- Institutional Memberships
- Return of F&A in lieu of F&A waiver

ADDITIONAL FUNDING CRITERIA:
The minimum funding level that will be considered is $10,000 from all combined sources (e.g., $3,334 OVPR + $3,333 Dept. + $3,333 College = $10,000). Requests for funds less than the minimum are anticipated to be addressed at the departmental/college level. All proposals must demonstrate shared funding participation from some combination of PI, Department, College or other contributed sources. Generally, proposals that have financial support at some level from both the Department and College as seen as indicative of higher prioritization within the College/Department. Requests that lack matching support typically do not compete well. While there is no set percentage requirement for the split among non-VPR contributions, the VPR contribution has, by practice, been limited to 1/3 of the total. Funding requests are for one-time funds only and anticipated to be spread over a 1-2 fiscal year maximum time frame. Additional consideration will be given to proposals that are cross-disciplinary in nature. Awards made in this funding cycle do not imply funding approvals for the same request made in a future funding cycle.

MANDATORY COST SHARE:
In recognition that the need for cost share support frequently does not fall within the timing of the quarterly deadlines, the OVPR will continue to accept requests for mandatory cost sharing support at any time. Please do not submit cost share requests through this funding process. Contact Pam Harrington for information on mandatory cost share requests.

PROPOSAL PROCEDURE:
Please complete the VPR Quarterly Funding Request Form, including all signatures and a detailed description and justification of the project. Project descriptions are limited to no more than 2 pages, should specify how funds will be used, when funds are needed, how it will benefit CSU/College/Department and expected outcome(s) of the project or activity. The funding period is assumed to begin within the fiscal year. Any funding requests for a project start date in FY19 will be accepted during the 4th quarter (June 1 – July 2, 2018).

Submissions for each quarter are due to the OVPR by close of business on the Proposal Submission Deadline. Late proposals will not be reviewed for this quarter. Please direct all submissions to Pam Harrington, Office of the Vice President for Research. Electronic submissions are preferred and may be sent to:
VPR_QuarterlyProposal_Submission@mail.colostate.edu

Colleges and units may have or wish to develop internal processes for screening and submission. Applicants should confer with their department head and/or associate dean prior to preparing an application for advisement on any additional processes.

For additional clarification, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for the VPR Quarterly Strategic Investment Process.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
If you have questions or need additional information, please contact
Pam Harrington
Office of the Vice President for Research
Phone: 491-3866 or Email: pam.harrington@colostate.edu

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