College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Faculty Research Grants
Spring 2017 Call for Proposals. Deadline: March 8, 2017

Purpose of Awards:
The Office of the Dean offers a variety of funding opportunities intended to aid tenured and tenure-track faculty with research activities and creative work.

- Niles Research Grants support a range of research expenses, including purchase of equipment, research assistance, research trips, publication subventions, release time from teaching, and summer research salary.
- Dean’s Faculty Fellowships for Research provide a more substantial investment in faculty research.
- Incentive Grants, with funds from the Office of the Vice President for Research and the Institute for the Society, Culture, and Environment, support faculty research that leads to new proposals for external grants, with particular emphasis on funding release time from teaching, graduate research assistants, and mentoring.

College faculty members are encouraged to apply for any funds that will aid their research or other scholarly work. Faculty members are permitted to submit proposals for multiple competitions; each proposal should explain the relationship to the other proposals submitted by the same scholar(s). Research grants cannot be used for conference travel. To maximize the distribution of funds, some proposals may be only partially funded. Joint proposals from multiple faculty members are encouraged; award amounts for collaborative projects will be limited to the same amount as individual awards. Humanities symposia grants will not be offered in the spring 2017 cycle, but may be available in a later cycle.

Deadline March 8, 2017, for the following three categories:
1. Niles Research Grants, up to $4,000, to be expended July 2017-June 2018.
2. Dean’s Faculty Fellowships for Research, up to $8,000, to be expended July 2017-June 2018.
3. Incentive Grants, up to $6,000, to be expended July 2017-June 2018.

Application Procedure: All proposals must be submitted using an online form, accessible here or from the College faculty research grants page. The form will request the following information:

1) Applicant information: Name; Department/School; Email; Rank
2) Amount requested and Grant category
3) Abstract (500 characters maximum): A brief description of the project and use of funds.
4) Proposal (4000 characters maximum): This narrative must address the following elements:
   - The significance of the proposed research or other scholarly activity
   - The rationale (justification) for the research or other scholarly activity
   - How the research or scholarly activity will benefit the applicant’s research program
   - A description of the research contributions of graduate assistants, if relevant
   - Any other pertinent information for the review committee to consider.
5) Results of previous College research funding, if applicable.
6) Publications, presentations, performances, and other activities, including those most directly related to the activities, methods, and outcomes described in this proposal. (2000 characters maximum)
7) Itemized budget for all expenses requested in this proposal.

Approval by Chair/Head or Director: Upon submission of the form, the abstract will be sent to the applicant’s department chair/head or school director for approval. This approval must be received within three days of the proposal deadline in order for the application be considered.

Eligibility: Only College tenure-track and tenured faculty may apply for these research funds. Faculty may submit more than one proposal in each cycle, if they are seeking funds across multiple categories.
Selection Criteria for all Research Grants:
Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:
► The significance of the proposed activity.
► The contribution proposed activity makes to the applicant’s field and area of scholarship.
► The conception, organization, and clarity of the proposal.
► The significance of the requested funding for the applicant’s research or other scholarly activity.
► The explanation and justification of budgeted expenditures.
► The feasibility for successful completion of the proposed activity.
► Potential for the project to lead to future external funding.

Additional Criteria for Incentive Grants:
► How the requested funds will advance efforts to secure external funding.
► Evidence of efforts to secure external funding for research projects.

Award Administration and Budget Management: Awards will be administered by the home department of the successful applicant. The department is responsible for compliance with state spending guidelines, university policies and procedures, appropriate documentation, and budget adjustments.

Reports of Outcomes: Successful applicants are required to submit a report of 500 words to the Associate Dean for Research, Tom Ewing, etewing@vt.edu. Reports will be due by September 15, 2018.

Questions: Please direct questions about proposals and guidelines to Tom Ewing: etewing@vt.edu.

Link to form: https://goo.gl/forms/bbWa7PzopGumblvS2