Purdue Center for Global Food Security - Innovation Grants for Undergraduate Students

Introduction: The Purdue Center for Global Food Security (PCGFS) was created with acknowledgment of the growing urgency of the global food security agenda and the capacity and legacy of faculty and students at our university in discovery and delivery of technologies in agriculture, engineering, and food systems globally. The PCGFS now invites students to compete for Innovation Grants in Food Security for Undergraduate Students at Purdue University.

Purpose: The PCGFS Student Innovation Grants would support undergraduate students in any academic discipline of our university, motivated to work in teams to develop a technology or program that may render creative solution(s) to a vexing food security problem for stressed communities in a developing country or for programs that support the needy within the state of Indiana. The emphasis is on devising innovative technologies that would lead to lasting solutions in addressing a key bottleneck along the value chain of food systems, ranging from production, transport, storage, processing, marketing, distribution, or utilization of nutritious foods, to support marginalized populations in a community. The technologies could range from design of devices, development of products, mobile technologies, data management systems, or improved communication technologies (ICTs) for communities and development networks. Two “international grants” at $10,000 each, and two “local grants” each for $3,000 will be funded. Successful grantees can use the funds for expenses, other than salary, associated in the design and development of the innovation including travel to a project site by a member(s) of the team.

Eligibility & Requirements:
- Students must be undergraduates enrolled at Purdue University, West Lafayette campus.
- At least 3 students representing self, student groups/clubs, or departments may apply.
- Faculty advisor(s) required to mentor the group, serve as co-PI and act in support of the application to provide oversight of the project, and to help manage fund expenditures.
- International projects should build partnerships with foreign students to promote solidarity and encourage sustainability.
- Applicants must abide by the guidelines set out for Purdue-derived IP rights for students.
- Grantees must commit to enter their projects in other national or international innovation grant proposals.
- Projects would be of defined duration, starting on April 15th with final product submitted to PCGFS on Oct. 31st.
- Completed projects will be presented at a Fall 2014 Student Innovation Launch Symposium in early November.
- If grant funds are not sufficient for project completion, proposal should indicate source and feasibility for leveraging of additional funds from other sources.

Application: Please include the following information in your application.

Page 1: General
- Proposal Title
- Students (Name, Class [e.g. Sophomore, Junior, etc.], Department, College)
- Name of faculty advisor (Name, Rank, Department, College)
- Collaborating Students and Faculty (Name, Department, University)
- Summary of Food Security Problem and Proposed Innovation (limit ½ - ½ page)

Page 2: Project Description
- Background, geographical and institutional linkages
- Anticipated results, outputs, and outcomes
- Brief overview of methodology and/or main activities
- Describe potential for follow-up including post-project actions by partners and funding from other sources

Additional Information:
- Budget and budget narrative placed on a separate page
- CVs of team members - one page for each member

Please combine your application materials into a single PDF document, with the name:

[Advisor Last Name, First Initial] Innovation Grants in Food Security.pdf

Submit your electronic application to the Purdue Center for Global Food Security (foodsecurity@purdue.edu) by Friday, March 14, 2014. If you have questions, please contact Cristy Gosney (crgosney@purdue.edu).