Ross-Lynn Research Scholar Program 2021-2022

The College of Health and Human Sciences (HHS) is happy to announce the call for applications for the 2021-2022 Ross-Lynn Research Scholar Program, which is replacing the PRF Research Fellowship grant program. This year HHS expects to award seven one-year awards. Funding for this program is made possible by the generous support of the David J. Ross and Charles J. Lynn gifts that created the endowment and by supplemental funds from the Purdue EVPRP. The Ross-Lynn Research Scholar Program supports faculty research by providing funding to the faculty member to support a half-time (0.50 FTE) graduate research assistant who will work on a research project. The research project must meet two important criteria: (1) it must align with one or more of the HHS Signature Areas, and (2) it must lead to the development of an external grant submission in the 18 months.

We understand these criteria reflect a change from previous years. We have chosen to strategically promote external grant submissions across the college. The application for the Ross-Lynn Research Scholar Program should describe the impact of the larger project for which the grant will be submitted (i.e., the NIH, NSF, DoD … grant), while the approach should focus on the activities that will be undertaken as a part of this award.

The graduate research assistant should not complete a standalone research project during the award period, but rather, the proposed work should fit within the larger mission of the faculty member’s research program. There is no need to identify the student before the award is made. Eligible students are Ph.D. students who are enrolled in HHS graduate programs, are in good standing (minimum GPA = 3.0), and are engaged in research to the extent expected for a full-time Ph.D. student. Student funding can begin anytime between the June 1 and the start of the fall semester.

Eligibility

- Open to all HHS faculty who are submitting a major grant in the 18 months.
  - Major grant is defined as a federal grant or national/international foundation grant that has a total direct cost of at least $200,000.
- Note: Units are not limited to two applications per HHS unit.
- Each faculty member may only submit one application per year to this competition.

Submission Deadlines and Other Information

- Proposals must be written in lay language, meaning for a smart, scientific but non-expert audience. Define your terms and abbreviations.
- Proposal deadline is 8:00 AM on April 22, 2021.
- Submit all proposal documents as a single PDF to hhsadresearch@purdue.edu.
- Decisions will be announced by May 9, 2021.
Proposal Guidelines and Requirements

- Formatting: Single-spaced, one inch margins on all sides, 11 pt. Arial font (9 pt. font is allowed for figures and tables).
- Cover Letter (see attached)
- Research Proposal (4-page limit with any figures). Include the following Sections:
  - Significance. Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress that the proposed larger project will address. Remember, this is for a lay audience, so please give some context that outlines the problem and highlights the impact of addressing this problem in the way you propose.
  - Rationale/Scientific Premise for your Research Plan. Describe the strengths and weaknesses in the rigor of the prior research (both published and unpublished) that serves as the key support for the proposed project. Include the rationale that supports your approach to addressing this problem.
  - Approach. Provide a brief goal of the project, the aims/objectives that will be addressed to attain that goal. Also, please provide a BRIEF description of the strategy, methods, and analyses that will be performed to address the aims, focusing on the work to be completed with the graduate student.
  - Funding Submission Plan: Timeline including internal and external reviews; Number and name of funding program to which you are applying with a brief description of the fit with the program; if applying to a federal agency, indicate the institute/directorate to which you will be applying with a brief description of the fit with their strategic plan.
  - Justification for Scholar. Describe the need for a graduate student to assist and what their primary role will be.
- Literature Cited
- Biographical Sketch. Submit this in the format that is consistent with the funding agency’s requirements.

Review

Upon submission, all proposals will be reviewed by the HHS Research Advisory Committee. On the basis of their feedback, the Associate Dean for Research will notify the faculty of the outcome. The Review Criteria and Weighting are as follows:

- Significance (30%)
- Rationale/Scientific Premise for your Research Plan (25%)
- Approach (10%)
- Funding Submission Plan (15%)
- Justification (10%)
- Investigator (10%)

Reporting Requirements

You are required to submit your external grant within 18 months of the start of the student’s funding. You will also be required to report on outcomes as a result of the funding. A Qualtrics survey will be sent the December following funding and continue yearly for 5 years.