INNOVATION GRANTS WEBINAR: INNOVATION HUB + PURDUE ONLINE

DUE DATE: APRIL 29, 2022

Pursuing our next giant leap together.

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Webinar Schedule and Groundrules

For today's session (which will be recorded):

- We have a slide deck with overview information. During this phase, please mute your microphone and turn off your camera if you like.
- Please use the chat to ask questions during the presentation.
- We'll also reserve plenty of time after the presentation to answer other questions you have.
- *Live captioning is available.*
- We will then:
  - Post the webinar recording to the Innovation Hub website
  - Extract an FAQ document from the discussion, and post that to the website as well.

Transformative Education 2.0

TE 2.0 mission: Purdue will be the most innovative residential learning program in the US among large research universities.

- Deep investment in high touch experiential learning
- Creative use of advanced technologies
- Flexible transdisciplinary degree and credential options
- Integrated student life experiences
- A data-driven ecosystem that improves retention, progression, graduation, and satisfaction

Innovation Hub Mission

Innovation Hub continues to evolve in several directions.

- **Project funding mechanisms** by which innovators (teams of faculty, staff, and students) can pursue projects to explore scalability both in size and across disciplines/settings
- Emphasis on **transdisciplinary experiences** for students
- A **network of experts and partners ("innovation fellows")** to embed considerations of assessment, equity, student acceptance, and many other dimensions into each innovation project
- Innovation Hub–level **evaluation, data collection, and comparison** against target metrics for participants, engagement, and outcomes
- A focus on **development and expansion of innovations**, with a secondary outcome on the scholarship of teaching and learning (SOTL)

Purdue Online Mission

Purdue Online provides high-quality online and hybrid learning opportunities that align with student needs and career goals.

- **Online learning opportunities** spanning Purdue's disciplines.
- **Investments in learning innovations** in the online space, including hardware, software, training, and other elements relevant online learning.
- **Partnerships** with key entities such as the Envision Center and the Innovative Learning Team.
- **Training opportunities** for faculty and staff to enable deeper engagement with online teaching tools and pedagogies.
- **Thought leadership** about the future of online learning, its connection to residential education, and the investments required to realize this future vision.

This Funding Initiative: Innovation Hub + Purdue Online

This jointly-issued RFP invites proposals in any of the areas described below, with the expectations that projects aligned with Innovation Hub will be funded by the Hub, and projects aligned with Purdue Online will be funded by Purdue Online. Co-funding for projects is certainly possible.

- ***Scaling teaching and learning innovations***—whether technology-driven or not—to new student residential populations, new disciplines, or new instructors (or instructional teams).
- ***Integrating online learning*** approaches and technologies into residential learning experiences
- ***Achieving equity*** in our education enterprise (focusing on access, experience, and/or outcomes) including creating, using, and scaling inclusive pedagogies.
- ***Creating scalable, course-based experiential learning options***, especially research experiences, explorations of career pathways and the changing nature of work, and transdisciplinary problems.
- ***Building scalable technology-driven solutions*** to enhance the residential experience and offer new opportunities to online learners, especially AR/VR, virtual labs, and other relevant experiences.
- ***Implementing meaningful transdisciplinary, credentialed experiences*** for residential students, especially those that align with the future of work, connect to national and/or Indiana priorities, or engage 'grand challenge'-type questions of sustainability, social responsibility, or public health.
- ***Applying artificial intelligence and/or machine learning*** technologies to drive learning innovations at scale.

Innovation Grants Program

RFP was released on March 25, 2022; due date is April 29, 2022. A proposal template with required sections and page limits is available on the Innovation Hub website.

- Funding parameters: up to $150k for about 18 months. *Ask for what you need* to execute your project, and we can discuss the funding and timing details.
- Audience: this funding program is intended to support *mid-stage scaling of maturing innovations*.
- Evidence: proposals should present *strong, persuasive evidence* to suggest the innovation is: (i) useful, and (ii) scalable.

Q: What if my innovation is nascent, and I do not yet have strong evidence of usefulness and scalability? Should I still apply to this opportunity?
A: We expect to present an early-stage opportunity to access pilot-scale funding in September 2022 (very similar to the Feb/Mar 2022 RFP from Innovation Hub).

Grant Proposal Expectations -- Orientation

This opportunity is about development, scaling, and deployment of teaching and learning innovations. These funds are not research seed funds.

- Proposals must align with Innovation Hub and/or Purdue Online goals, which are to make a discrete impact on the quality of teaching and learning in our residential and online programs. This funding program is focused on scaling promising innovations to a larger population.
- Proposals whose primary purpose is research will be returned without review. This funding program is about scaling and propagation, not research.

Q: What if I'm interested in publishing the results of my scaling project or using the results to support a research grant application?
A: We values all those outcomes, but the primary stakeholders for these investments must be Purdue people engaged in the teaching and learning enterprise, and the primary aims of the project must be about scaling and propagation.

Funding Priorities

Priority areas for investment are:

- ***Scaling teaching and learning innovations***—whether technology-driven or not—to new student residential populations, new disciplines, or new instructors (or instructional teams).
- ***Integrating online learning*** approaches and technologies into residential learning experiences
- ***Achieving equity*** in our education enterprise (focusing on access, experience, and/or outcomes) including creating, using, and scaling inclusive pedagogies.
- ***Creating scalable, course-based experiential learning options***, especially research experiences, explorations of career pathways and the changing nature of work, and transdisciplinary problems.
- ***Building scalable technology-driven solutions*** to enhance the residential experience and offer new opportunities to online learners, especially AR/VR, virtual labs, and other relevant experiences.
- ***Implementing meaningful transdisciplinary, credentialed experiences*** for residential students, especially those that align with the future of work, connect to national and/or Indiana priorities, or engage 'grand challenge'-type questions of sustainability, social responsibility, or public health.
- ***Applying artificial intelligence and/or machine learning*** technologies to drive learning innovations at scale.

Q: Is this program focused on technology-based innovations?
A: No. Proposals for technology-based innovations are certainly welcome, but we seek to support excellent, scalable ideas in any domain and discipline, whether technology-driven or not.

Innovation Partners

Proposers may need specific expertise (example: assessment) to advance their project. Innovation Hub and Purdue Online can connect proposers to useful resources.

- The Innovative Learning team at Purdue
- Innovation Fellows within the Innovation Hub
- Other potential partners throughout our formal and informal networks on campus

Q: I believe I will need advice from an expert in a particular domain. How do I get started?
A: As soon as you decide you need expert consultation, send email to the Innovation Hub (innovation-hub@purdue.edu) to discuss. Proposers whose projects need a partnership, *but have not explored what such a partnership would entail*, are very unlikely to be funded.

Funding Arrangements

Proposals will be funded, or perhaps co-funded, from the Innovation Hub and Purdue Online. The actual funding distribution will depend upon the topical areas and quality of submitted proposal, but:

- Meritorious proposals aligned with Innovation Hub goals will be funded by Innovation Hub.
- Meritorious proposals aligned with Purdue Online goals will be funded by Purdue Online.
- Meritorious proposals of interest to both Innovation Hub and Purdue Online may be co-funded, with the specific contributions of each party dependent upon the nature of the project.

Q: At the time of proposal submission, do I need to specify whether I'm submitting to the Innovation Hub, Purdue Online, or seeking co-funding?
A: No, this is a single funding opportunity. We will sort out funding/co-funding arrangements as part of the review process, and proposers are not expected or required to suggest an appropriate source of funds.

Review Processes (1)

Grant proposals will be reviewed by multiple parties.

- One-page summaries submitted for feedback will reviewed (in general) only by the Innovation Hub Director and Senior VP for Purdue Online.
- Full proposals submitted before the deadline will be reviewed by:
  - Innovation Hub and Purdue Online leadership
  - Members of the Innovation Council
  - Representatives from the Innovative Learning Team
- We also may seek ad-hoc input from:
  - Partners mentioned in the proposal
  - Other on-campus experts who can provide valuable perspectives on the specific proposal.

Q: About how many people will read my proposal?
A: We expect that each proposal will be reviewed by *at least 3 people*, and perhaps more if time and resources allow.

Review Processes (2)

We will apply review criteria related to alignment with Innovation Hub and/or Purdue Online priorities, goals, and values.

- The required sections of the proposal explain the criteria we value; *refer to the template* for guidance on how to align your project with this program's priorities and goals.
- If your proposal is recommended for funding, you should be prepared for a brief negotiation on issues like scope, timeline, and budget. Our goal is *predictability*—we all want to know what to expect, and what is expected of us.
- We expect to complete the review process by about 5 weeks from submission.

Q: In addition to individual reviews, will there be some sort of panel discussion?
A: With the caveat that we do not know how many proposals we will receive, or how many will be competitive, the *answer is yes*, a panel discussion will help us reach final funding decisions.

Getting Started

If you plan to submit a proposal to this funding program, we urge you to do the following:

- Read the RFP on the Innovation Hub website.
- Send a one-page summary of your project to innovation-hub@purdue.edu for feedback.
- Review the proposal template available on the Innovation Hub website to understand the required sections and page limits for proposals.

Q: Is the one-page summary stage of this process *required*?
A: No, but it is *strongly encouraged*. Calibration of your ideas with Innovation Hub and/or Purdue Online priorities and goals is crucial. We do not want you to spend your time writing a proposal that is not well calibrated to Innovation Hub and/or Purdue Online interests (and therefore unlikely to be funded).

Funded Grants – Expectations and Experiences

Projects chosen to receive funding from this program will have access to several support resources.

- Project management to enable execution of the project.
  - Relationships with partners
  - Data collection for project evaluation purposes

- Our formal and informal networks of experts and enthusiasts on campus who can inform, advise, or otherwise support your work.

Q: Do funds associated with project management need to be budgeted within the project?
A: No, Innovation Hub and Purdue Online will provide project management support to funded project teams as part of the award—at no cost to the team's project budget.

Funded Grants – Allowable Expenses

This funding program is focused on scaling and propagation of teaching and learning innovations. Expenditures are therefore focused on this mission.

- We anticipate that these funds will be used to support salary for faculty and staff participating in the project, and (as appropriate) to purchase materials, supplies, hardware, software, etc.
- These funds are not intended to be used as research seed funds. As such, it is very unlikely that supporting your graduate student or post-doc on these funds would be appropriate.
- It is very unlikely that conference travel and similar travel expenses will be appropriate for support from this funding opportunity.

Q: My project is complicated and I have detailed questions about funding and expenses. What should I do?
A: *Send a one-page project description* to innovation-hub@purdue.edu to initiate a discussion about the details of your situation. We are always willing to talk about your ideas.

Funded Grants -- Processes

Grants funded through this opportunity will be codified in several ways.

- Projects will be defined by a project charter, which captures the key activities and deliverables.
- Innovation Hub and Purdue Online leadership will establish a grant account in your business office for their management and oversight.
- Each grant has lightweight reporting requirements as described in the RFP.
- ***Funds will be released to project teams in 3, six-month increments, subject to satisfactory progress toward project goals.***

Q: Can I carry over funds beyond the end of the grant period?
A: *In general, no.* The role of Innovation Hub and Purdue Online in the collaboration, the partnerships involved in the project, and the provided project management is designed to keep projects on time and on budget. We expect that no-cost extensions for projects will by very uncommon.

Q: If I do not demonstrate sufficient progress toward my project goals in the first six-month period, will I lose funding for the project?
A: *In general, yes.* Innovation Hub and Purdue Online will be partners on these projects, and we want you to succeed. We also understand that sometimes unforeseen circumstances make progress slow. But in the absence of mitigating factors, no, you will not receive future funding increments if you cannot demonstrate sufficient progress toward goals.

Funded Grants -- Logistics

Effective project management will require grant recipients to do several things.

- Prioritize your innovation project and be responsive to the project manager supporting your work, whose job it is to enable the success of the project.
- Keep an up-to-date calendar in Purdue's enterprise system, Outlook.
- Comply with reporting requirements as indicated in the RFP.

Q: I use Google calendar. Is that a problem?
A: Yes. Efficient project management requires clear, crisp communication and easy scheduling of collaborative discussions with partners and other stakeholders. Our experience in managing complex projects is that scheduling meetings is among the most time-consuming and frustrating pieces, largely because people are busy and many do not keep an up-to-date calendar. These projects will use Purdue enterprise tools exclusively to manage projects and communication.

Webinar Closeout

The most important parts of the grant application process are:

- Read the RFP carefully.
- Send a one-page summary to innovation-hub@purdue.edu early in the process to receive feedback.
- Consider potentially useful partnerships in your work, and reach out to those potential partners proactively, before you submit your proposal. (if you need help connecting to potential partners, we will gladly provide suggestions and facilitate introductions.)
- Write your proposal using the template on the Innovation Hub website.
- Submit your proposal and associated documentation before the deadline via the online portal on the Innovation Hub website.

Q: What should my one-pager look like in terms of format and polish?
A: Your one-page document should briefly address the proposal elements indicated in the proposal template, so that Innovation Hub and Purdue Online leadership understand the general nature of your project. The *one-pager does not need to be perfect or highly polished*; it needs to be clear and submitted well before the proposal deadline so that you can act on the feedback your receive.