

ANNOUNCEMENT

Steven Manners Faculty Development Awards
University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR)



Guidelines

Introduction

In memory of Steven Manners, who served as Assistant Director of the Center for many years, we are pleased to announce the 12th annual development awards program in recognition of his contributions to the Center and the University community. We will make two awards of up to \$10,000 each. Faculty may apply for awards in two categories: (a) **Research Development Grants** to support pilot research in the social, behavioral, and policy sciences; and (b) **Infrastructure Development Awards** aimed at enhancing faculty capabilities to carry out interdisciplinary research in the social, behavioral, and policy sciences.

Eligibility

Full-time faculty from all University of Pittsburgh campuses may apply.

Activities to Be Supported

Faculty may apply for either a Research Development Grant to support pilot research or an Infrastructure Development Award. Research Development Grants are designed to provide support for carrying out pilot research in the social and behavioral sciences that has the potential of leading to larger externally funded projects. Infrastructure Development Awards are designed to enable faculty to develop, acquire, and disseminate new research skills that enhance faculty capabilities in the social, behavioral, and policy sciences.

Examples include the acquisition of secondary data or new software, organizing a conference on cutting edge analytic methods in the social and behavioral sciences, bringing in experts to carry out workshops on topics of interest to the faculty, or creating interdisciplinary working groups to develop new research initiatives.

Due Date and Duration of Award

All applications are due April 9, 2012. Awards will be made by June 11, 2012. Most awards will begin July 9, 2012, but later starting dates are possible. IRB approval is required in order to access funds for Research Development Grants. Projects should be completed within a one-year period. A progress/final report is due at the end of Year 01, and, if needed, an extension request must accompany the Year 01 progress report requesting an additional year to complete the project.

You may submit your application in person, by mail, or electronically. To submit in person/by mail, include 4 copies addressed to Dr. Richard Schulz, Director, UCSUR, 3343 Forbes Avenue, Room 212, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 (campus address: UCSUR, FORBL 212). To submit electronically, email Anna Aivaliotis at annaca@pitt.edu.

Application Instructions for Research Development Grants

The proposal should follow the format outlined below:

1. Cover page naming all investigators, contact information, protocol title, start date, and end date;
2. Abstract;
3. Budget and budget justification (if supplemental monies are expected to be used, the source of these funds and the intended use must be included in the budget justification);
4. Proposal -
 - a. Specific aims;
 - b. Background and significance;
 - c. Preliminary studies (if applicable);
 - d. Research and design methods;

- e. Human subjects (including subject population, sources of research material, recruitment and consent procedures, potential risks, risk management procedures, and evaluation of risk/benefit ratio; research involving human subjects must comply with all University regulations);
- f. Literature cited;
- g. Biosketch.

Sections a-d must not exceed six pages. Appendices should only be included if they are critical to the reviewers' understanding of the proposed research.

Application Instructions for Infrastructure Development Awards

The proposal should follow the format listed below:

1. Cover page naming all faculty, contact information, protocol title, start date, and end date;
2. Abstract;
3. Budget and budget justification (if supplemental monies are expected to be used, the source of these funds and the intended use must be included in the budget justification);
4. Proposal -
 - a. Specific aims;
 - b. Background and significance (Why is it important to do this? How many faculty in which disciplines might benefit from this project?);
 - c. Approach (may vary widely depending on the goals of the specific project; be as specific as possible);
 - d. Biosketch.

Sections a-c must not exceed six pages. Appendices should only be included if they are critical to the reviewers' understanding of the proposed research.

Allowable Costs for Research Development Grants

Allowable costs for Research Development Grants include the direct costs of carrying out the research and may include: salary of a research assistant or graduate student; participant payments; or other activities/costs directly associated with the conduct of the research.

Costs that are not allowed include: investigator's salary; travel for conferences or seminars; dues for professional societies; and subscriptions to journals.

Allowable Costs for Infrastructure Development Awards

Allowable costs for Infrastructure Development Awards include the direct costs of implementing the infrastructure development plan and may include: salary of a research assistant or graduate student; purchase of specialized equipment; travel expenses and honoraria for speakers or consultants; meeting costs to organize interdisciplinary working groups.

Evaluation Criteria for Research Development Grants

The following criteria will be used in evaluating proposals: (a) scientific merit; (b) background and experience of investigator; (c) adequacy of resources and environment; (d) appropriateness of budget for the proposed work; and (e) strong likelihood that the pilot work will lead to subsequent external peer reviewed funding.

Evaluation Criteria for Infrastructure Development Awards

The following criteria will be used in evaluating proposals: (a) significance of area addressed to the University community; (b) the innovativeness of the approach taken; (c) the likelihood of enhancing the research capabilities of University faculty; and (d) the likelihood that the project will lead to subsequent interdisciplinary research efforts.

Please refer all questions to Dr. Donald Musa at dmuc@pitt.edu.