Catalytic Investment on Research and Innovation Seed [CiRIS] Program

CSUSB faculty continue to be successful in conducting innovative research, engaging students, publishing quality work, AND getting funding for their research. Over the past decade, CSUSB had consistently over $10 million in research expenditures each year. Research productivity, combined with the doctoral degrees in the College of Education, brought us the prestigious R2 status as a high research activity institution. The R2 status brings us additional visibility and is helping us recruit excellent diverse faculty and students. Also, Aim 2 of our ASPIRE grant is about building/expanding the research infrastructure on our campus --- and the sustainability that the campus committed to. The main barrier noted by our faculty in the survey that was done at the start of ASPIRE was **time**. Faculty requested "time," and we hear our faculty comments!

To increase the support for research, creative and other scholarly activities on our campus, especially projects that lead to external funding, we created the "Catalytic Investment on Research and Innovation Seed (CiRIS) Program." This program will provide seed funding for faculty to focus on their research/creative/scholarly activities and to identify a source of grant funding that will support their research in the long run. The hope is that this program will serve as a catalyst for securing external funding for future research/creative/scholarly activities. This program will provide up to **$32,500**, to help fund faculty research and the submission of an external grant proposal. Funds may be used for (1) up to four course releases (no more than two-course releases in a given semester), (2) summer stipend, (3) collaborations internally or externally, (4) grant writing, and/or (5) supplies. Funds must be used from January 1, 2025 through May 30, 2026. A preliminary grant proposal showing the progress must be submitted to the dean of the appropriate college by November 14, 2025, to have access to the remaining funds in Spring 2026. A final grant proposal to an external agency must be submitted by May 29, 2026. It is expected that the external grant proposal will have full indirect cost returns.

We intend to support **three (or more) proposals**, subject to the availability of funds.

Application Components:

Abstract: 1-page maximum summary of the project, including the Specific Aims of the project.

Narrative: (5 page maximum)

- Background or Literature Review
- Summary of the project
- Timeline with major events
- Identify a proposed external grant with a short explanation of how this project will lead to a successful grant application. Proposed grant is expected to include full indirect cost returns and the direct costs exceed $100,000.

Budget: A spreadsheet of costs for each term
- 1 course/3 WTU = $7,100
- Maximum in Summer Salary = $5,000
- Supplies- $1,500
- Grant assistance- $6,500

Budget justification: Briefly justify each expense.

Key Personnel: A 2-page max (NIH/NSF/DOE or other style) CV of each person who will receive Assigned Time. This should demonstrate your ability to be successful.

Submission deadline: September 30, 2024 via the following

link: https://csusb.infoready4.com/#applicationGrid/1939307

Selected proposals will be announced by October 30, 2024.

Notes:

We include a few examples of federal grant agencies and their expectations. These are just examples only and there are many other agencies you may consider submitting your grant applications to.

NIH grades on 3 factors:
1. Importance (significance, Innovation)
2. Rigor and Feasibility (Approach)
3. Expertise and Resources (Investigator, Environment)

NSF grades on:
1. Intellectual Merit
2. Broader Impacts/Diversity
3. Program specific metrics

DOE grades on:
1. Scientific content/merit
2. Completeness
3. Program priorities

Sincerely,
Rafik

WE DEFINE THE *Future*

A. Rafik Mohamed, Ph.D.
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