Monash University – Penn State University

2019-20 Collaboration Development Fund

Request for Proposals

Monash University and Penn State are building a long-term and multi-faceted partnership in research and teaching. We are anchoring this partnership by a significant investment in the **Intersection of Health and the Environment**. The 2019-20 Collaboration Development Fund has been created to provide **seed monies** for faculty groups to foster collaborative, sustainable, and self-supporting research. Grant recipients will have the opportunity to help shape the direction and future investment in this initiative at the level of the institutional partnership and contribute to the universities’ vision and strategic goals. Proposals are expected to focus on development of a substantive program framework that will serve as a model for future joint ventures between the two institutions.

Successful proposals will be those that (i) are at the **Intersection of Health and the Environment**, (ii) demonstrate an immediate potential to be sustainable through external funding sources, (iii) have the potential for significant impact in an emerging research area, and (iv) leverage complementary strengths of the two universities.

**Collaboration Development Fund Overview**

1. **A$50k** award for each project.
2. **5-6 awards** will be made.
3. All Principle Investigators from both institutions who are successful in the 2019-20 Monash-Penn state Collaboration Development Fund will be required to participate in a Project “Kickoff” Workshop to be held at Penn State October 7-12, 2019. This will include presentations on project plans and objectives. All successful Monash Principle Investigators will be financially supported to travel to Penn State for the kickoff workshop.
4. One-year duration.
5. This is a one-time award with no opportunity for renewal.
6. A 10% cost share of the total award is required from each of the Penn State and Monash home units.
7. **Example project funding distribution for a A$50k proposal:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monash Unit/Faculty</th>
<th>Penn State Global Programs</th>
<th>Penn State Unit</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(40%) Total</td>
<td>(40%) Total</td>
<td>(10%) Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A$20k</td>
<td>A$20k</td>
<td>A$5k</td>
<td>A$50k</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. The seed grant funds cannot be used for faculty salary or stipend, indirect/administrative costs, to hire a consultant or contractor, or for general equipment expenses (laptops, tablets, printers, etc.). Please inquire with your university contact for clarification if an expense is allowable.
9. Allowable expenses include faculty, postdoc and student travel, summer supplements for students, and other expenditures in support of the long-term project development.

Eligibility

To be eligible for support:

1. Applications are open to all Monash employees with a minimum 0.8 FTE appointment.
2. Applications are open to all Penn State full time faculty.
3. Adjunct positions and staff at Monash affiliated institutes may apply, in concert with other eligible applicants. However, they are unable to be named as the ‘Monash lead applicant’.
4. Investigators must be drawn from both institutions.

Proposal Evaluation

1. A panel of faculty and administrators from Penn State and Monash will evaluate and select the projects to be funded.
2. Funding priority will be given to projects that:
   a. Demonstrate prospects to obtain support after the 1-year seed fund program ends.
   b. Advance self-supporting collaborative scholarship and education of high academic value
   c. Strengthen the connectivity and relationship between Monash and Penn State
   d. Create a team with multiple faculty and students at each university.
3. The evaluation criteria and weighting:
   a. A demonstrated ability to create a self-supporting, sustainable collaboration program after the seed money expires (50%)
   b. Merit of project idea and quality (30%)
   c. Project context within the target research area (20%)

Proposal Format

1. Complete the Collaboration Development Fund application form.
2. The appendix should include:
   a. 1-page CV for each of the project faculty (participants).
   b. Letters confirming Penn State unit cost sharing match.
   c. Letter/email from Faculty Dean confirming Monash Faculty contribution.
3. Combine all documents into one pdf

Dates

1. Proposal submission due: June 15, 2019
2. Anticipated award announcement: August 1, 2019
3. Kickoff Workshop at Penn State: October 7-12, 2019
4. Final Report submission due: August 30, 2020

Application Submission

The consolidated pdf submission should be emailed to both Monash and Penn State: Submit to vp.research-noe@monash.edu and global-partners@psu.edu
Contacts / Further Information

Website: https://www.monash.edu/psu-partnership/

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