**Racial Justice Seed Fund – Frequency Asked Questions as of 8-17-20**

**Eligibility Questions**

* **Q: Are different divisions (NMS, SBS, Arts &Humanities) within ASC considered distinct disciplines/colleges?**
* **Q: Would the inclusion of two researchers from distinct disciplines within the College of Arts and Sciences meet the eligibility requirements?**

A: The call for proposals requires that BOTH two colleges and at least two intellectually distinct disciplines be represented on the PI/Co-PI team. For this competition, faculty from different divisions within the Colleges of Arts and Sciences do not satisfy the two-college requirement; however, faculty from distinct disciplines would satisfy that component of the requirement.

* **Q: My research is aimed at improving the care provided to the community (who is affected by existing disparities), but my research does not involve any members of the community/community organizations.  Would I still be eligible to apply for this seed grant based on that?**

A: No.  A community partner is required and must have involvement as a co-PI, signifying the partner’s substantial involvement in both the design and conduct of the proposed work.

* **Q: I am a PhD candidate and am currently planning my dissertation about media-based interracial group contact and social change. I wonder whether or not doctoral dissertation is eligible for the seed fund for racial justice?**

A: Graduate students do not have PI status, so PhD candidates are not eligible to submit their dissertation proposals for funding consideration. If some of the dissertation work is relevant to a proposal being submitted by someone with PI status, the eligible PI may request graduate student stipend support (not tuition though) to help defray the costs of conducting this work.

* **Q: Will proposals that involve international work be considered for funding?**

A: You are free to propose international collaboration; however, the most competitive proposals will likely also involve a local/regional community collaborator(s) and result in substantive change in the Columbus/Ohio area.

* **Q: Would the Kirwan Institute count as a “different college” within the eligibility requirement?**

A: University centers (such as Kirwan) satisfy the two-college requirement as long as the center reports up through a different University organization (e.g. OAA) or college than that of the rest of the proposing team.

* **Q: What constitutes PI eligibility?**

A: Please see: <https://research.osu.edu/award-lifecycle/how-to-be-a-p-i/>

**Partnership Questions**

* **Q: What level of involvement do you require from community partnership? Is it sufficient if a community partner is providing access to data without having a scientific investigator from that partner institution?**

A:The community partner must be a Co-PI on the project. This level of involvementsignals active engagement in both the design and conduct of the proposed work. Providing access to data with no other involvement would likely not meet this expectation.

* **Q: What steps do you suggest for a team to begin to identify a community partner?**

A: Dr. Nicole Nieto (Nieto.12) in the Office of Outreach and Engagement mentioned that many colleges at OSU have an outreach and engagement representative who could assist in making suggestions/introductions to potential community partners. Please contact Dr. Nieto to learn who your college outreach and engagement representative may be.

* **Q: Would national organizations fit the community partner definition?**

A: Yes. You are free to propose a national-level organization as the “community partner”. As the most competitive proposals will demonstrate ability to produce substantive change in the Columbus and/or Ohio area, you will want to be certain that the partner you select supports this focus.

* **Q: Are partnerships with a researcher from another university or a foreign entity permitted?**

A: You may partner with whomever you would like; however, we will not issue subawards to other universities or to foreign partners and all other team eligibility requirements must be met (at least one other OSU partner from a different college and distinctly different discipline and a community partner as Co-PI).

* **Q: Would it be okay to work with universities and schools in the Virgin Islands and or Puerto Rico?**

A: You can work with whomever you would like so long as that the core eligibility requirements are met. However, the most successful proposals will likely be ones that will have direct impact here at home.

**Applicant/Application Questions**

* **Q: The call for proposals states that "anyone with PI status" can be the lead applicant. I am working with a tenure track colleague and a post doc, and we would like to operate under a co-leadership model. Can all researchers on a project be designated as the lead?**

A: A single ‘lead’ must be designated for proposal submission. That individual will serve as the point of contact on the proposal. Collaborators must be designated as Co-PI’s for proposal submission; however, you are free to operate your project using a co-leadership model, if funded.

* **Q: Is there a cap on how many requests one organization or individual could be part of and/or lead?**

A: There is no limit to how many concept papers an individual can submit as PI, nor is there a limit on the number of times an individual can participate on a proposal team as a co-PI.

* **Q: What are some examples of how we can show that there is “co-creation” among the proposing team?**

A: At the concept proposal stage, you may reference a continuation of prior work with the partner or an initial meeting/conversation to define your shared interests or to identify challenges or barriers that are of concern to the community constituency. At the full proposal stage, additional details and a letter from the community partner detailing their involvement will be required.

* **Q: Can you select multiple topical areas? Our project targets both Structural/Institutional Racism and Racial and Cultural Disparities.**

A: The application portal requires that you select a single topic area. If you feel your proposal targets more than one, you may explain this in the body of your concept proposal, but you must select a single topic as your primary topic in the application portal.

* **Q: Can first round applicants apply for the second round after incorporating feedback?**

A: Yes.

**Budget Questions**

* **Q: Are we permitted to provide a small stipend to a community partner?**

A: Yes. A portion of the budget may be used to provide resources to a community partner necessary to support their planned involvement in the proposed project.