Penn State - Savitribai Phule Pune University
Collaboration Development Fund

Request for Proposals

Penn State and Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) are seeking proposals to foster collaborative, sustainable, self-supporting research and education programs. The Collaboration Development Fund has been created to provide seed money to faculty groups to develop plans for long term programs integrating students and faculty from both universities. Proposals are expected to focus upon program development to enable future collaborative efforts, including work on preliminary research and/or resident or distance education ideas to demonstrate proof-of-concept, and not to perform the in-depth effort with these funds.

This program is open to faculty members affiliated with SPPU and Penn State in all disciplines. Successful proposals will be those which will (i) demonstrate an immediate potential to be sustainable through external funding sources and (ii) will involve a clear collaborative effort between faculty members on both SPPU and Penn State sides.

Collaboration Development Fund Overview

1. A total of US$ 75,000 is available, including Penn State unit cost sharing match.
2. It is anticipated that 4-6 projects will be funded.
3. It is a one-time award with no opportunity for renewal.
4. A 1/3 cost share is required from the Penn State faculty home unit.
5. Example project funding for a nominal US$ 15k proposal:
   a. US$ 5k from SPPU
   b. US$ 5k from Penn State Global Programs
   c. US$ 5k cost sharing match from Penn State faculty’s home Department, College, Institute or other source.
6. The seed grant funds cannot be used for faculty salary or stipend, indirect/administrative costs, to hire a consultant or contractor, and for general equipment expenses (laptops, ipads, printers, etc.). Please inquire with your university contact for clarification if an expense is allowable.
7. Proposals must identify and include participants from SPPU and Penn State.

Proposal Evaluation

1. A panel of faculty and administrators from Penn State and SPPU will evaluate and select the projects to be funded.
2. Funding priority will be given to projects that:
   a. Advance creation of self-supporting, sustainable, collaborative scholarship and education
b. Strengthen the connectivity and relationship between SPPU and Penn State
c. Creates a team with multiple faculty and students at each university.

3. The evaluation criteria and weighting:
   a. Academic merit (30%)
   b. The plan to produce a self-supporting, sustainable collaboration program (40%)
   c. Potential and plans to create a strong integrated collaboration between the universities with multiple faculty involvement at each institution (15%)
   d. Potential and plans for significant student involvement (15%).

Proposal Format

1. Complete the Collaboration Development Fund application form.
2. The appendix should include:
   a. One-page CVs of the project faculty.
   b. Letters confirming Penn State unit cost sharing match.

Dates

3. Anticipated program start: February 1, 2016

Application Submission

SPPU
Professor Deepti Deobagkar
deepi.deobagkar@gmail.com

Penn State
Professor Anil Kulkarni
akk@psu.edu