Accelerating Research Excellence Awards (AREA)

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Overview

The Provost Office in association with the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is providing support to faculty to enhance their scholarly work through the AREA program. AREA offers funding for faculty by providing grants for research-related supplies, and/or travel (faculty/students); and/or matching dollars for ongoing/proposed externally sponsored research. The objective of AREA is to provide faculty with very defined support that will significantly impact their research programs, enhance academic excellence and promote faculty scholarship.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for an AREA award applicants must:

- Be a UW-W probationary or tenured faculty member with a full-time (academic or calendar year) appointment;

- Have the support of the department chair and college dean (using the Chair and Dean Support Form).

Applications are encouraged from all disciplines.

AREA Program, Funding, and Deadlines

AREA Program: AREA is open to all eligible faculty to provide funding that will make a significant and defined impact on current and/or proposed research. Support will be directed toward research-related supplies, equipment, and/or travel (above/beyond PDF funding); and/or matching dollars for ongoing/proposed externally sponsored research. Expected outcomes utilizing AREA awards include, but are not limited to, scholarly publications, exhibitions, performances, and proposals/applications for extramural funding. Only one application per faculty member per year will be considered for this program.

Application Deadline: March 27, 2017

Application Deadline	Term	Final Report Deadline
March 27, 2017	Spring Semester, 2017 Summer 2017	June 1, 2017 August 1, 2017

Funding

- AREA will provide support up to $10,000.
- Funds must be spent and cleared by June 1, 2017.
- Collaborative proposals that include two or more faculty may be considered by AREA, with a total award amount of up to $20,000.
- Awards are contingent on the availability of funds.
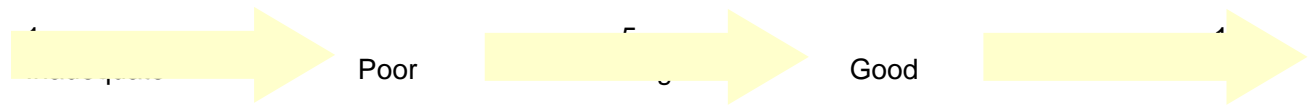
REVIEW PROCESS/CRITERIA

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee of faculty with support from the Office of Research and Programs (ORSP).

The Committee will make funding recommendations to the Provost. ORSP will communicate reviews and funding decisions to applicants.

Applications will be reviewed using the following criteria (see also page 3):

- Intellectual merit of the activities to the discipline and area of scholarship.

- Broader impacts of the research, scholarly, or creative activity to the faculty member's professional development as well as to the department and college, students, distinction of UW-Whitewater, and the greater academic and public community.

- Faculty qualifications to perform the proposed work.

- Importance of the support to enhancing student research, scholarly, or creative activity.

- Potential for new extramural support and/or continuation of existing externally supported research, scholarly, and creative activity beyond the award period.

The rubric on the below will guide panel review; evaluators will use the following scale:

Poor   Good

SCALE AND CRITERIA	1	5	10
Brief Project Description and Significance	Discussion of the goals or research questions is not included. There is no explanation of how proposed goals will be achieved during the award period. There is no mention of significance to the discipline or area of scholarship.	The discussion of goals and objectives or research questions and methods is incomplete. There is little explanation of activities, outcomes and/or methods. The significance of the activity to the discipline and area of scholarship is provided but not in sufficient detail.	The goals/objectives or research questions/methods is thoroughly described. Activities and outcomes are clearly explained. The significance of the proposed activities to the discipline and area of scholarship are clear and well defined.
Broader Impacts	The reviewers are unable to identify the connection between the proposed activities and the faculty member's professional development and university-based priorities, selection criteria, and overall significance.	A partial explanation is provided of the link between the proposed project and faculty member's professional development, university-based priorities, selection criteria and overall significance. The explanation of relevance to the academic and public community is vague and/or requires inference.	The connection between the proposed project and faculty member's professional development, university-based priorities, selection criteria and significance is obvious and compelling. Impacts in all dimensions are clearly stated and easily understood.
Faculty Qualifications	The project is not compatible with the applicant's record of scholarship or potential. No evidence is provided that the project has the necessary components for success.	Connection between the proposed project and the applicant's track record is tenuous; some evidence supporting a link is presented. It is unclear if all proposal/activity components can be assembled and completed in a timely manner.	The proposal is directly linked to the applicant's record of scholarship or potential to achieve the project goals. The proposed activities have all the components necessary to achieve success.
Student Benefits	There is no defined direct or indirect benefit of the activity to students.	The benefits of the activities to students is mentioned but specific details are not fully described in the proposal.	The benefit of the proposed activities to students is clearly identified and significant.

Potential for Extramural Funding	The supported activities will be constrained to one semester with no identified prospect for further support or continuation.	The defined activities may by have some potential for extramural support and/or it can be implied that the project will continue past the award period but it is not clear how this will be accomplished or supported in the future.	The proposal clearly states the future directions for the activity that includes a plan for extramural support and/or continuation of support for the project. Alternatively, an explanation is provided of why extramural support is not typically available in this discipline or for this type of project. The benefits of supporting this work are both short and long-term.

APPLICATION

Proposal Narrative: The application narrative should be single-spaced using a 12-point font and one inch margins. The narrative may not exceed three pages and must include (in order):

1. Brief Description and Significance: The proposal will describe the proposed activities including goals, objectives, methods, outcomes, etc. Significance and intellectual merit of the proposed activities must be clear and specifically defined in this section.

2. Broader Impacts: Explain the connection between the proposed activity and the faculty member's professional development, university (department, college, university) priorities, and other selection criteria. Broader impacts must be stated in an obvious and compelling manner. Impacts in all dimensions must be specifically defined and easily understood.

3. Qualifications: The proposal should discuss the applicant's qualifications and capacity relative to success in the field of the proposed scholarly activity (e.g., past grants, relevant publications, exhibits, conference presentations and/or performances, awards, etc.) directly related to the proposed project and potential for extramural proposal. Evidence must be provided that all necessary equipment, facilities, instrumentation, etc. is in place or will be purchased and accessible for the proposed activities.

4. Student benefit: Specifically define the benefit of the proposed activities to students. It is a focal point for UW-W.

5. Potential for Extramural Support and/or Continuation: The proposal must state how the proposed activities will lead to extramural support and/or will be continued within the context of faculty scholarship. Seeking extramural funding and other means of support are important to insure long-term benefits of supporting the proposed activities. If extramural opportunities are typically not available in the discipline or for this type of project, please explain.

Abbreviated CV: Applicants must provide a two-page curriculum vita appropriate to your discipline and demonstrating qualifications to pursue this project.

Current and Pending Support: List any current and pending support for research, scholarly and creative activities from all sources. Also list any other teaching reassignments (and their purposes) for the entire 2017-2018 academic year including summer 2017 and 2018.

Chair and Dean Support Form: Completed and signed by your chair and dean.

<u>ORSP Approval and Certification Transmittal Form:</u> All applications must be approved by the department chair and college dean using the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Approval and Certification Transmittal Form.

<u>UW-W Standard Budget Form:</u> Fillable Version

<u>Note:</u> Faculty must have met all requirements associated with previous awards (e.g., faculty development grants, sabbatical leave awards, etc.).

SUBMISSION

Please submit an electronic version of your application to:

Carl A. Fox, Ph.D., Director
Office of Research and Sponsored Programs
2243 Andersen Library
Email: foxc@uww.edu
Telephone: 262-472-5289