

## **Multidisciplinary Research Seed Grant (MRSG) Call for proposal**

### **Purpose**

The goal of the Multidisciplinary Research Seed Grant Program is to bring teams of investigators from across academic units in BCET together to pursue novel research directions. Teams must be comprised of a minimum of two faculty members (not from the same department, and preferably from across the colleges/units). Research team must reflect a multi-disciplinary approach, with clear intellectual contributions of investigators from different fields of study. These awards will provide catalyst funding to pilot projects that support truly innovative ideas, develop new collaborations in research, foster collaboration and create opportunities for external funding. Expected outcomes include publications, generation of proof-of-concept, early-stage, research results, and the submission of a large-scale proposal (> \$500k) to an external funding agency within 18 months of the award. The proposal must include a plan for such proposal submission.

### **The Process**

Letters of intent (LOIs) are due by noon, January 10, 2022. Proposals must be submitted by 5:00 pm, February 11, 2022. All proposals will undergo a rigorous peer review and notification of final funding decisions is expected in April/May 2022. The projected start date is August 1, 2022.

Proposals should focus on:

- Building teams necessary to develop large, multi-unit/multi-institutional collaborations and/or industry partnerships
- Proposing innovative, boundary spanning ideas that have scalability and strong potential for attracting significantly larger funding
- Fostering collaboration across academic units and colleges, as needed
- Initiating new scholarly and creative collaborations
- Aligning with one of the ODU strategic focus areas such as cybersecurity, sea-level rise and resiliency, biomedical, big data and computational modeling. A well justified proposal in another area of departmental and BCET research priority may also be appropriate for this call.

NOTE: This funding is not intended to support stand-alone projects for which other funding options are readily available or can be easily identified. The number and final size of grants will depend upon available resources.

### **The Proposal**

Funding up to \$25,000 for one year is available. Awards are not renewable. The PIs who received this grant are not eligible to serve as PI for this grant for the subsequent five years of receiving this grant.

### **Review Criteria**

- Quality of the proposed research activity and experimental design including the innovativeness and feasibility of the approach
- Strength in research strategy of the proposal

- Quality and potential of the study team and their environment
- Expected outcomes and potential impact
- Potential to attract a major grant to support the research
- Strength of the multidisciplinary collaboration and the team
- Responsiveness to the CFP

**Letter of Intent (LOI) and Proposal Submission**

- Submission of LOI (<https://www.odu.edu/content/dam/odu/col-dept/eng/docs/bcet-lol-template.pdf>) is required. Follow the instructions in the template to submit LOI to Ms. Vivian Taylor ([vftaylor@odu.edu](mailto:vftaylor@odu.edu)) with a copy to Prof. Sandeep Kumar ([skumar@odu.edu](mailto:skumar@odu.edu)) by noon, **January 10, 2022.**
- The PIs who submit LOI will then be provided with detail instructions to submit the full proposal.