

CALL FOR PROPOSALS  
THE CHENG FUND FOR INNOVATIVE RESEARCH  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES, OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

Tenured and tenure-track faculty members in the College of Sciences are invited to submit proposals for the Cheng Fund for Innovative Research grant competition. Created through a generous endowment from Dr. Richard Cheng, the purpose of the Cheng Fund is to support federal grant applications with a strong emphasis on original and innovative research.

In 2024-2025, \$15,000 will be available. Proposals may request either the entire fund or a smaller amount. Funds will be available by May 1, 2024 and must be spent by August 31, 2025.

### Application Requirements

Please submit a single PDF that includes the following:

1. **Project description:** Describe the research project with a focus on its originality or innovation (3 pages maximum, excluding references, Arial font no smaller than 11 pt). Include a project title, an abstract **intended for a lay audience** that would be appropriate for publishing on our web page, research justification, methodology, and plan for future funding proposals. Note: your proposal will be read by non-experts and should be written accordingly so that it receives an appropriate review.
2. **Budget:** Allowable expenditures include supplies, equipment, student and postdoctoral fellow stipends (students or postdocs supported by these funds will be named Cheng predoctoral or postdoctoral fellows), travel and other research-related expenses. Provide a line-item budget and justification indicating how the requested funds will be used (2 pages maximum). Using the award for faculty salary is not allowable. Budget revisions may be requested by the Deans Office.
3. **Brief CV:** Include a brief CV focusing on experiences relevant to the proposed project; report all current and pending grant support (3 pages maximum).
4. **Deadline:** Please submit application packages to Jingdong Mao (jmiao@odu.edu) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday March 15, 2024.

### Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated by the College of Sciences Research Council based on the following criteria:

- Originality and innovation
- Scholarly merit
- Likelihood of attracting future federal funding

### Post-Award Requirements

- Within four months of completion of the support period, recipients must submit a final report to the Dean of the College of Sciences.
- Recipients must submit a federal grant application that includes work accomplished using the Cheng funds within two years of receiving the award. The Dean should be notified upon submission.