CALL FOR FACULTY RESEARCH SEED GRANTS

The Blum Initiative for Global and Regional Poverty Studies is pleased to announce the call for its seed grant program intended to support faculty research at UC Riverside. The Blum Initiative Faculty Research Seed Grant (BIFRSG) are internal funds, intended to sponsor faculty research that complements the Blum Initiative’s mission. Specifically, the Blum Initiative aims to encourage the study of poverty throughout the world (including developing countries and/or rich democracies), across the U.S., and especially within the Inland Empire and Southern California. By poverty, the Blum Initiative is interested in relative and material deprivation, economic insecurity, and a host of related inequalities and disparities.

We welcome applications from prior recipients; however, preference will be given to first time applicants.

We encourage prospective applicants to discuss their proposals with the Blum Initiative’s Director, David Brady at david.brady@ucr.edu, prior to submission. General application questions may be directed to Justine Ross at justine.ross@email.ucr.edu.

Funding & Use of Funds
Approximately four BIFRSG’s will be awarded annually and each will not exceed $11,000. The exact size and number of the grants will depend on the quality and quantity of applications.

Grant monies may be used for any activity or cost directly related to the research proposal, including – but not limited to – data acquisition, travel for research, salaries/benefits for UC Riverside employees, students, and post-docs, equipment and research supplies (with the understanding that all such equipment and research supplies remains the property of the Blum Initiative for Global and Regional Poverty for use under its auspices after the conclusion of the award period). Funds may not be used for hiring administrative staff or consultants, or to support the research of another institution. All anticipated expenditures must be included in the budget justification (see application requirements, below). Any major changes regarding the use of funds must be submitted in writing as an amendment and will be authorized at the discretion of the Blum Initiative’s director.

The Blum Initiative’s financial and administrative unit will oversee the distribution and management of awards to ensure compliance with all relevant University and Initiative guidelines. All awarded funds must be spent by March 31st, 2019, unless an extension is granted by the Director of the Blum Initiative. Projects with funds remaining on March 31st, 2019 that have not received written permission from the Director will automatically return/forfeit all monies to the Blum Initiative.

Eligibility
All UCR employees who are currently eligible to be a principal investigator (see UCR policy #527-3: http://research.ucr.edu/about/policies-ucr.aspx?k=6) are welcome to submit proposals.

Deadline & Submission
All application materials must be submitted by March 2nd, 2018 at 5:00pm. All materials must be submitted electronically to Justine Ross at justine.ross@email.ucr.edu.

Review
The Blum Initiative’s steering committee and staff will review applications. The assessment will consider the extent to which the proposal aligns with the objectives of the Blum Initiative, the potential quality and impact of the research, the rigor of the research design, and the applicant’s demonstrated scholarly
record and potential. Proposals with the potential for high impact, innovation, and that challenge existing approaches/understandings are encouraged. Decisions should be made promptly and all applicants will be notified via email.

**Application**
When completing the application you are encouraged to use language accessible to a broad audience, as it is not guaranteed all reviewers will have extensive knowledge of your field of study. Technical or discipline-specific terminology should be avoided wherever possible.

*The following materials must be submitted via email to Justine Ross (justine.ross@email.ucr.edu) by the application deadline.*

*The subject line of your email and all attached documents should read: last-name_department_BIFRSG.*

1. **Cover Sheet**
   a. Title of proposal and amount requested
   b. Name, affiliation, and contact information for all applicants
2. **Proposal** – The proposal must include each of the components below. Proposals must not exceed 3 total single-spaced pages, in 12 point Times New Roman font, with 1” margins (excluding references).
   a. The research plan should address the following:
      i. Articulation of research question
      ii. Significance of the topic
      iii. Research design, including data, methods, and analysis plan
      iv. Potential for innovation
      v. Feasibility of the project
      vi. Relevance to *The Blum Initiative*
3. Budget with brief justification for expenditures
4. Abbreviated curriculum vitae (not to exceed 5 pages)

**Requirements for Recipients**

- The recipient must submit a brief essay on the project after completion (e.g. articulate the research question, accomplishments, findings/conclusions, etc.). This essay may be displayed – in part or in full – on the Blum Initiative webpage.
- The grantee has full responsibility for the conduct of their project and/or any activities supported by the BIFRSG. To this end, the grantee is expected to adhere to standard ethical and best practices in research. The Blum Initiative does not actively oversee the research projects it funds and thus will not assume responsibility for the actions/behaviors of its grant recipients.
- If the grantee’s project requires authorization by the University’s Internal Review Board it is expected their clearance be obtained prior to the administration of any grant funds, including funds unrelated to IRB covered research.
- Major changes to the budget and timeline must be submitted in writing to Professor David Brady (Blum Initiative, Director) and require prior authorization.
- All expenditures must comply with UCR rules and guidelines.
- All publications or presentations that result from the grant must acknowledge funding from the Blum Initiative.
The Blum Initiative will administer funds in a manner consistent with University requirements. To this end, the above parameters are not exhaustive. Please contact Justine Ross (justine.ross@email.ucr.edu) if you have further questions.