CALL FOR GRADUATE RESEARCH GRANTS

The Blum Initiative for Global and Regional Poverty is pleased to announce its call for collaborative research between UC Riverside faculty and graduate/professional degree-seeking students who have a scholarly interest in topics related to poverty and inequality. The Blum Initiative Graduate Research Grant (BIGRG) are internal funds, intended to sponsor collaborative research between graduate students and at least one faculty member. Additionally, funds should be used to contribute to 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.

Former recipients are not eligible for this grant; however, prior applicants are encouraged to re-apply.

For questions regarding the grant or application requirements, please contact Justine Ross at justine.ross@email.ucr.edu.

Funding & Use of Funds
Approximately four BIGRG’s will be awarded annually and each will not exceed $4,000. The exact number and amount of funding will depend on the quantity and quality 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, a stipend for time in field, research supplies/equipment (with the understanding that all such equipment and 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), salary for the graduate student, and travel for research. Funds may not be used as additional salary for the faculty advisor, for hiring administrative staff or consultants, or to support the research of another institution. Anticipated expenditures should 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. Award funds must be spent in full by March 31st, 2019, unless an extension is authorized by the Director of the Blum Initiative. All projects with funds that are not fully expended or do not have a written extension from the Director by March 31st, 2019 will return all unused monies to the Blum Initiative.

Eligibility
Proposals are invited from all UC Riverside graduate students, who have a) completed at least one quarter of coursework at UCR prior to the application deadline, b) are currently enrolled in a graduate or professional degree-seeking program, c) will continue their degree at UC Riverside in Fall 2018, d) are in good academic standing, and e) who plan to use the award for collaboration with a UC Riverside faculty member.

Any and all research that is actively supervised by a faculty member constitutes collaborative research. To this end, proposals may be used to fund research tied to a graduate student’s dissertation, a paper co-authored by a graduate student and faculty member intended for publication and/or presentation at a conference. Applicants must be in good standing with Graduate Division and be able to utilize funds prior to their graduation from the University.
Proposals should be co-submitted with a faculty supervisor or supervisors. The faculty member must be employed full-time in one of the colleges or schools at the University of California, Riverside.

**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, interdisciplinary social science audience, as it is not guaranteed all reviewers will have extensive knowledge of your field of study. Technical or highly specific terminology should be minimized where 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_BIGRG.

1. **Cover Sheet**
   a. Title of proposal and amount requested
   b. Name, affiliation, and contact information for all applicants
   c. Program details on when student enrolled in program, expected date of graduation, degree sought, and supervising faculty
2. **Proposal** – Proposals must not exceed 3 total single-spaced pages, in 12 point Times New Roman font, with 1” margins. The proposal should address the following:
   a. Articulation of research question
   b. Significance of the topic
   c. Relevance to the Blum Initiative’s mission
   d. Research design, including data, methods, and analysis plan
   e. Feasibility of the project
   f. Expected deliverable outcomes of the project
3. **Supporting Materials**
   a. Abbreviated curriculum vitaeas for the graduate/professional student and the faculty supervisor(s) (not to exceed 5 pages, each).
   b. A brief letter from faculty member confirming their supervision and participation, affirming the student is in good academic standing, and recommending the candidate and proposal
   c. Budget with brief justification for expenditures
   d. Timeline for completion
   e. A copy of the applicant’s academic transcript from UCR
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 BIGRG. 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 the 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.