Call for Proposals

Purdue University - Universidad de Antioquia Seed Grant Program to promote joint, collaborative research between faculty from the College of Science and the College of Engineering at Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia, and Purdue University, USA

The Universidad de Antioquia (UdeA) is the oldest departmental university in Colombia, established in 1803 by royal decree from King Charles IV of Spain. UdeA is one of Colombia’s top public research institutions, home to the second highest number of A1-ranked research groups in Colombia (A1 being the highest ranking awarded by Colciencias, the Colombian national science foundation). UdeA is well known for its strength in the basic sciences and engineering, and is an anchor University for Purdue’s engagement in Colombia.

In 1869, the Indiana General Assembly established Purdue University (Purdue), which today is routinely ranked highly in accredited national and world university rankings such as the US News & World Report Best Colleges and the QS World University Rankings. Purdue's academic programs distinguish themselves among the world's best universities, while Purdue’s engineering and science programs are regularly ranked among the best in the nation. Purdue’s College of Engineering graduate program has also been ranked second best in the country for Hispanic students.

This seed grant program will foster joint research partnerships between the Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia and Purdue University, specifically between their respective Colleges of Engineering and Science. The Purdue-UdeA joint collaboration will provide funding for two-year seed collaboration projects, based on the following broad parameters:

1. Applications will be jointly developed by one UdeA co-PI and one Purdue co-PI (see appendices section regarding additional faculty collaborators) and submitted via email not later than May 1, 2014, to gep@purdue.edu and nagaviri@udea.edu.co. Funding decisions will be jointly announced by June 1, 2014. Projects of two year duration must begin between August 1 and October 31, 2014.

2. The main body of the application, with a recommended length of 3-4 pages, should include:
   a. A one-page summary of the proposed research, its significance, and expected outcome(s) and/or impact(s). The summary should include discussion of specific, expected deliverables, e.g., publications, student training, research results or goals, etc.
   b. Identification of the two research groups (Purdue and UdeA) and their relevance to the proposed research. A letter or e-mail from each member should also be included to confirm their participation.
      Note: Researchers from UdeA must satisfy the requirements and commitments specified in the internal call for proposals (see http://www.udea.edu.co/portal/page/portal/Principal_UdeA/Convocatorias/Paralnvestigacion/CODI/convocatorias/Convocatoria%20program%C3%A1tica%20C3%A1rea%20%20Ciencias%20Exactas
   c. Statement of the research plan, methodologies, two-year timeline for visits/exchanges, communication plan, and collaborative activities to be performed.
   d. Description of relevant facilities available in both locations, including an explanation of how these are sufficient to accomplish the proposed work.
   e. Joint budget statement detailing how the joint research team will use the seed funding.
   f. Vision for future research directions, including specific, complimentary support, funding, expanded collaborative relationships, new research proposals, etc. that could lead to extending the research beyond the scope of this seed grant.

3. Appendices to the proposal include:
a. Curriculum vitae (2-page limit, NSF or NIH biographical sketch format) for each co-PI.
b. Statement of Current and Pending/Other Support for each Purdue investigator.
c. Documentation of each co-investigator’s commitment to participating in the proposed project (e-mail or letter).
d. Brief description of other collaborators (faculty, staff, post-docs, etc.), their affiliations, and the nature of their role(s) in the project.

4. Proposal Evaluation
   a. Proposals are due May 1, 2014, and will be evaluated by a committee selected by Purdue University.
   b. Funding decisions will be jointly announced by the committee no later than June 1, 2014.
   c. Projects of two year duration will begin between August 1 and October 31, 2014.

5. For the 2014 competition, three collaborative projects in Science and three projects in Engineering will be funded through this seed grant program as follows:
   a. UdeA will provide:
      i. Salaries of the UdeA participants,
      ii. $50K to be used towards research costs for project activities undertaken at UdeA and travel costs for mutual visits to help the collaboration.
      iii. Research supplies provided by the research groups at UdeA.
   b. Purdue will provide:
      i. Travel grant of $6K to the Purdue co-PI for travel to UdeA by the co-PI, student(s), and/or post-doc(s).
      ii. All research costs at Purdue, and all academic and other salaries for members of the Purdue research team, are the responsibility of the Purdue investigator(s).

6. Intellectual Property: Except where provided otherwise, such as under a Placement Agreement or Research Collaborative Agreement, ownership and control of intellectual property used or generated by student or faculty or arising from the collaboration under this addendum will be managed according to the rules for managing intellectual property in each University.
   a. At UdeA, the Intellectual Property Policy for Staff, Students, and Visitors can be located at:
   b. At Purdue, the policy on Intellectual Property is available at:
      http://www.purdue.edu/policies/pages/teach_res_outreach/viii.4.1.htm

7. Reporting: All award recipients are expected to generate and submit an annual report related to the joint research undertaken under the auspices of this award. This report should be submitted within one month of the end of each annual project period (e.g., if a research team initiates work on August 1, 2014, their first annual report would be due September 1, 2015). The report, of length 1-3 pages, should include: a) major activities and exchanges undertaken during the preceding year, b) major accomplishments, including research achievements, relevant publications, proposals submitted, etc. and c) plans for future activities, including research goals, publications, personnel exchanges, proposals, etc.