

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How is the Major Program Initiatives Competition Different from the Future Growth and Development Competition?**

The major initiatives competition is intended to help a select group of the University's best programs to enhance their national prominence. It will make a few awards that will involve quite significant investments over several years. These investments will be in either base or one-time-only funds.

The Future Growth and Program Enhancement competition is intended to enhance existing programs, to assist in the development of new areas of research, or to take advantage of unique opportunities. These awards will be smaller and the funds will be one-time-only funds. These awards can be funded for 3 to 5 years. The expectation is that after this funding has been exhausted, the initiative will become self-sustaining or be funded by the College through budget reallocations.

### **Can All Ohio University Faculty Submit Proposals?**

All faculty can participate in the development of proposals. However, the College of Osteopathic Medicine, and regional campuses will not be submitting separate proposals. COM and regional campus faculty will thus need to participate as partners to initiatives that are submitted through the participating Athens campus colleges (Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, Fine Arts, Health and Human Services, the Russ College of Engineering and Technology, and Scripps College of Communication).

### **How are interdisciplinary proposals to be submitted?**

The GERB encourages interdisciplinary proposals to both the major program initiative and the Future Growth and Program Enhancement competitions. Interdisciplinary proposals where all the participants are from within the same college (such as Bio-Chemistry and Chemistry) will be submitted to the appropriate college like any other proposal. Interdisciplinary proposals that span two or more colleges (such as Bio-Engineering) must be submitted to all the participating colleges for endorsement

### **What is the rationale for having all proposals submitted to GERB through the Deans of colleges with graduate programs? Why not simply allow interested faculty to submit their proposals directly to the GERB?**

It is essential to the long term success of any research initiative that it be aligned with both college as well as the University priorities. This is especially true as we transition into a new budget model that attributes revenue directly to the colleges. By having the initial review of all proposals occur in the colleges, we ensure that only those

proposals most fully supported by the dean will move forward for GERB consideration. The process of requiring faculty to submit initial letters of intent, and then have preliminary discussions with the dean, should also reduce the number of proposals that are eventually submitted to GERB. This, in turn, prevents faculty from spending a great deal of time preparing proposals that have a very small chance of being funded.

**Do these competitions consider the revenue that might be generated by a new program or research initiative?**

The Future Growth and Program Enhancement competition is designed to encourage programs to find ways to generate new revenue through graduate education and research. This might be a new area where there are opportunities for external funding, a new graduate program that might attract new fee-paying students, a new training program, or any similar initiative that could become self-funding in three to five years. The ability to generate new funds and the likelihood that the initiative can become self sustaining will be central criteria in the selection of awards in this competition.

**When should I start meeting with my Dean to discuss a potential proposal?**

The sooner faculty members begin discussing their ideas with their dean, the better. The summer provides an ideal time to generate ideas and discuss them with the Dean. The deadlines and review processes begin quickly after fall quarter begins. Make sure to keep your dean informed regarding your intentions and don't wait until the last minute to discuss your proposal with your dean.

**Can proposals be submitted through the Director of the Center for International Studies?**

No. Proposals can only be submitted through the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, Fine Arts, Health and Human Services, the Russ College of Engineering and Technology, and Scripps College of Communication.

**If you have a question you would like to ask the GERB, simply send it to [gerb@ohio.edu](mailto:gerb@ohio.edu). We will send you an answer and post the question and the answer to this page.**