

Konneker Fund for Learning and Discovery

Request for Proposals: Academic Year 2019-2020

DEADLINES:

October 25, 2019: Deadline for preliminary discussion with Dean of University College
November 15, 2019, 5:00 p.m.: Deadline for proposal submissions

Background:

Ohio University alumnus and biomedical scientist Wilfred R. Konneker, in collaboration with former professors Joseph Jollick and Thomas Wagner and then President Charles J. Ping, founded Diagnostic Hybrids (DHI) in 1983 with the goal of developing innovative laboratory equipment to diagnose and treat diseases. The Trustees of the Ohio University Foundation chose that same year to invest approximately one million dollars in DHI. At the time of acquisition of DHI by Quidel for \$130 million in 2010, DHI had become a market leader that employed more than 230 people and served over 700 customers in North America. The company reported \$51 million in revenue in 2009 and a three-year compounded annual growth rate of 20 percent.

In addition to the Foundation's investment in DHI, which resulted in a significant return for the Foundation, Mr. Konneker made a gift of shares of DHI to the Foundation. A portion of the funds generated from these gifted shares, as per Mr. Konneker's wishes when he made the gift of stock to the Foundation, will support the Cutler Scholars Program and the Kennedy Museum of Art. Another portion of those funds will be used to create a quasi-endowment fund to be called the Konneker Fund for Learning and Discovery that will be dedicated to supporting innovative initiatives designed to enhance Ohio University's academic mission.

Program Goal:

The Konneker Fund's general purpose is to support undergraduate learning as well as research and graduate education. Its specific purpose is to support innovative initiatives that will have university-wide impact and advance Ohio University's efforts (a) to realize its vision of becoming the nation's best transformative learning community and (b) to achieve material progress on the Four Fundamentals that define its academic mission:

1. Inspired teaching and research dedicated to students' academic success and focused on the connection between student learning and the advancement of knowledge and creative activity.
2. Innovative academic programs that draw on the best traditions and practice in liberal arts, professional, and interdisciplinary education.
3. Exemplary student support services committed to helping students fulfill their academic promise.
4. Integrated co-curricular activities that foster a diverse environment of respect and inclusivity and facilitate students' development as citizens and leaders.

Proposals to the Konneker Fund must address how the proposed project will

- have university-wide impact,
- be transformative for students and faculty,
- contribute to continued institutional progress on the Four Fundamentals, and
- align with best practices documented in national research.

Proposals to the Konneker Fund may request up to \$50,000 per year for two years, or \$100,000 overall.

Eligibility:

Faculty and staff from all campuses are eligible to submit proposals. Collaborative proposals are strongly encouraged. Previously declined proposals may be resubmitted in subsequent award cycles.

Guidelines:

These guidelines supersede previous versions. Please review the guidelines before submitting a proposal. Very meritorious proposals often are not funded because these guidelines are not followed, and the information needed to make an informed, objective decision is not available. Many review committee members feel that the care with which a proposal is prepared indicates the care with which the work will be done by the applicant(s).

Questions concerning the proposal preparation process should be directed to Dean of University College and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Elizabeth Sayrs sayrs@ohio.edu, 740-593-1935. Applicants are required to meet with the Dean to discuss their proposal idea prior to submission.

Proposals to the Konneker Fund must include the following sections, and pages should be numbered to facilitate the review process.

1. Cover page (*Use provided form*)

Prepare a cover page. Signatures **must** be obtained by the applicant and are required on the submitted proposal. The cover page **must** be the first page of the proposal.

2. Checklist (*Use provided form*)

Prepare and sign the checklist. The goal of the checklist is to affirm that all the sections have been included and are compliant with formatting guidelines.

3. Abstract (*Limit: 1 single-spaced page*)

On a separate page, include the proposal title and an abstract that is a clear and concise summary of the more detailed proposal. The abstract will be used to publicize funded proposals and should be a stand-alone description of the proposed project and written in lay language.

4. Narrative (*Limit: 9 single-spaced pages*)

The narrative component must include:

- A. Project Description:** Describe the project in sufficient detail, including project goals, to provide for a fair assessment of the proposed activities.
- B. Konneker Program Goals:** Describe how the project addresses at least one of the Four Fundamentals. Also, describe how the project will address each of the following: (1) university-wide impact, (2) be transformative for students and faculty, and (3) align with best practices documented in national research.
- C. Evaluation:** Specify how progress on project goals will be assessed.
- D. Sustainability:** The Konneker Fund provides support for up to two years. Explain how the project or project's purposes will be continued or maintained following Konneker funding. This description should address both activity and funding continuation (as applicable), as well as how the results of the activity will be shared with internal and external audiences.

5. Budget and Justification (*No page limit*)

Proposals to the Konneker Fund may request up to \$50,000 per year for two years (\$100,000 overall). The proposal should include a detailed budget that documents the relationship between expenditures and project goals and activities.

Please Note: Proposals that request funding for course releases or for graduate student lines typically will not be supported.

6. Appendices (*No page limit*)

- A. Biographical sketch(es):** Submit a short biographical sketch (no more than two (2) pages) for the principal investigator and all key co-principal investigators.

The biographical sketch should include:

- Current position/rank
- List of up to five (5) publications or funded grants closely related to the proposed project and five (5) other significant publications, including those accepted for publication.
- Other professional activities, awards, and accomplishments that are closely related to the proposed project.

- B. Letters or memoranda of commitment** from **ALL** offices or units whose collaboration is required for the successful completion of the project.

Proposal Submission:

Please Note: A preliminary meeting by October 25, 2019 with the Dean of University College is required prior to proposal submission.

An electronic copy (.PDF format) of the proposal **must** be submitted by the deadline to Sandy Smith, smiths9@ohio.edu.

Electronic copies **must** be submitted as a **single file** in Adobe Acrobat format (Mac users must include the file extensions .pdf in the file name).

Questions concerning the proposal preparation process should be directed to Elizabeth Sayrs, sayrs@ohio.edu, 740-593-1935.

Proposal Review Process:

Proposals to the Konneker Fund will be reviewed in late November by a committee composed of a representative from Deans Council, the Executive Dean of Regional Higher Education, the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Vice President for Research and Creative Activity and Dean of the Graduate College, and the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education. This committee, which will be chaired by the Executive Vice President and Provost, will review the proposals and submit recommendations to the President for his review and endorsement.

During the February meeting of the Ohio University Foundation Board, the Executive Vice President and Provost will present the President's recommendations to the Grants and Funding Committee Subcommittee.

Dissemination Requirements:

All funded proposals are expected to disseminate the results of their project with the university campus as appropriate.

A Proposal to the Konneker Fund for Learning and Discovery

Project Title: _____

Project Director/Principal Investigator:

Name: _____

Department: _____

College/Planning Unit: _____

Campus address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Status: _____ Faculty _____ Administrator

Amount Requested: _____ **Re-submission:** ___ YES ___ NO
 (Original Submission Date _____)

Signatures

Project Director/Principal Investigator:		Chair/Director's Signature	
Signature		Signature	
Name		Name	
Dept/School		Unit	
Date		Date	
Dean's Signature			
Name		Signature	
College		Date	

Co-Investigators/Project Participants:

For proposals with multiple applicants, duplicate the following table to include the signatures of all applicants, department chairs/directors, and deans or planning unit heads, as appropriate.

Co-Investigator/Project Participants:		Chair/Director's Signature	
Signature		Signature	
Name		Name	
Dept/School		Unit	
Date		Date	
Dean's Signature			
Name		Signature	
College		Date	

Konneker Fund Proposal Checklist

Applicants must complete and sign the checklist. The checklist should be included directly following the cover page.

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover page, including all appropriate signatures | Use Konneker form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Checklist | Use Konneker form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abstract | 1 single-spaced page |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proposal narrative | 9 single-spaced pages |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Budget and Justification | No limit specified |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional appendices (if applicable) | No limit specified |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic copy of proposal | Single Acrobat file, containing entire proposal and required signatures |

****Please note: The committee has the right to return without review any proposals that do not conform to these format requirements.****

Applicant signature: _____