# Ohio University-Gopikabai Sitaram Gawande College Partnership Support Program

# Request for Proposals

## Background

The Gopikabai Sitaram Gawande (GSG) College is a rural academic institution located in the town of Umarkhed in the Yavatmal District, a rural and underserved region of Maharashtra, India. The College is located near the natal village of Dr. Atmaram Gawande. Since 1985 Drs. Sushila and Atmaram Gawande, longtime active community members and physicians in Athens, Ohio have supported GSG college through funding and service, often enlisting the help of friends, family, and civic organizations in the United States and India. In recognition of the Gawande family’s support, the College was renamed in honor of Dr. Atmaram Gawande’s mother. Following Dr. Atmaram Gawande’s death in 2011, his family established a fund through Ohio University (OHIO) to support a partnership between the two universities. The partnership between OHIO and GSG College was officially initiated in 2012 on the occasion of Dr. Ram Gawande’s birthday celebration on the GSG College campus. Funds to support the partnership are made available through the GSG College Support Fund, established by the Gawande family to honor Dr. Atmaram Gawande. Oversight for the Fund is provided through the Office of Global Affairs.

## Purpose and Aims

Awards of up to $4,000 per applicant will be considered for each annual cycle of funding. The aims of the fund are to support faculty, staff or graduate student, projects that:

* Help build research and/or teaching capacity of Gawande College faculty members
* Enhance infrastructure to support education, research, teaching/learning, career development, and community service
* Ensure mutual learning, research, and service in content areas relevant to GSG College faculty and students and to the local communities near GSG College
* Enhance development of Gawande College as an educational institution
* Enhance awareness of India and of GSG College at OHIO

Successful applicants will travel to GSG College to carry out their proposed projects. The duration of the on- campus stay at the GSG College is not dictated by the award; rather, it should fit the nature of the project proposed.

## Eligibility

Applicants must hold a current full-time teaching, research, or administrative position or must have full-time status as a graduate student in good standing at OHIO.

## Proposal Foci

Proposals may include:

1. Specific service and teaching projects proposed to support the partnership, and
2. Specific scholarly projects.

Proposals that address areas of high need may receive preferential consideration in the review process.  Areas of high need include:

* + Understanding and addressing challenges faced in the region, such as related to global warming, drought, farmer suicide, food insecurity, poverty and women’s empowerment.
  + Collaborating with existing projects seeking to address the above challenges, which include:
    - Transitioning farmers to regenerative agriculture through guided farmer study groups and trainings,
    - Researching and documenting indigenous knowledge of food and farming practices,
    - Developing kitchen gardens and empowering women,
    - Establishing a model educational farm on one acre of the GSG College campus, and
    - Evaluating existing water supply and recommendations for water management for purposes of increasing water availability.
  + Measuring existing circumstances and tracking changes annually in order to evaluate and strengthen the positive impact of current activities such as related to environmental, economic, psychosocial, and human health factors.
  + English-language teaching/tutoring.
  + Development of mental health tools and resources and student support services.
  + Development of career services resources, including career counseling, graduate school application assistance, employment opportunities, employment application assistance.
  + Development of alumni relations programming.
  + Training of faculty, staff, and students in use of technology to enhance teaching and learning
  + Collaborations with GSG faculty members to enhance research and publication in scholarly journals.

## Proposal Contents

To best tailor project design, applicants are encouraged to learn about GSG College. The following resources may be especially helpful:

* [Student and Education Support Association](https://www.sesahelps.org/)
* [The GSG College web site](http://www.gsgcollege.edu.in/)

For more information about GSG College, contact Sumeeta Gawande, [gawande.s@gsgcollege.edu.in](mailto:gawande.s@gsgcollege.edu.in), Strategic Advisor for GSG College.

Applicants are to include each of the following items, in the order provided, using the stated enumerated headings in body of the proposal document. Proposals are to be in Times New Roman 12-point font, double- spaced, with all four margins of 1 inch.

1. Cover page(required, separate page with each of the headings below, no more than one page)
   1. Name of applicant
   2. OHIO academic unit(s) in which the applicant is employed
   3. Academic, administrative, or faculty position at OHIO or full-time graduate student status at OHIO
   4. Projected dates of travel to India
   5. Projected dates of stay at GSG College
   6. Statement of the applicant:

“If awarded funds through the OHIO-GSG Partnership Support Program I agree to fulfill my commitment to the purpose of the program, including assisting in building a sustainable partnership between OHIO and GSG College. I also agree to provide a written report of my accomplishments within 60 days of my departure from GSG College.”

* 1. Signature of the applicant
  2. Date

1. Introduction to the applicant (required, no more than one page)

Provide relevant academic and personal background information about yourself and why you wish to participate in the OHIO-GSG College Partnership Support Program.

1. Partnership project Description(required, no more than 3 pages)

Describe specifically what you propose to do to enhance GSG College and the OHIO-GSG partnership. Address how your project meets the aims listed above (*Purpose and Aims* section), outline specific goals, and describe how outcomes of your project will be quantified and/or qualified. If you know of specific partners at GSG with whom you wish to collaborate on the project, please describe their roles. If you would need assistance with seeking partners or additional information at GSG College to assist you with the project, please describe the information you require. For any project involving video, audio recording, and/or photography the applicant must address a participant consent process.

1. Scholarly project description(optional, no more than 2 pages)

Describe a specific scholarly project to be carried out at GSG College. Describe its relevance to the OHIO-GSG partnership. If you know of specific partners at GSG College with whom you wish to collaborate in a scholarly project, please describe their roles. If you would need assistance with seeking partners or additional information at GSG College to assist you with the scholarly project, please describe the information you require. All projects including human participants for research must be approved through both OHIO and GSG College IRB processes. If IRB approval has not been obtained, please describe your plan for obtaining IRB approval.

1. Sustainability plan(required, no more than 1 page)
2. Plan for knowledge dissemination(required, no more than on-half page)

Summarize how knowledge gained from your project and experience will be disseminated to the OHIO and GSG College communities, and through any local, national, international conferences, forums, and publications.

1. Special needs and requirements(optional, no more than one page)

State clearly any needs for travel assistance, interpreting, or other resources while staying at the GSG College.

1. Budget and budget justification

Using the attached budget table, provide projected costs, cost details and justification, the source and amount of any other funds available to support the proposed expenses, and the total amount requested. Note that transportation to and from the Nagpur airport and per diem lodging and meals while visiting the GSG College campus are pre-arranged through GSG College. These will be part of the budget developed. Corresponding amounts are provided in the budget template below. The total amount requested through the Partnership Fund should not exceed $4,000.

## Proposal submission

Proposals are to be sent as a single pdf by email to the Office of Global Affairs at [globalaffairs@ohio.edu](mailto:globalaffairs@ohio.edu).

## Deadline

Deadline Date TBD by 5:00 PM EST.

## Evaluation and Selection

Awarded proposals may be shared with leaders at GSG College and may be modified based on feedback prior to travel.

The following will be required for each proposal to be reviewed:

* + Applicant meets eligibility criteria
  + Proposal includes each of the enumerated headings and corresponding required contents
  + Proposal formatting meets stated requirements
  + Proposal contents meet page limitations for each section
  + Submitted by the proposal deadline

Proposals not meeting all of the above criteria will not be reviewed.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate proposals:

1. Relevance of the applicant’s experience and expertise to GSG College needs
2. Relevance of experience and expertise of the applicant to the project(s) proposed
3. Relevance of the project(s) proposal to GSG College needs and stated aims of the fund
4. Clarity of stated goals and feasibility of meeting them in the timeframe proposed
5. Feasibility of meeting applicant’s stated special needs and requirements
6. Strength of knowledge dissemination plan
7. Strength of substantiation that the project will lead to sustainability of project outcomes
8. Clear itemization and justification of budget items

# Pre-travel Preparation

Implementers of the winning proposal are advised that the following may be required:

* + Basic introduction to the history and current needs of GSG College (contacts and resources to be provided)
  + Basic cultural and communication interaction orientation
  + Traveler’s Health (COVID19, Immunization etc.) - <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/india>

*\*Please note: Procurement of any required travel documentation (e.g., visa or passport) is the responsibility of the applicant.*

## Contacts

For information about the partnership between OHIO and GSG College or all other proposal related questions, contact the Office of Global Affairs at [jang@ohio.edu](mailto:jang@ohio.edu).

## Budget Table

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Details/ Justification | Amount |
| Meals during travel |  |  |
| Guesthouse lodging and meals while at GSG College | $26 per person per day, to be arranged through GSG if awarded |  |
| Additional Lodging |  |  |
| Ground Transportation to and from Columbus or other US airport (please provide details) |  |  |
| Roundtrip airfare to India and from arrival city to Nagpur airport, India |  |  |
| Ground transportation from Nagpur Airport to GSG College | $120 each way, to be arranged through GSG College if awarded |  |
| Emergency travel insurance (to be issued through OHIO) | $1.21 per day for students, $2.27 per day for faculty and staff members |  |
| Other costs associated with the proposed project (please specify). Include any ground transportation requirements during the visit. |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Total required: |  |  |
| Total provided from other sources: |  |  |
| **Total Requested from Partnership Support Program funds:** |  |  |

*\*Please note: Procurement of any required travel documentation (e.g., visa or passport) is the responsibility of the applicant.*