

FY 2024 ICTAS Diversity & Inclusion Seed Investment Request for Proposals

ICTAS is soliciting proposals from Virginia Tech faculty for funding opportunities with anticipated support beginning December 2023 (FY 2024). The objective of this program is to build direct faculty-to-faculty research partnerships between faculty at Virginia Tech and faculty at HBCUs or other under-represented college programs/minority institutions. This activity may be in the form of sharing lab equipment and space, sharing technologies, traveling to give guest lectures, developing partnerships, etc. Faculty will self-identify partnerships based on their specific research areas. We will ask any awardees to participate in the HBCU-MSI Summit ICTAS session the following year (mid-November each year). *ICTAS expects the partnerships to result in future research proposals for external funding.*

ICTAS has approximately 10 awards available for funding diversity and inclusion seed investments. This fall, the awards will be two-year awards, with each Virginia Tech recipient receiving up to \$20,000 total over two consecutive years (\$10,000 per year).

In addition, one of the 10 awards this year will be a joint award between ICTAS and the Institute for Creativity, Arts and Technology (ICAT). Submissions that incorporate faculty from design and the arts from either Virginia Tech or their HBCU/MSI collaborators are eligible to submit a proposal for this award. This award will carry an additional \$10,000 per year for a total award of \$40,000 over 2 years (\$20,000 per year) and should speak to one of eight key themes that encompass ICAT-supported research, teaching, and outreach to include Reimagining Education, Designing a More Sustainable World, Empowering Data, Amplifying the Arts, Bridging Physical Distance, Making Big Discoveries with Immersive Technologies, Creating the Future of Work, and Engaging Community. Faculty will be expected to participate in 2 Pecha Kucha sessions a year via Zoom (August and February) and expected outcomes following the awards can be anything from commissioned art pieces, compositions, exhibitions, to journal articles, publications or student support. The key is art and/or design is deeply integrated in the project from the beginning. If you wish to have your proposal considered for this joint award, please indicate so in the submission e-mail along with your proposal.

Please submit one-page proposals by **November 16th, 2023**.

Awardees will be selected following a panel review. The following guidelines apply:

- Limit to 1 one-page proposal per faculty member (cover page not included)
- There are no template or font restrictions but please ensure you include the title, PI (Principal Investigator), school, department, and budget in your proposal.
- The expected budget and any equipment or supply/material purchases should also be expressly stated in the proposal.
- Funding may be used to cover Virginia Tech faculty summer salary, Virginia Tech faculty and/or student travel, student wages, GRAs, equipment, supplies and materials. Funding may also be used to support a graduate student in the MAOP program.
- Cost Share of \$10,000 (total across both years) from your partner institution is welcome but is not mandatory.
- Funding **may not** be used for faculty academic year salaries, or to pay salary or wages for non-Virginia Tech faculty or non-Virginia Tech students or to reimburse travel expenses for faculty at other universities traveling to conferences in locations other than Blacksburg. Funding may not be transferred to an outside institution.
- The award funding will transfer the E&G funds to your home department to manage locally. Any carry-over funds between fiscal years will be managed by your home department.

Faculty are encouraged to submit proposals for research that addresses decarbonization and other climate-related issues, including low-carbon and renewable energy sources, energy utilization management, advanced materials, waste reduction, climate justice, and related topics.

Please send any questions, concerns and proposal submissions to Chris Tysor, ICTAS Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator, ctysor@vt.edu.